Is 'free' possible and desirable?

Issues around open content in 21st century higher education

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Open Educational Resources (OERs)

2008/9 Resource sharing felt to be beneficial: a natural activity in teaching teams; avoids 're-inventing the wheel' and creation of similar materials over and over again

Early OER-sharing was difficult:

- Technical incompatibility between systems

- A range of other technical issues

- Lack of a culture of sharing beyond local groups

- General lack of skills in the creation of online materials

- Discussions centred around metadata and content packaging

- Few community websites open to anyone to share materials

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Welcome to Language Box

The Language Box is a new way of storing, managing and publishing your Language teaching resources on the web. Share handouts, exercises, podcasts, videos and anything else you can imagine!

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ecently uploaded resources

Using English and American Literature in ESL /EFL Classes.
The article tackles an ESL /EFL issue.

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Added On: 02 Jan 2016 22:51
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Tags: ESL EFL English

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Match the meanings.
Match the correct figurative meanings to the idiomatic phrases by clicking and dragging the meanings (on the right) next to the phrases (on the left). Click "Check" to see how many you got

Added By: Miss L Baker
Added On: 27 Nov 2015 05:26
Languages: English
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Understand the Idiom.
A 'game' or quiz specific to The Big Bang Theory TV show

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MATCH THESE PAIRS OF WORDS
on.html

Added By: Naza Nazaret Abad

Languagebox Activities

Language Box is being used by participants in the Community Cafe project. This project was funded by the JISC and worked to create a collection of resources for use by community languages teachers across the UK. If you are a teacher of a community language, working in a supplementary school or Saturday school, please join the site and share your work!

LanguageBox and the FAVOR project

The JISC-funded FAVOR project worked with part-time language tutors to publish and showcase their teaching resources. Tutors were involved in creating new open educational resources around the topic of transition from language study at school to university. These materials gave students a 'taste of the range of languages that can be studied in UK HE and the language learning activities that are part of academic study. Watch this space to find resources!

Read the FAVOR project blog

Tag cloud

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IEREST en Humbox: Manual de usuario
Este manual explica como utilizar Humbox para acceder a las actividades IEREST

Added By: Ana Beaven
Added On: 19 Sep 2015 11:27
Languages: Spanish

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IEREST on Humbox - User guide
This user guide explains how to download and upload resources

Added By:

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Southampton

Hum Box

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Calling all HumBox users!

If you have used a HumBox resource in your teaching, we would love to know more about how you used it! What did your students think of it? How did you adapt it? Please tell us more about how you use HumBox by dropping us an email!

OT12 Resources on HumBox

The OT12 MOOC in Open translation was run by the Department for Modern Languages at the Open University. It has now finished, but you can find open resources related to the course here on HumBox in the Open Translation group or by searching under 'ot12'.

OpenLIVES - Spanish emigre stories

The JISC-funded OpenLIVES project has used the HumBox to publish a selection of life history interviews documenting the experiences of Spanish migrants in the 20th Century. A team comprising Spanish researchers and students from Southampton, Leeds and Portsmouth has created OERs using this data and shared them here!

Find all OpenLIVES emigre interviews here

led By: Ana Beaven
led On: 19 Sep 2015
guages: French

led By: Ana Beaven
led On: 19 Sep 2015
Languages: Dutch

www.languagebox.ac.uk

www.humbox.ac.uk

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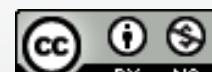
- Share Alike (SA) so that any works derived from a resource are shared under the same type of license.

Open educational practice

Benefits:

- Saves your own development time

- Offers your students a variety of material

- shows that you are aware of the good work being done in your field by others

- Seeing how others teach/present information gives you ideas about what to do / what not to do

- Learn new skills by seeing/using others' OERs

- Showcase and promote teaching excellence

- Enabled innovative teaching through collaborative projects and engaging students in open working

Open education movement

- UNESCO – Paris OER declaration 2012

- EU – Open education initiative 2013, EU-funded projects e.g. LangOER www.langoer.eu

- Governmental adoption of OER policies

- Institutional adoption of OER policies

- UK research funding councils implement open access mandates

- Open access publishing

MOOCs

- Free, online course available to anyone to take (therefore potentially with thousands of learners)

- Big providers: Coursera, EdX, FutureLearn, Iversity

'Understanding Language: learning and teaching' – University of Southampton/British Council/FutureLearn –

160,000+ 'joiners' over 4 runs
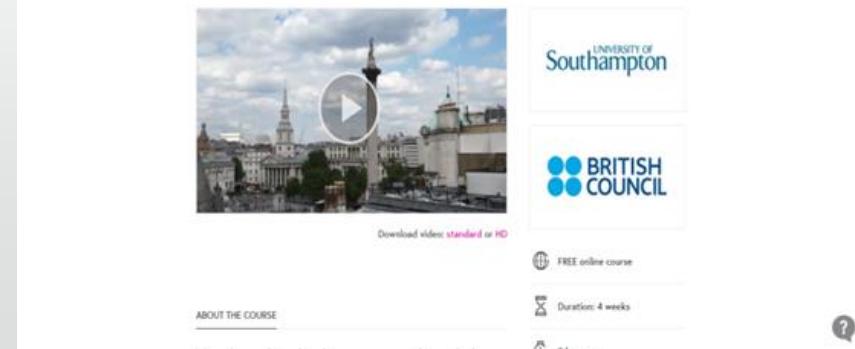
The challenge to open education

Current climate:

- Marketisation of Higher Education

- Competition to recruit local and international students

- Desire to increase position in global rankings

- Increase research income

- Competition amongst staff/institutions reduces attraction of collaboration and open working

Open education: responding to the challenge

- Markets and promotes universities and courses

- Showcases and enhances the profile of academic staff at the university to new audiences

- Demonstrates value for money

- Teachers are now 'curators as well as creators' and demonstrate their knowledge of the field by curating 3rd party resources

- Blending MOOCs with classroom teaching offers campus-based students a broader experience

- Open education and MOOCs offer an opportunity to carry out 'citizen research' for research purposes

Concluding remarks

Possible? Yes.

Desirable? Yes: free/open contributes to strategic areas of importance.

- Impact, promotion, reach should be measured accurately to support ongoing arguments to continue free/open activity

- There is a place in today's HE landscape for open/free content but in order to survive, it must be aligned to strategic aims and areas of importance.

References + links

- Downes, S. (2011) 'Open Educational Resources: A Definition' at http://halfanhour.blogspot.it/2011/07/open-educational-resources-definition.html [last accessed 10 April 2014].

- OER Infokit: http://bit.ly/oerinfokit

- Open Courseware Consortium: www.ocwconsortium.org

- Comas-Quinn, Anna and Borthwick, Kate (2015) Sharing: open educational resources for language teachers. In, Hampel, Regine and Stickler, Ursula (eds.) Developing Online Language Teaching. Basingstoke, GB, Palgrave Macmillan, 96-112. (New Language Learning and Teaching Environments).

- University of Southampton MOOCs: http://www.southampton.ac.uk/courses/free-online-learning.page

- Understanding Language: Learning and teaching – sign up! https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/understanding-language

Thank you!

Спасибо!