



Students' Report Group 12

on E-learning and Flipped Classroom Activities (IO4)

Students' names and surnames and class:

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Specific in-depth topic of own home study and why this topic has been chosen (at least 200 characters)

Studied topics for discussion:

What are the causes of soil erosion and how does soil erosion change the surface of the earth?

Well to start off, soil erosion is a process that affects all landforms. Soil erosion happens when the dirt is left exposed to flowing water, hard rains, or intense winds. Humans can also leave soil vulnerable to erosion, for example, which happens when they plow the soil before or after a season of crops. Big amplitudes in temperatures are also one of the causes. Soil erosion impacts the surface of the earth negatively, as it reduces the quality and the quantity of soil ecosystems and arable land. In the last 50 years, humans have been increasingly destroying the soil each day and in Iowa, e.g., since 1850, cropland across the country has lost on average around 6.8 inches of topsoil.

Which type of water is safer, bottled water or water that comes out of our taps?

Both water types are drinkable and good for satisfying thirst. However, because of the amount of plastic used to pack bottled water, tap water is a better option, especially for the environment. Tap water is cheaper as well. It passes through a water treatment plant, therefore we can say with certainty that it is generally safe, convenient, and environmentally friendly, at least in most European countries. The proofs of the same taste are blind tests where most people cannot tell the difference between tap and bottled water. However, if your drinking water supply is contaminated, then bottled water is better, and the only option for you. If you are worried about whether the water for drinking is clean enough, you can buy water filtration systems or boil water before drinking.

Ted talk topic: Electronic waste



Comment about the activity done at home (at least 300 characters)

Learning about ecology and our environment at home was remarkably interesting and helpful. We liked the lessons; they were simple and easy to follow. We got the opportunity to learn a lot about soil and water. The video lessons were good with a lot of useful information, but it would have been better if all had visual content as well. The quizzes/tests were also well organized, the questions were simple and clear. To conclude, we are happy with the platform, it was interactive and fun.

Comment about the interactive activity in the classroom (at least 400 characters)

The interactive activity done in the classroom was different, but in a good way. It was a fresh new way to conduct classes, as opposed to the classic method where the entire class listens to the teacher. It was interesting to see what kind of questions our colleagues were bringing up, and in the same measure, how others were answering them. Interesting was also the fact that everyone did the research required to pose the questions, but more importantly, to answer them, and in that way all of us learned and remembered for good something new about the topics that were presented in the online lessons. The information that someone researches by themselves is usually better remembered than information that was provided to them by someone else; in a school or video lesson. So, this was a particularly effective way to “cement” some of the information important to our topics. The TED Talks some of our colleagues held were impressive, as to the level of professionalism, in the design of the presentations and how it was delivered, and in the research done for the presentation. They did not seem to be made in a rush, just to satisfy a deadline in school, but there was actual effort put into them.