

BASICS Assignment for 21things4teachers

I. Technology Skills

Readiness Checklists

Use the Michigan K-12 Checklist, or an alternative you provide the URL to:
Identify Checklist used (URL:)

Identify and describe in the chart below 5 skill areas that you feel are most important to target for improvement for your own students' success.

	Student Readiness Skills My Students Need to Learn	I need to improve this too (check)
1	Students can collaborate electronically with others on a piece of writing	
2	Students can integrate audio into a presentation	
3	Students can tell if a website can be trusted when searching for information and determine accuracy and bias in the material	
4	Students can successfully navigate a spreadsheet for data entry	X
5	Students can correctly use every key on the keyboard when needed	

II. Basic Portfolio Skills

Open two of your favorite educational web resources you use for your classroom. Open them in separate browser windows and resize them to show both on your screen, and take a screenshot. Paste it below.

The (shortcut or application) I used to create this screenshot was: **Shift + Command + 3**



Favorite shortcut:

My computer: I will be using a Mac for the majority of the work for this course. My favorite shortcut is and how it saves you time:

III. Standards & Best Practice

[ISTE Standards for Teachers](#)

“Effective teachers model and apply the [ISTE Standards for Students](#) (Standards•S) as they design, implement, and assess learning experiences to engage students and improve learning; enrich professional practice; and provide positive models for students, colleagues, and the community. All teachers should meet these standards and performance indicators.”

As you review these ISTE-T standards provide an example of at least one thing you do in your teaching that

- a. meets two of the standards and one or more performance indicators
- b. one thing you would like to target for improvement.

1. **Facilitate and inspire student learning and creativity:**

a. My example of something I do: bring technology and multi-media resources into my instruction so that language learning comes alive and remains relevant for all students. (i.e. Skype, using Google Docs for pen pal letters, etc.).

b. Something to improve on: Finding more free resources to share with my students so that we can learn together about new technologies.

2. **Design and develop digital age learning experiences and assessments**

a. My example of something I do: I am very good at creating lessons which are appropriate to the multiple learning styles. I always offer my students different options, and the final choice, for how to demonstrate mastery of a concept.

b. Something to improve on: Incorporating the use of technology during class. Right now, I only work with small groups of students (2-5 students per group) and there is only one laptop in the room, which is used to show the mandatory curriculum for Cambridge English.

3. **Model digital age work and learning**

a. My example of something I do: When I was a classroom teacher in Michigan I had a class website where I posted weekly newsletters. I also communicated with parents and students regularly via email.

b. Something to improve on: Trying to use other forms of technology to share information with students (for example, Loom, to explain or summarize information for students, especially those who were absent.)

4. **Promote and model digital citizenship and responsibility**
a. My example of something I do: At the beginning of the school year, I explicitly discuss digital responsibility, especially at it relates to plagiarism, as this is a huge problem in France. Many students simply copy and paste information they find from the internet, and this is something that is not discussed or explained in other content areas.
b. Something to improve on: Rather than simply explaining why students should not do something, I would like to incorporate more real-life examples of this problem. For example, many companies in France use copyrighted images without the owner’s consent.
5. **Engage in professional growth and leadership**
a. My example of something I do: Taking courses like this one, when available. I also try to stay current by reading different articles and research papers related to technology in instruction.
b. Something to improve on: More regularly seeking out PD opportunities, rather than just when it is time to renew my teaching certificate. Reaching out to my teacher friends around the world to create a data base of technological resources.

How I would rate myself based on the ISTE-Teacher Standards at this point using a 5-point Rubric:

Performance Proficiency	—	Beginning	Developing	Proficient	Transformative
	1	2	3	4	5
Rubric Description	Not familiar with	Beginning awareness , have an idea of what I need to work on	Awareness, feel somewhat experienced & knowledgeable	Active Awareness, Experienced and proficient user and integrator, Very knowledgeable	Flexible Awareness, the integration of multiple tools/ resources at a high level of functionality

IV. Best Practice Connections

Identify and give an example of three of the nine “best practice” strategies teaching and learning strategies (identified in the Framework for Instructional Planning) and a technology resource you use (or might use) in the chart below. You may find it helpful to refer to the [techbestpractice](http://techbestpractice.com) site.

Best Practice Category	Technology resource or tool(s) used	Brief description of what I do
Eg. Setting Objectives & Providing Feedback	Google docs (or printed handout from docs template)	At the beginning of each new year (7 th grade) I do a quick review of math problem solving steps from 6 th grade. I help them identify some learning objectives. We check progress at the end of the month with feedback and discussion.
Nonlinguistic representations	Canva	When trying to show what we have learned about a particular culture or tradition, we often make concept maps using Canva. Students can then share their maps with each other and engage in a richer discussion.
Cooperative Learning	Google Docs	When students are completing an assignment or project with a partner, we use Google Docs so that collaboration can easily be tracked. It also gives students the possibility to talk with their partner in places outside of the classroom.
Assigning Homework and Practice	DropBox, classroom website, Loom, Google Docs	I use a variety of resources to provide homework and practice to my students. In addition to paper forms, we sometimes share documents using DropBox or Google Docs. I've also been toying around with how to use Loom to reinforce homework or practice activities.

V. Goals:

Set 3 goals for your learning, a timeframe to target, and some steps you will take.

Learning goal (small and specific that you will know when you have accomplished it)	Timeframe (within the next 3 months)	Specific steps (1-3) I will take to help accomplish this goal.	Celebration – how will I celebrate meeting this goal
Become more confident when using Excel/spreadsheets	Two months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Talk with friends/colleagues about how they use spreadsheets 2. Find tutorials (for example on YouTube) 3. Apply what I have learned 	Make a spreadsheet that I can use to celebrate my personal accomplishments (example: I'm currently tracking how much time I spend reading for pleasure, but am using a notebook)

Finding appropriate interactive resources for students	Three months	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Talk with other TESOL teachers and make a list of resources they use 2. Actually use the resources myself before sharing with students 3. Collect student feedback about resources in order to move forward 	Find a way of sharing my resources with other professionals (for example on my blog)
Making my blog accessible and user friendly	One month	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Take time reading and exploring other education blogs 2. Invest time in discovering everything that is possible with WordPress 3. Asking for help and feedback from friends 	Widely sharing my new and improved blog with family and friends

VI. Reflection

Based on the resources in Basics, and your own experience, reflect on how thoughtful integration of best practice and technology can improve your instructional practice. Give some details.

In today's every changing world, it only seems appropriate that we as educators would want to integrate technology into our practice. Because I am currently

teaching English in France, I think that technology is extremely important because it provides students with authentic ways of learning and interacting with each other. For example, using Skype or FaceTime to video conference with students from around the world.

I also think that technology enables students to have access to things which used to be inaccessible for them. For example, watching and discussing videos created by English speakers from a variety of different English-speaking countries, allows students to hear different accents and even dialects of the language.

Finally, technology has the power to improve our communication with students and families. However, I feel like this component could be a double-edged sword, as the line between work and private life becomes even more blurred. Also, depending on requirements or restrictions based on cultural differences could be problematic. For example, in France, it is actually illegal for employers/families to contact you outside of your normal working hours, and all workers are discouraged from reading/responding to emails outside of normal working hours.

REMEMBER: Post your document to your portfolio or provide a link in your portfolio to it.

Note: If you are taking the 21things4teachers for graduate, SCECH, or other Professional Development credit there will be additional Capstone requirements and extended assignments your instructor will tell you about.