

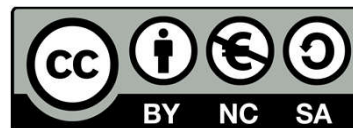


From IT to MyT

How to make sure tech works for you
and not the other way round

HES-SO Language Symposium 2018

Ben Hoyt, presenter



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Overview

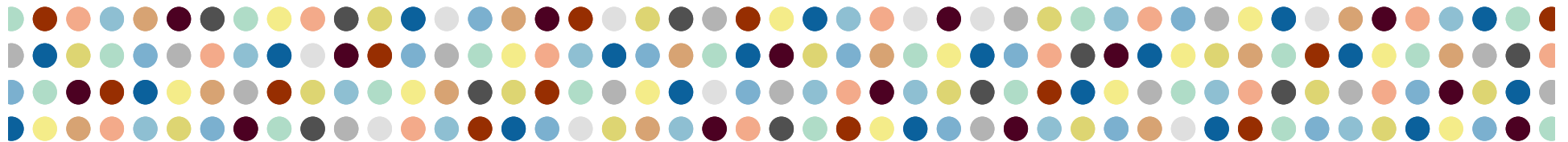
- Getting to know each other
- What are computers good at?
- What are app makers promising us?
- How can we get what we want?
- How can someone get better with computers?
- My software toolkit
- Conclusion



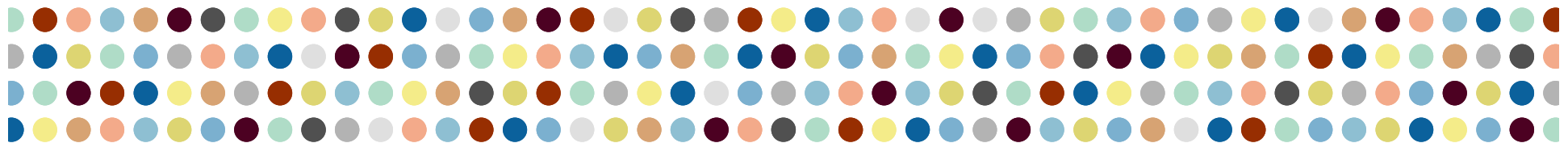
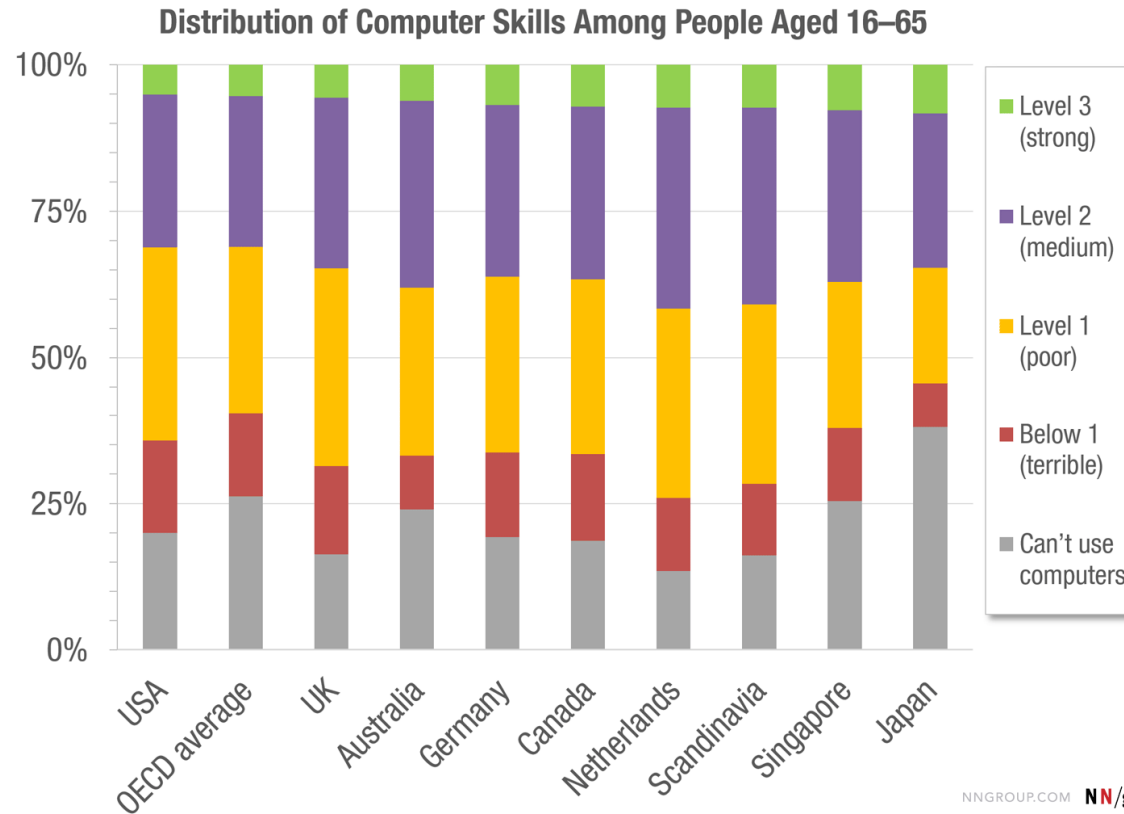
Getting to know each other

Please visit the link to take a short survey:

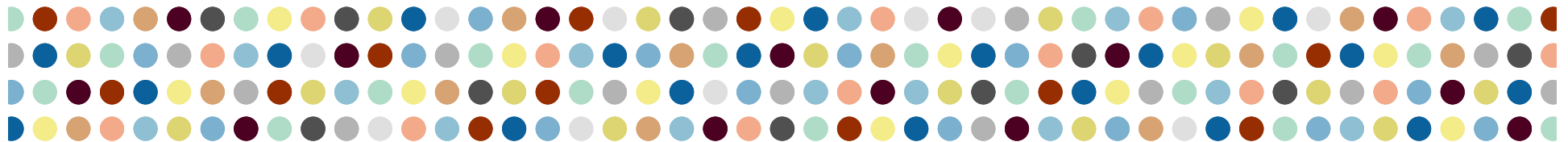
<https://tinyurl.com/BHLangSym18>



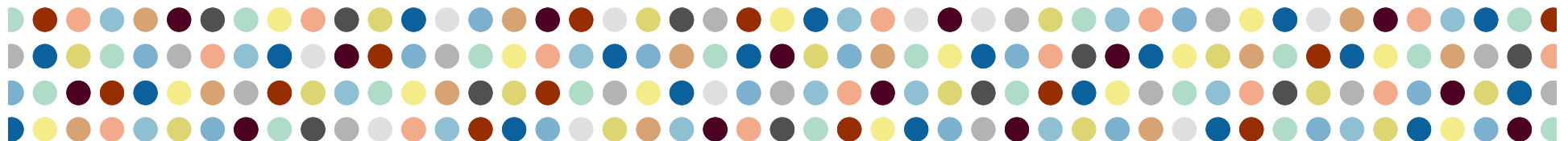
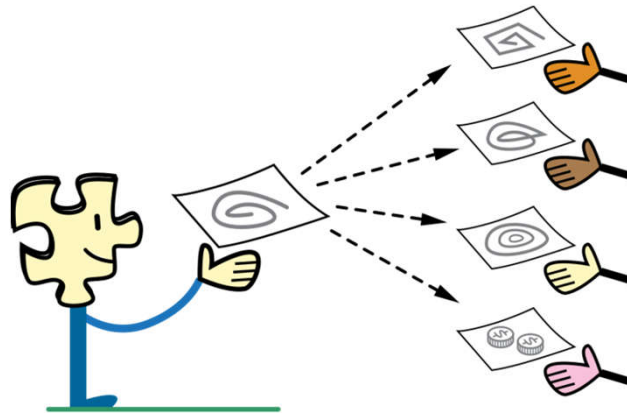
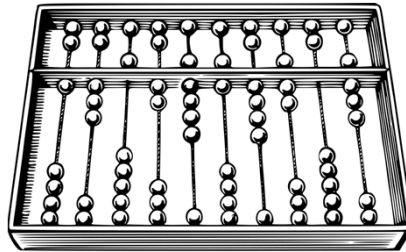
Getting to know each other



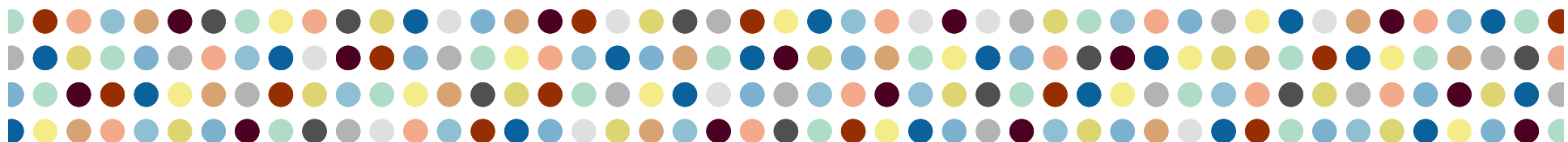
Getting to know each other



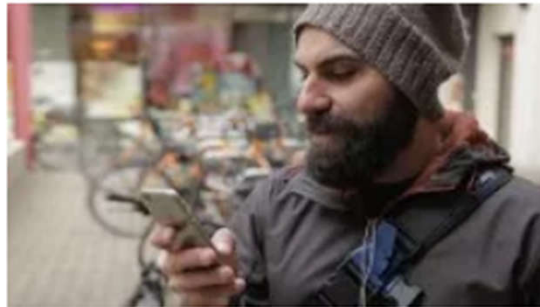
What are computers good at?



What are we being promised?



What are we being promised?



How To Learn Any Language With An App



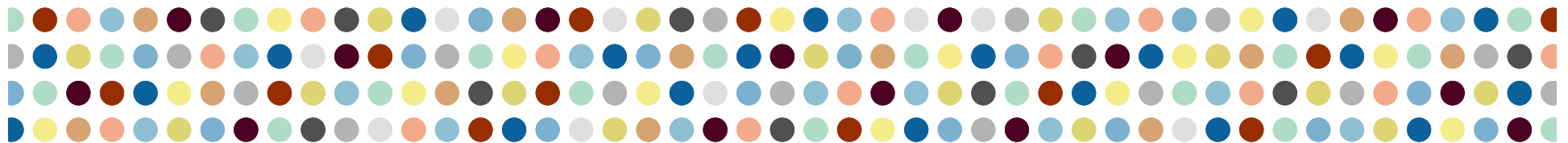
Learning A Language While Sleeping: Just A Dream?

Top 10 Teacher Software Programs You Should Be Using On a Daily Basis



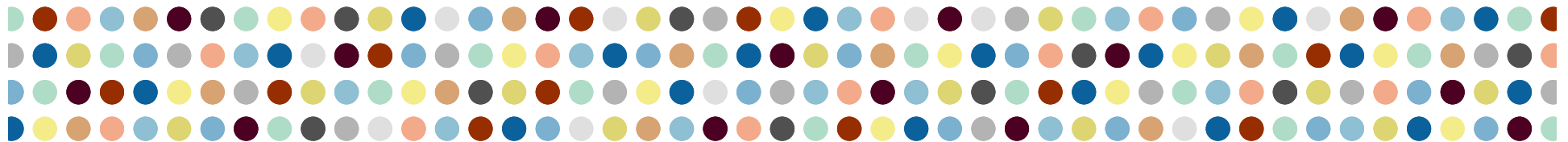
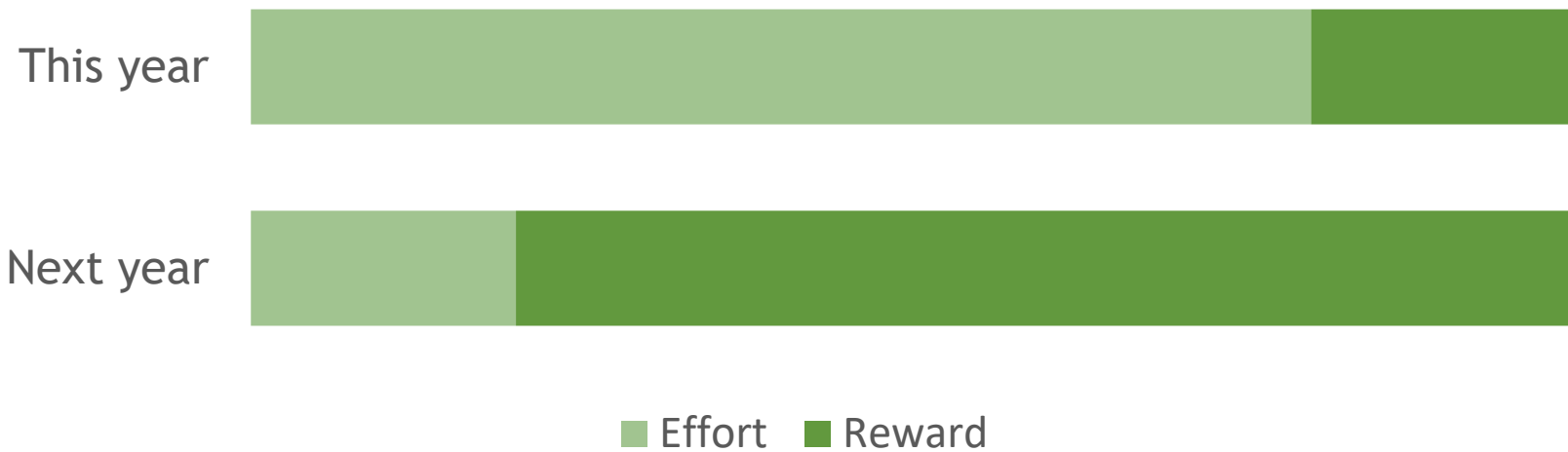
How can we get what we want?

Murphy's law of effort and reward



How can we get what we want?

The way change really works



How can we get what we want?

1. Define your needs and wants
2. Examine your workflow

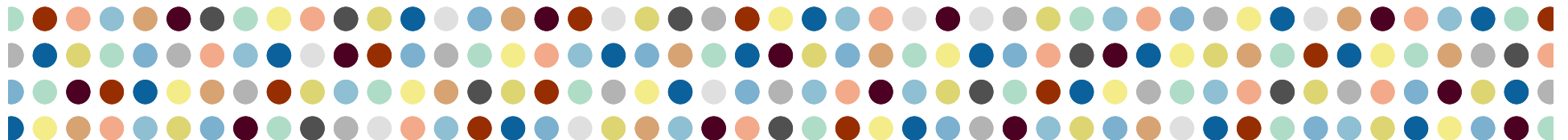


How can we get what we want?

EXAMPLE

Need: split class into groups and time slots for oral exams

Want: to avoid entering names myself and answering any emails about scheduling



How can we get what we want?

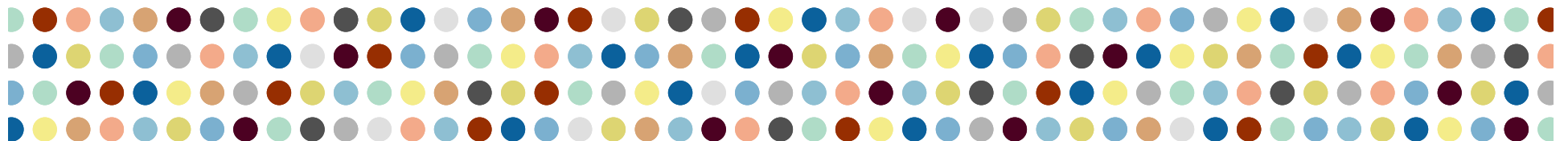
EXAMPLE

Workflow 1:

Assign everything myself, post on Moodle

Issues:

Students want to change partners, times, etc. and I have to answer a lot of emails



How can we get what we want?

EXAMPLE

Workflow 2:

Students sign up on a paper in class, I scan the sheet and post it on Moodle

Issues:

I have to make a sign-up sheet, will have to answer emails and add names of absentees



How can we get what we want?

EXAMPLE

Workflow 3:

Students sign up on an online form which is available and visible later on Moodle

Issues:

I have to make the online form, I have to make it easy to find, use and see



How can we get what we want?

1. Define wants and needs
2. Examine the workflow
3. Look at existing tools
4. Take a long-term view
5. Test before committing
6. Evaluate and analyse the results



What do YOU want?

- Brainstorm some ‘wants’ and ‘needs’
- Sketch your existing workflows
- Imagine some improvements
- Remember what computers are good at
- Ask your colleagues for feedback



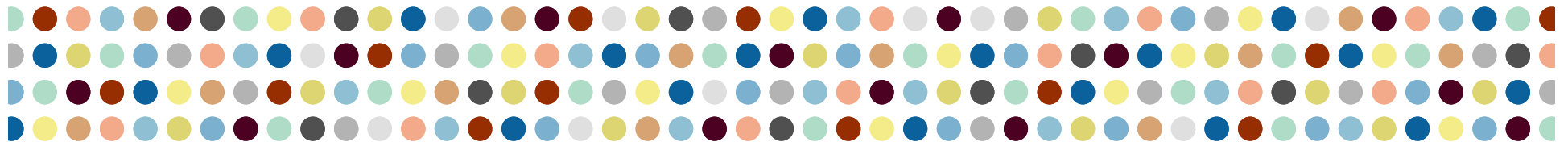
How can we get better?

- Be curious
- Be critical
- Be creative
- Be conscientious
- Be courageous
- Be kind to yourself



How can we get better?

- Ask Google
- Ask friends
- Ctrl-Z, Ctrl-C, Ctrl-V
(⌘-Z, ⌘-C, ⌘-V)
- Critically analyse your workflows
- Practice, practice, practice



How can we feel better?

- More free time
- Fewer email distractions
- More efficient web browsing
- Better file security
- More peace of mind

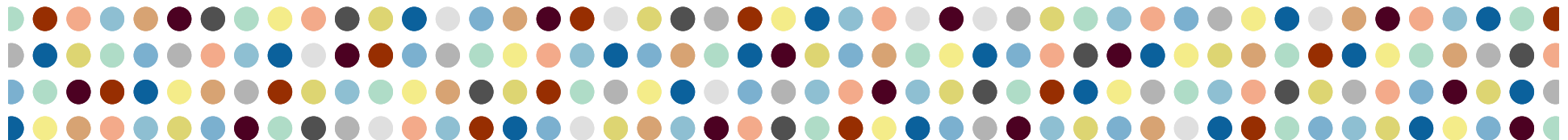


My software toolkit

Work software

- Microsoft Office* (Word, Excel, Outlook): I wanted to make good-looking materials for my classes; I wanted to calculate marks more quickly; I wanted to combine Word and Excel docs to send personalised emails to all my students at once
- Microsoft OneDrive: I wanted access to all of my files at home and on my laptop
- Microsoft OneNote: I wanted to keep all my notes in one place and to access them wherever I am

*paid software



My software toolkit

Work software

- GIMP: I wanted to edit images and save them in different sizes for print and web
- Foxit PDF Reader: I wanted a PDF printing utility that would work for all users of my documents
- PDF-XChange Viewer: I wanted to type and draw on PDFs during my lessons
- PDF 24: I wanted to add and delete pages or combine PDF documents

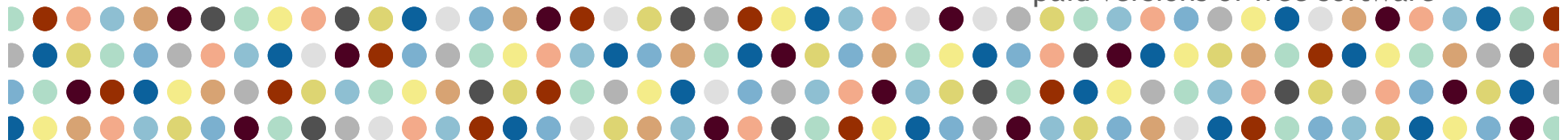


My software toolkit

Work-life balance software

- Todoist*: I wanted a way to keep all my to-dos in one place, that would be available on any device
- Toggl: I wanted to know how many hours I was prepping and teaching while studying for my MA
- Gmail and Google calendar(s): I wanted to separate work emails and work calendars from my personal emails and personal calendars
- Pocket*: I wanted a way to save articles to read that was better than a giant list of bookmarks

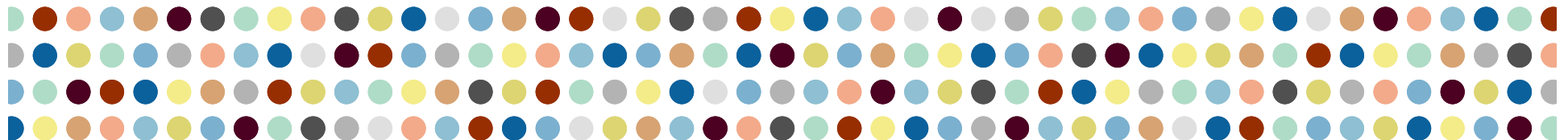
*paid versions of free software



My software toolkit

Collaboration software

- Moodle: I wanted all of the class assignments, homework and general course information to be available where the students could get it without involving me
- G Suite: I wanted to work my students' writing assignments together with them; to make sign-up sheets I don't need to manage; and to speed up the marking process



My software toolkit

Teaching/learning software

- Quizlet (trial): I wanted my students to have good flashcards so I could hold them accountable for vocabulary learning
- Grammarly (trial): I wanted students to be able to get quick feedback on simple grammar errors in their writing so I could spend more time on more advanced writing issues



Conclusions

- Adopt a growth mindset
- Be wary of marketing approaches
- Define your goals
- Examine your workflows
- Work with the tools you have
- Always ask questions



References

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Images

“Young digital native” flickr photo by cwasteson <https://flickr.com/photos/wastes/5374490075> shared under a Creative Commons (BY) license

What are computers good at?

- Counting: Abacus at Pixabay.com free for commercial use
- Copying: Copier Scanner Printer at Pixabay.com free for commercial use
- Sharing: “Sharing-Character” Original by WMF, character extracted by User:Yuriy Bulka <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Sharing-Character.png> shared under a Creative Commons (BY) license
- Displaying: “Laptop and a projector” by Toby2012 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Laptop_and_a_projector.png shared under a Creative Commons (BY-SA) license
- Repeating: “Repeat Font Awesome” Original by Dave Gandy numbers added by Ben Hoyt https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Repeat_font_awesome.svg shared under a Creative Commons (BY-SA) license

“Car Salesman With Car” flickr photo by everycar_listed_photos <https://flickr.com/photos/127619525@N05/15075074577> shared under a Creative Commons (BY-SA) license



Thank you!

A link to the presentation is on its way!

Stay in touch:

- Email me: ben@benteachesenglish.com
- Add me on LinkedIn
- Add me on Twitter: @BenTchsEnglish
- Attend 'ELT Springboard' in Bern: teachers' discussion group, last Thursday of the month

