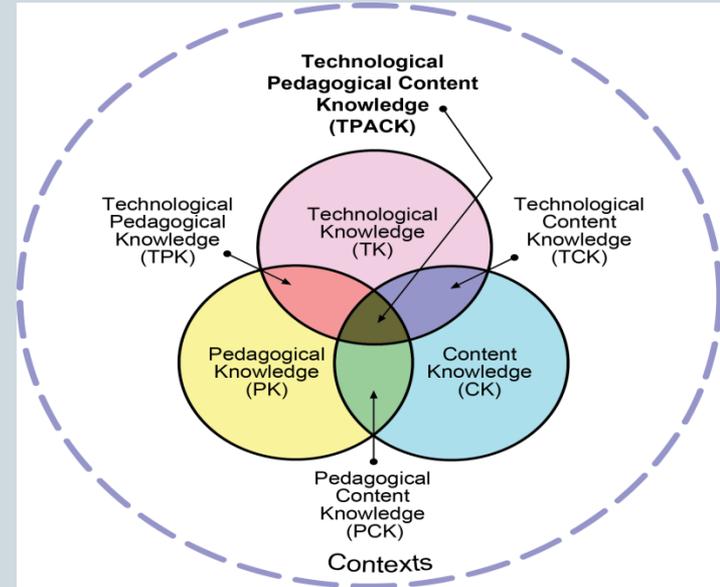


Distance Learning Technology for Teaching Arabic



MAJD ALAZMAH

SAMAR DALATI GHANNOUM

What is distance learning?



Distance learning, also known as online education, is a viable option for many individuals who desire to get an education.

What is Foreign Language Distance Learning?

- The distance learning technology has taken the teaching of foreign language to a whole new level and is an excellent choice for home schooled students.
- Innovative technology has allowed distance learning foreign language classes to blossom and to take form.
- The use of this technology allows students to speak to their teachers virtually and to hear the language being spoken.



- Students can listen to recorded sessions as many times as they want to fully comprehend the language.
- Foreign language teaching should focus on teaching the mechanics of the language, but should also include teaching the culture of the country.
- Technology is just a tool. The skilled teacher -- like the skilled craftsman -- matches the tool to the task in order to accomplish an important purpose.

- 
- While we are using the most recent technology, we should not forget our students and their need to use technology effectively. When we integrate technology meaningfully, we are supporting them in the development of two essential tools for lifelong learning: the skill in the use of another language and the ability to make discerning and effective use of technological tools.



Among numerous modes of technology enhanced learning, there are not many that have received as much attention as distance learning. Stimulated by the recent rapid developments in web technologies, researchers and educators are constantly working to make the most of technological resources and put them to the best pedagogical use. In the area of foreign language teaching, a lot has been done to cover a variety of world languages, but there are constant attempts for new solutions.

Technology Readiness



Students are generally technology–literate and have become accustomed to using computers, videos, and other technology-based means of acquiring information.

Flexibility



Distance learning is much more flexible than traditional styles of classroom education. Students who need to take other classes or work can do class work whenever they have a free moment instead of being restricted to a rigid schedule.

Motivation



Using different aspects of technology helps motivate students to learn and adds many dimensions of foreign language learning, particularly with the use of multimedia programs.

Accessibility



Online education provides the opportunity to reach out to programs that are not available in the immediate area.

Communication



Technology helps students to be active participants in the Information Age as well as involving students in worthwhile, interactive activities such as interpersonal exchanges, information gathering, and problem-solving projects.

Networking



Students who enroll in classes with online education obtain a wider range of networking opportunities. Instead of being limited to networking in the local area, distance learning enables students to make connections with a more diverse range of people.

Pace and Learning Style



Online education enables students to work at their own pace and learning style. The requirements are not as strict and typically give a range of due dates when the work needs to be submitted.

Scheduling



The schedules for distance learning are more open and allow for students, parents and professionals to have class whenever it fits into their schedule. This is beneficial over classroom education that requires students to schedule work and childcare around the class time.

Presentations



Students have the opportunity to work collaboratively. They can also use their productive and receptive abilities for real purposes, such as publishing a newsletter or writing interactive journals.

Selection of Professors



Distance learning enables students to learn from some of the most prestigious professors and guest speakers in each field.

Non Traditional Classroom Setting



Sitting in the classroom is not the best way for every student to learn. A student may learn better at his own pace and in a different format than traditional schooling options offer.

Efficiency



Online classes are just as, if not more, effective at teaching students than the traditional classroom style of learning.

Distance Learning Disadvantages



Distance learning may not be the ideal option for everyone but should be considered when looking at options for education.

Lack of Face-to-face Social Interaction



If the classroom environment is what you love most about learning you may want to take a step back and reconsider distance learning. You'll likely get some interaction on chat rooms, discussion boards and through email, but the experience will be quite different than traditional courses.

Format isn't Ideal for all Learners



Not everyone is an ideal candidate for online learning. Some students might have problems with motivation, procrastination and need lots of individual attention from an instructor.

Requires Adaptability to New Technologies



If you've never been one to love working with technology you will probably struggle at first. Make sure you feel comfortable working with computers and with online programs before you design a class.

Distance Learning Teacher Qualifications

A strong Distance Learning Foreign Language program teacher should have the following:

- Experience and proficiency in the target language.
- Certification in the appropriate grade level.
- Training in hands-on activities and the software being used.
- Should be interactive (This means that there should be two types of communication, preferably both audio and video.)



- A computer that has a camera and a microphone are required. These technologies are tools for teaching and the teacher/students should be proficient in using the programs before the class begins.
- If possible, the distance learning teacher should attempt occasional site visitations.

Who Benefits from Distance Learning Technology?

- Many home school students look to distance learning programs in foreign language as a way to learn a language in an engaging manner. The technology of distance learning has greatly improved the quality of foreign language learning.
- Can help make the study of a foreign language very practical and significant in childrens' lives. If students can communicate readily through e-mail with children in a foreign country, they should be able to communicate and use this technology to apply what they learned productively .



- Learning a second language can present some challenges, especially if the parent delivering the curriculum is not fluent or experienced enough in the language that the student has chosen to learn. In these situations, parents often choose to look to an expert in the field to help with the development and even the delivery of a foreign language curriculum.

When and why do we need to use Distance Learning?

- As school budgets get tighter and tighter, schools are only funding classes that are fully booked.
- Foreign language classes, especially at the higher levels, are often smaller classes filled with only a handful of students. Many schools are looking at distance learning technologies as a way to still offer these classes to students, but in a more efficient way.



- The distance learning environment for foreign language teaching should also involve time and a forum for student collaboration. This sort of collaboration is especially important in foreign language learning because it provides students the opportunity to use their budding language skills and practice with one another. Group projects can be facilitated through the use of technology.
- Using distance learning can provide access to different types of languages that aren't available any other way.

- 
- More often than before, parents who are homeschooling their child started recently deciding to use some form of technology as an option for educating their child in a particular language.
 - Distance learning classes for foreign language are also often used in school districts where finding qualified language teachers is difficult or when districts are looking to expand course offerings in a cost efficient manner.

- 
- Foreign language teachers would interact with students on a regular basis, both in writing and orally. Especially in introductory level classes, students need immediate feedback on their speaking abilities. Due to the intense nature of the need for interaction in distance learning foreign language classes, these classes should be limited in size. They should include no more than twenty students so that each student is assured of getting quality, real time feedback and constructive criticism.

When is it effective to use technology in the World Language classroom

World Language teachers should opt to use technology when it:

- It's appropriate for the lesson
- Is age-appropriate
- Builds students' World Language learning
- Provides authentic aspects of culture
- Demonstrates authentic cultural regalia and documents
- Motivates students



- Is consistent with national World Language Standards
- Offers a better format of instruction
- Gives students opportunities to interact with each other and the program.
- Gives the teacher a chance to observe students' reactions and performance.
- Appeals to different students' learning styles and intelligences.
- Is user-friendly for the teacher and the students.



A good example of Distance Learning is the experiment called, “The Global Classroom” which was created in the American University in Dubai. It’s a class that consists of a 12 week course that includes 19 students in the faculty of Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, in collaboration with the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, CA. The students of Media Faculty in Dubai were being taught by Professor William Hoyer who is also a professor at the faculty of Media in Southern California.

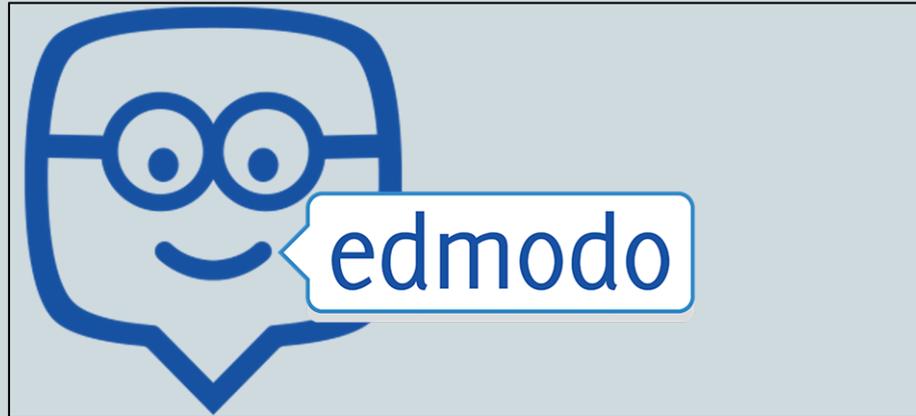


This technology allowed the students of Dubai to take lectures and attend classes with a professor -- who is on the other side of the Globe -- and communicate with him as if they were in the U.S. without leaving their country. After this experience, it had proven its efficiency. The National Research Network is planning to create three more classes now, where the class doesn't and shouldn't exceed 20 students which guarantees the optimal communication between the instructor and the students.



Usually these kind of classes require high end technology and expensive devices, so the classes will be really costly. However, like everything technology related, it usually starts expensive and then the cost will gradually decrease until it is reasonable for everybody.

Edmodo



History



- In late 2008, Nic Borg and Jeff O'Hara recognized the need to evolve the school environment to reflect the increasingly connected world. The two set out to create a tool that closed the gap between how students live their lives and how they learn in school..

What is Edmodo?



- Engage

Tools that bring classrooms to life.

- Connect

Recommendations on resources and educator connection

- Measure

- Educational

apps to augment in-classroom learning

Creating an Edmodo Account

www.edmodo.com



Sign in to Edmodo.

[Forgot your password?](#)

Sign up now. It's free.



[I'm a Parent](#) | [Schools & Districts](#)



Search posts, groups, users, apps and more...



Me ▾



Hi, Mrs. Dalati
Teacher

Groups

Sunday School1B

Arabic 101 Oxy Fall

adv Arabic

Beg Arabic

Edmodo Training Startalk
2013

Mrs. Dalati

مسابقات

Show All >

Communities



Note



Alert



Assignment



Quiz



Poll

Type your note here...



Click here to create a group

Best Posts

Filter posts by ▾



Srta. Rad to World Languages

After attending an uplifting Student of the Quarter breakfast last week I decided that I would like the opportunity to recognize more students and give them their "fifteen minutes of fame". As a result, I've decided to start keeping a "estudiantes de la semana" bulletin board in my classroom where I pick one student in each class, each week to spotlight. All I ask in return is that they fill out the attached sheet. My board isn't completely finished yet, but here is an idea of where I am headed.



estudiante_de_la_semana.docx

DOCX File



3 hours ago · 2 Replies · 2 Reactions

Edmodo 
Group

Group Code Join URL

 **5atdk9** 

 Posts >

 Folders >

 Members 1 joined >

Small Groups 



 **Note**

 Alert

 Assignment

 Quiz

 Poll

Type your note here...

Group Posts

Filter posts

Your classroom is ready for students. **All lower case!**



1

Invite students to join by giving them this Group Code: **5atdk9** Students can sign up for Edmodo using this code or join if they have an existing account.

Posting Notes, Quizzes, Assignments



The image shows the Edmodo interface for posting an assignment. On the left is a sidebar for the 'Edmodo Group' with fields for 'Group Code' (5atdk9) and 'Join URL', and a 'Posts' section. The main area has a top navigation bar with tabs for 'Note', 'Alert', 'Assignment', 'Quiz', and 'Poll'. The 'Assignment' tab is selected and highlighted with a red box. Below the tabs is a form with an 'Assignment title' field (also highlighted with a red box), a 'Load Assignment' button, a 'due date' field with a calendar icon, and a 'Group Posts' section. A green callout box with an arrow pointing to the 'Load Assignment' button contains the text: 'You may also load from previous assignments.'

Posting Notes, Quizzes, Assignments



Note



Alert



Assignment



Quiz



Poll

The Colors الألوان

Load Assignment

due date



Please watch this video a few times, and then do the quiz. الألوان The colors

Edmodo x

✘ | _120_words.pdf



Cancel or

Send



Search posts, groups, users, apps and more...



Me

Groups



Sunday School1B

Arabic 101 Oxy Fall

adv Arabic

Beg Arabic

Edmodo Training Startalk
2013

Mrs.Dalati

صافية

Show All



Communities



Keith Jones

Submitted Copy #1 of food items 2 Quiz#5

Remove from Notifications



Keith Jones

Submitted food items 2 Quiz#5

Remove from Notifications



Keith Jones

Submitted Numbers (1-10) الأرقام

Remove from Notifications



omar faruq

Submitted الألوان The colors

Remove from Notifications



Fatema Chowdhury

Submitted الألوان The colors

Search posts, groups, users, apps and more...



Me ▾

Sunday School1B
Group

Group Code [Join URL](#)

tmnr8e ▾

Posts >

Folders >

Members **14 joined** >

Small Groups

- Note
- Alert
- Assignment
- Quiz
- Poll

Type your note here...

Group Posts

Filter posts by ▾



Me to **Sunday School1B**

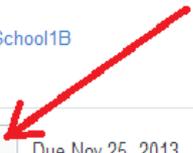
الالوان **The colors**

Turned in (6) Due Nov 25, 2013

7 questions

Nov 21, 2013 · Reply

Me to **Sunday School1B**



 **Assignment#3**
Due Oct 6, 2013

Showing: All 

-  Sunday School1B
-  Fatema Chowdhury
-  **Omar Faruq**
-  Muskaan Hassan 
-  Rida Hossain 
-  Nadeem Khaddaj Mallat 
-  Adam Martinez 
-  Nael Martinez 



Omar Faruq

Submitted on Nov 23, 2013 2:42 PM



Grade

it was fun

Let Omar Faruq know what you thought of this submission...



أحسنت يا عمر



Add Comment





The screenshot displays a social media interface with a dark blue header. On the left, a navigation menu is visible, with 'Library Items' and 'Folders' highlighted by a red box. A red arrow points from this menu to the 'Library Items' icon in the top navigation bar. The main content area is titled 'Library Items' and features a search bar, a 'Filter By' dropdown, a 'View' dropdown, and an 'Add to Library' button. Below this, several media thumbnails are shown. A second red arrow points from the 'Add to Library' button in the main area to a modal dialog box titled 'Add to Library' in the bottom right. This dialog box has a close button (X) in the top right corner and contains the following elements: a 'Files' tab (selected) and a 'Link' tab; the text 'Add a file (100MB max)'; a blue 'Upload' button; and an 'Add' button in the bottom right corner.

Adding Library Folders



The screenshot displays the Edmodo user interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with icons for home, activity, search, and library. A search bar contains the text "Search posts, groups, users, apps and more...". To the right of the search bar are notification and profile icons. Below the navigation bar, the main content area is titled "Library Items". On the left, a sidebar lists "Library Items", "Folders" (highlighted with a red arrow), "Attached to Posts", and "Google Drive". The main area shows three items: a movie file "Movie On 10 17 13 At 10 14 Pm.mov", a document "Oxy Arabic101 Syllabus 2013.doc", and another document "Syllabus Level 1 2013.docx". At the bottom, a footer contains the text "Edmodo ©2013" followed by links for "About", "Blog", "Platform", "Press", "Help", "Jobs", "Terms", "Privacy", "Mobile", and "Languages".



Search posts, groups, users, apps and more...



5



Me

 Library Items

 Folders

 Attached to Posts

 Google Drive

Folders

View 

New Folder



Favorites



Startalk stay fit

Sharing Folders

The screenshot shows the Edmodo interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with icons for home, activity, search, and profile. A search bar contains the text "Search posts, groups, users, apps and more...". The main content area displays a folder named "colore". On the left, there is a sidebar with "Library Items", "Folders", "Attached to Posts", and "Google Drive". On the right, there are "Folder Options" and "View" dropdown menus, and an "Add to Folder" button. A red box highlights the "Folder Sharing" options, which include a checkbox for "Make this folder public" (unchecked), a URL "https://edmodo.com/folder/1950633", and a list of users to share with. The "Edmodo Training Startalk 2013" user is checked, while others are unchecked.

Library Items

Folders

Attached to Posts

Google Drive

colore

Folder Options ▾ View ▾

Add to Folder

Rename Folder

Delete Folder

Folder Sharing

Make this folder public

<https://edmodo.com/folder/1950633>

Add files and links to this folder. There are no attachments.

Share this folder with:

Edmodo Training Startalk 2013

Mrs.Dalati

صفافية

adv Arabic

Beg Arabic

Arabic 101 Oxy Fall

Sunday School1B

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Connect Google Drive to Library

The screenshot shows a social media interface with a dark blue header. On the left is a navigation menu with icons for home, activity, search, and library. The main content area is titled "Google Drive" and "Google Folders". Below this, there are four document thumbnails. The first thumbnail, titled "An Educator's Guide to VoiceThread", is highlighted with a red border. Below the thumbnails, the current Google account is listed as "2maggiechen@gmail.com" with a "Disconnect Account" button.

Library Items

Folders

Attached to Posts

Google Drive

Current Google Account:
2maggiechen@gmail.com

Disconnect Account

Google Drive

Google Folders

An Educator's Guide to VoiceThread

Getting Started

- Click on "Sign in as Regular"
- Click on "Sign in as Regular"
- Click on "Sign in as Regular"

VTEducatorsGuide.pdf

Google+ Hangouts On Air

Hangouts_On_Air_Technica

14. Sleeping Child.mp3

13. Romantic B

Discover



The screenshot shows the Edmodo Discover interface. A red arrow points to the 'Discover' icon in the top navigation bar. A red box highlights the 'Search Topics...' and 'Browse Topics' options in the 'Find Content' sidebar. Another red box highlights the 'Add to Library' button, with an arrow pointing to the 'Add to Post' button. A third red box highlights the 'Add to Post' button, with an arrow pointing to the 'Add to Library' button. The main content area displays 'Edmodo Apps picked out just for you...' with three app cards: '100+ Projects & Lessons', '10monkeys.com Math (LITE)', and 'Aconcepts- Transformat...'. Below this is the 'Suggested Links' section, featuring a link from 'Wallwisher.com' for 'Language Arts' and a link for 'Parts of Speech Rap Song'.

Search posts, groups, users, apps and more...

Suggestions

Communities

Publishers

Find Content

Search Topics...

Browse Topics

Edmodo Apps picked out just for you... Find more in the Store

100+ Projects & Lessons FREE / Unlimited

10monkeys.com Math (LITE) FREE / Unlimited

Aconcepts- Transformat... FREE / Unlimited

Suggested Links

Based on content you shared related to: Past Progressive, Past Perfect, Future Perfect

Wallwisher.com :: Language Arts
wallwisher.com
Language Arts

6.6k

Parts of Speech Rap Song

3.6k

Add to Library

Add to Post

Networking



هل هناك من يدرس اللغة العربية كي نتبادل الآراء و الخبرات؟ Search tromDICTOMUF Convert to PDF Convert to DOC Translate Thesaurus Dictionary

هل هناك من يدرس اللغة العربية كي نتبادل الآراء و الخبرات؟ Search dictionaryBoss™ Define Word of the Day Spell Check Translate Urban Dictionary

Search posts, groups, users, apps and more...

 **World Languages**
Subject Community

Following

Posts >

Top Content >

Type your note here...



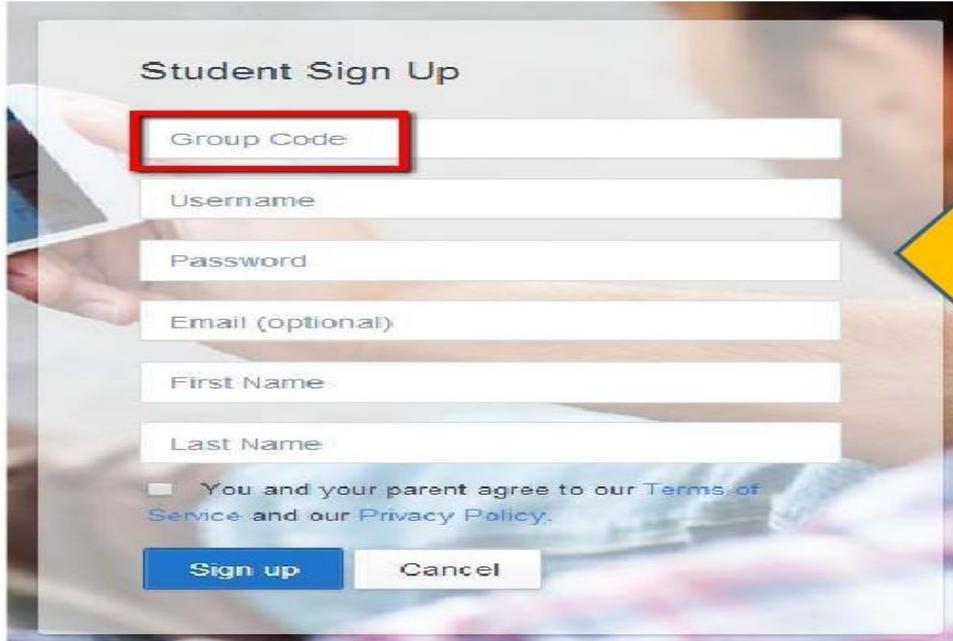
Me to World Languages

هل هناك من يدرس اللغة العربية كي نتبادل الآراء و الخبرات؟

5 minutes ago · Reply · 



Sign up as a Student



Student Sign Up

Group Code

Username

Password

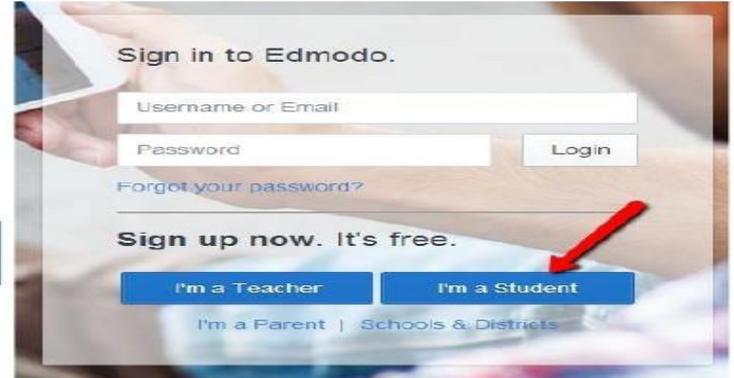
Email (optional)

First Name

Last Name

You and your parent agree to our [Terms of Service](#) and our [Privacy Policy](#).

Sign up **Cancel**



Sign in to Edmodo.

Username or Email

Password **Login**

[Forgot your password?](#)

Sign up now. It's free.

I'm a Teacher **I'm a Student**

[I'm a Parent](#) | [Schools & Districts](#)

How to Sign up as a Student/Teacher



In order for students who are brand new to Edmodo to join your Groups and get started, they'll need to create an Edmodo Account by following these simple steps:

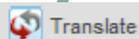
1. The teacher will first need to create a Group on Edmodo.
2. Provide students with the temporary 6-digit Group Code (found on the left side panel once you've selected the Group). Students must have this code to create a new Account.
3. Students will then (this is only if your student has never created an Edmodo Student Account before):
4. Navigate to www.edmodo.com and select the "I'm a Student" button.
5. Fill out the registration form with the Group code, a unique username and password. An email address is not required for student sign up.
6. Select the "Sign up" button to complete the sign up process. The student will then see the Group you created on the left sidebar.
7. Note: If a student already has an Edmodo Account, the student does not need to create a new Account to join your Group. Once a student has created an Account, the student can join multiple Groups with the single Account.

Any Meeting



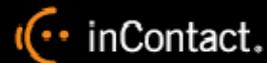
Schedule a Meeting

Search



Advertisement
[Go Pro to remove ads](#)

Benchmark your contact center today >



[My Meetings](#) [Account](#) [Support](#) [Logout](#)

My Meetings | [monaghada@aol.com](#)

Check your computer

[Upgrade to Pro](#)



Please install our updated Screen Sharing Plugin.

For the best screen sharing experience, please install the latest screen sharing plugin. Admin rights required.



Install



Help

Meeting Shortcut URL www.anymeeting.com/SamarDalatif [\(change\)](#)

Your Public Profile [Click here to create your profile](#)

Date and Time



Search

from DOC to PDF



Convert to PDF



Convert to DOC



Translate



Thesaurus



Dictionary



Reference

Invitation

Registration

Survey

Preview

Finish

Create E-mail Invitation

Title

Please enter a title for your meeting, which will be used in your invitations, login page and reports.

الربيع العربي

Date And Time *

Please select the date and time for your meeting.

Date:

Time:

Duration: Minutes

Time Zone:

Note: We recommend that you log in at least 15 minutes before the meeting. This will ensure that your audience can log-in by the time you specify.

This is a recurring meeting ([What's This?](#))

E-mail List

Please enter the emails of the people you want to invite to your meeting OR use the drop down list above to select e-mails from a previous meeting. Separate

Class E-mail List

note: we recommend that you log in at least 15 minutes before the meeting. This will ensure that your audience can log-in by the time you specify.

This is a recurring meeting ([What's This?](#))

E-mail List

Please enter the emails of the people you want to invite to your meeting OR use the drop down list above to select e-mails from a previous meeting. Separate e-mails using a comma "," or enter one e-mail per line.

Attendees 

geni@yahoo.com
Ramis112@gmail.com
markdsd@aol.com
maya323@live.com
sadaka@gmail.com

Presenters 

سمر دالاتي غنوم

E-mail Subject *

Google



- Google docs.
- Google Hangout.

References



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The National Council of State Supervisors for Languages (NCSSFL)

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By [*Julie Jackson*](#)

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- [Distance Learning Net](#)

<http://www.distancelearningnet.com/what-is-distance-learning/>

- <https://www.edmodo.com>

- <http://www.anymeeting.com>