

Summarizing and Commenting on a Presentation

This project, which is to be completed by May 6th, consists of five steps. It is centred around a video of a talk. Although you can organize your time as you like, it is advisable that you do the first three steps of individual study, which may take more than an hour, in a single sitting. Step four (the interaction stage) should be done on a separate day. The final step involves recording an oral text and submitting it to your teacher for evaluation, for which you will need an Internet connection and a microphone.

Step one

Find the talk

Go to the TED.com homepage. Type '**How to Make Learning as Addictive as Social Media**' in the search box and click. Click on the pause button so that the video does not start up immediately.

Before you watch

Consider the following questions and make notes:

1. How long have you been learning English?
2. Why have you chosen this subject at university?
3. How determined are you to become fluent in this language?
4. How important is it for people to learn English?
5. To what extent do English-speaking nations dominate the world?

Watch the talk

You are going to watch a talk regarding using apps to learn languages..

Click on full view mode in the upper right corner of the video screen to see the talk.

Answer the following questions. You may want to watch the talk twice.

1. What is your first impression of the talk's content and the speaker's delivery?
2. Did you find the talk easy to follow? Why? / Why not?
3. What is the main thesis or idea of the talk?
4. Consider the opening and the closing of the talk. Are they effective?
5. Do you find the Luis Von Ahn 's talk convincing?

Step two

Analyse the content

Go back to the talk and listen again as many times as necessary to answer the following questions.

1. Why does he show a map?
2. How is humor used in the talk?
3. What statistics does he use?
4. What was his original goal in learning?
5. Why do people with more money pay for the poorer ones?
6. How does the reminder work?
7. What part do algorithms play in this app?
8. What does he think of screen time?
9. How can English transform lives?
10. How does he explain how to make broccoli taste like dessert?
11. What part does motivation play in learning?

Dictation. Listen again and write down all the numbers and names of countries you hear.

Return to Step 1. Do you have anything to add now that you have watched the video more closely?

Step three

Analyse the talk

1. This twelve-minute talk can be divided into different sections. Note down the different stages and the time dedicated to each section. How does the speaker signal the different sections?
2. Write an outline or draw a mind map of the sections of the talk.
3. What visual aids does the speaker use?
4. What can you say about Walker's appearance, body language, delivery pace and voice quality?
5. To what extent do you think he prepared his talk? Give reasons for your answer.

Step four

Task – Information, Feedback and Interaction

You are going to give a summary of the talk and your commentary to a fellow student.

Before you meet you may want to prepare some background notes on Luis Von Ahn and Duolingo. To do this use the biographical information in the column to the right of the video screen. It might also be an idea to consider what other listeners thought about the talk. Go to the "Discuss this talk" section below the video screen, pull down the options in the "Sort by" box and select "Original thread sequence."

1. First of all, open your discussion by introducing the speaker to your fellow student.
2. Summarize the talk and its content objectively, without personal commentary at this stage.
3. Lastly, give your personal opinion about the presentation, both about **what** was said and **how** it was said. At this stage, your partner may interrupt you at any time to ask for clarification. This will probably lead to a short discussion on the idea of social media and learning.

The interaction between you and your partner will take place outside of the classroom. This may be done in various ways:

- You meet somewhere and carry out the activity, for example in an empty classroom or at your home.
- You do the activity over the phone.
- You use Skype or chat, with or without video. If you both have a webcam, you simply download Skype and speak to each other over the Internet. This will also allow you to maintain eye contact.

Step five

Recording your answers

Record your video commentary and upload it to the Listening and Speaking GoogleDOCS folder.

Your spoken text should include the following:

- Brief introduction about the speaker
- The topic of his talk
- A summary of the talk
- A brief conclusion
- Your commentary
- A brief account of the interaction with your partner

Think outside of the box like Luis Von Ahn!