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## Making the Internet Friendlier for MFL Educators

Pilar Munday  
*Sacred Heart University*

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# Making the Internet friendlier for MFL educators

Pilar Munday  
Sacred Heart University  
Fairfield, CT

How do you access the Internet?



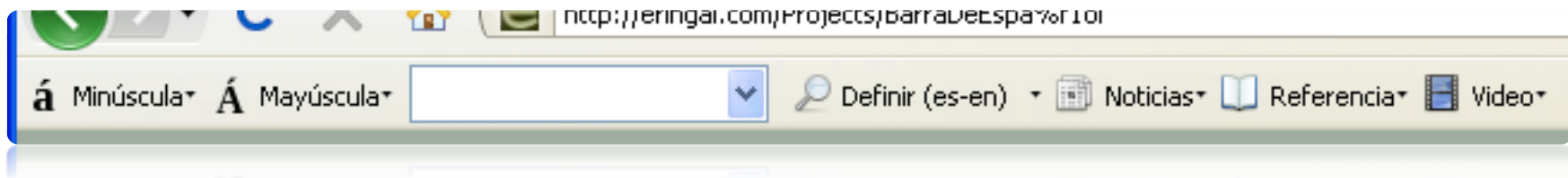
I recommend Firefox for most tasks



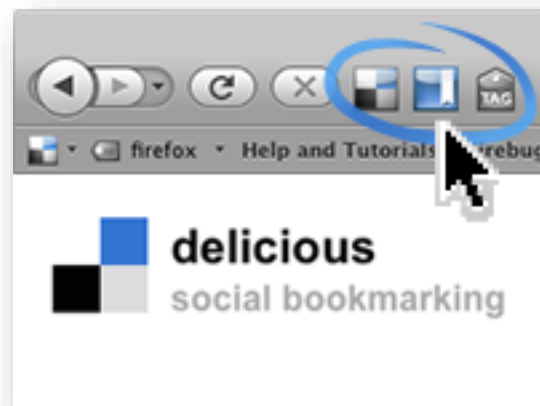
With [Firefox](#) you can add extensions:

I recommend these:

["Barra de español"](#)



["Delicious"](#) bookmarking tool



Add a spell checker for any language

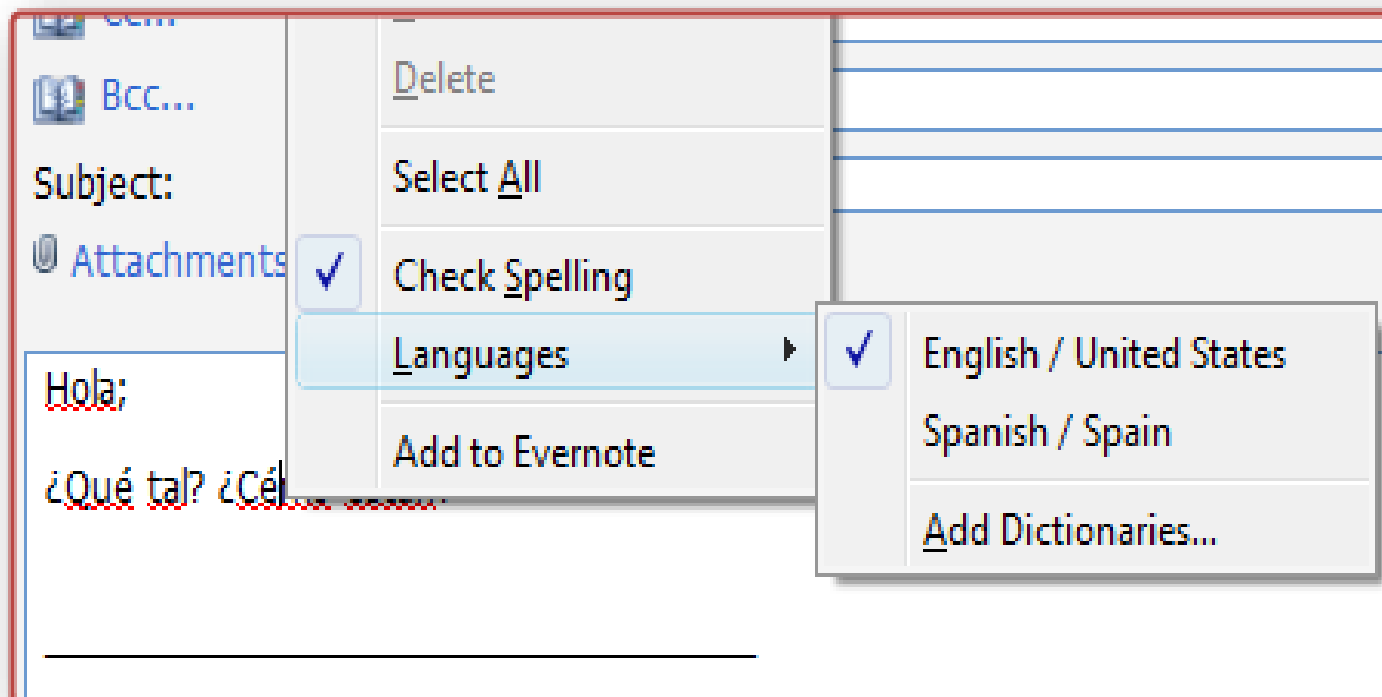
Go to [Dictionaries & Language Packs](#) in the Add-on menu

Choose your languages

## Dictionaries & Language Packs

Language		Dictionary
Afrikaans	Afrikaans	<a href="#">Install Dictionary (588 KB)</a>
Akan	Akan	<a href="#">Install Dictionary (20 KB)</a>
Albanian	Shqip	<a href="#">Install Dictionary (580 KB)</a>
Arabic	عربي	<a href="#">Install Dictionary (303 KB)</a>
Basque	Euskara	<a href="#">Install Dictionary (620 KB)</a>
Belarusian	Беларуская	<a href="#">Install Dictionary (3843 KB)</a> <a href="#">Install Dictionary (3860 KB)</a> (Classic Spelling)
Bengali (Bangladesh)	বাংলা (বাংলাদেশ)	<a href="#">Install Dictionary (983 KB)</a>
Bulgarian	Български	<a href="#">Install Dictionary (255 KB)</a>
Catalan	català	<a href="#">Install Dictionary (658 KB)</a>
Catalan (Valencian)	català (valencià)	<a href="#">Install Dictionary (369 KB)</a> (myspell) <a href="#">Install Dictionary (664 KB)</a> (AVL)

Simply click on the text and you can select which language you need to correct words, in any program, on your browser.



OK, now that we have the right browser, what else can I do?



What about .... ?



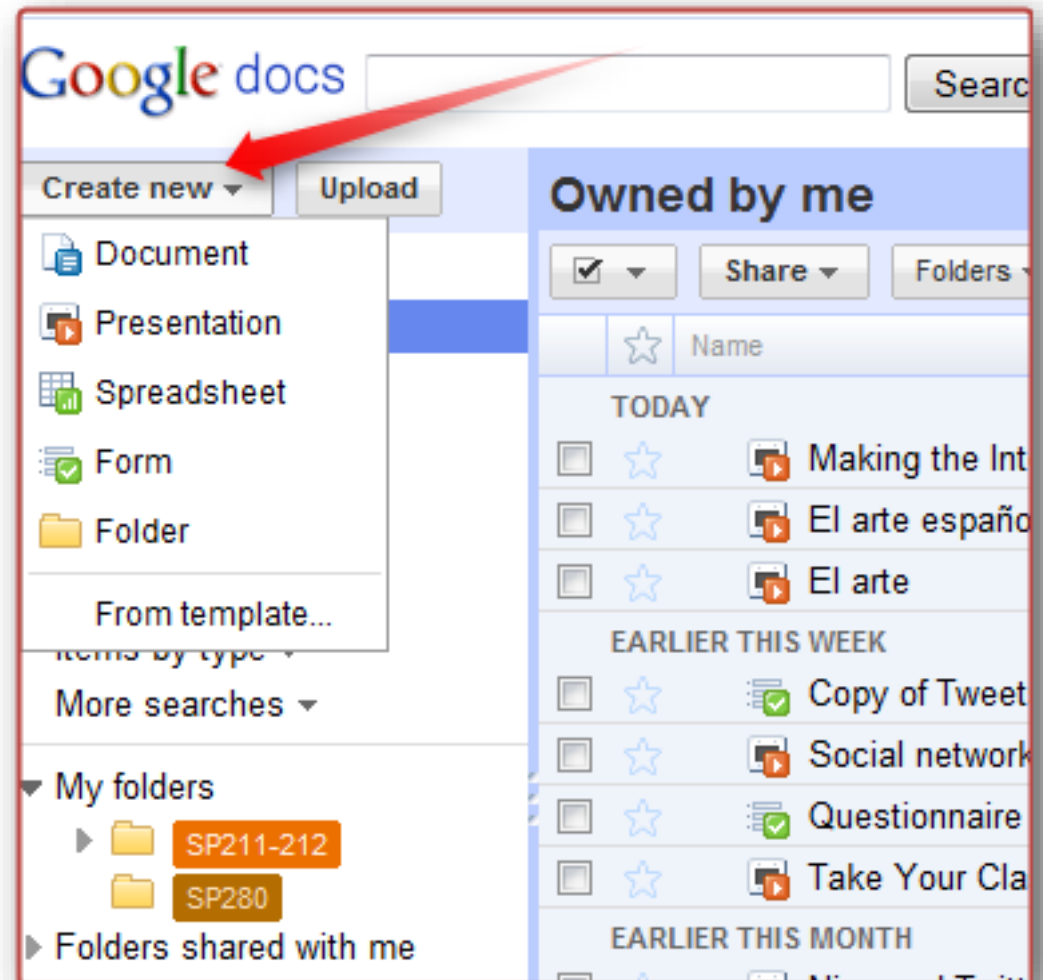
Google™ Docs

1

First you need to create a gmail account

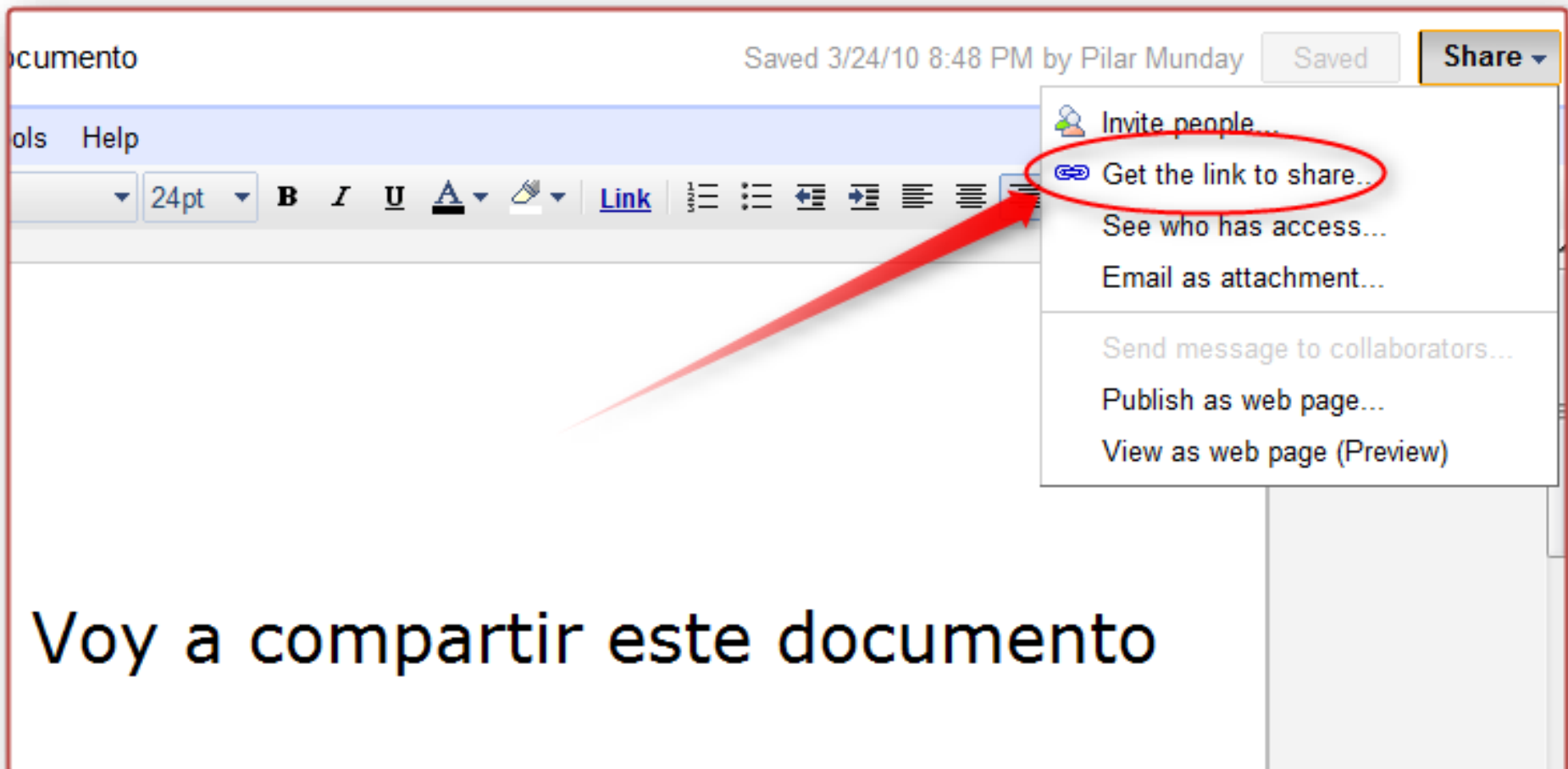
2

Then, [just start creating documents](#),  
spreadsheets, presentations or forms



# What can we do with Google Docs?

We can share documents with students and they can edit them (even if they don't have a gmail account)



The screenshot shows the Google Docs interface. At the top, the document title is "Documento", followed by "Saved 3/24/10 8:48 PM by Pilar Munday", a "Saved" button, and a "Share" button with a dropdown arrow. Below this is a menu bar with "Tools" and "Help". The main toolbar contains various formatting options: font size (24pt), bold (B), italic (I), underline (U), text color (A), background color, link (Link), bulleted list, numbered list, indent, outdent, and alignment options. A red arrow points from the "Share" button to a dropdown menu. The menu items are: "Invite people...", "Get the link to share..." (circled in red), "See who has access...", "Email as attachment...", "Send message to collaborators...", "Publish as web page...", and "View as web page (Preview)".

Voy a compartir este documento

Make sure BOTH boxes are checked if you want students to collaborate on a document. Then you just send the students that link and they can start writing.

Insert Format Table Tools Help

Styles Verdana 10pt B I U A Link

### Get the link to share

- Allow anyone with the link to view (no sign-in required)
- Also allow them to edit

Share this link via email or IM:

<http://docs.google.com/Doc?docid=0Ac7s6zM29u55ZGZycHBiNzhfMTBmcjd> Preview

Save & Close Cancel

El cam

<http://www. /20091206el>

Completa es como ejempl

Nombre	nombres	person	afectados
Chai Erquan	65 años	China	No llueve tanto como antes. Hay muchas tormentas de arena. Esto provoca la <u>desertización</u> .

## Example of an activity using a Google Document

### El cambio climático en primera persona

<http://www.elpais.com/fotogaleria/cambio/climatico/primerapersona/elpgal/20091206-climatico-primerapersona-1/75511>

1

Students go to this website

2


Then, each one fills a line with the correct information

Completa este cuadro con la información en la página de El País. El primero está ya completo como ejemplo.

Nombre o nombres de las personas afectadas	¿Qué edades tienen?	¿De dónde son?	¿Cuál es su problema?
<u>Chai Erquan</u>	65 años	China	No llueve tanto como antes. Hay muchas tormentas de arena. Esto provoca la <u>desertización</u> .

## Example of a presentation (Hey, this is also one!)

Each student had to contribute a page about a painting. They created a nice presentation, each one working from home.



AUTOR: Murillo  
TÍTULO: Inmaculada  
AÑO: Hacia 1678

Opinión: A mi siempre me gustaron las pinturas religiosas, especialmente con los niños ángeles. Se puede ver un contraste en la luz en que la porción derecha de la pintura es negra, pero la luz es más brillante alrededor de la Inmaculada. Lo que también me llama la atención es que aunque los niños son ángeles, Murillo los pintó con las mismas características de todos los niños; los niños nunca pueden fijarse en una sola cosa. Algunos miran fijamente en la Inmaculada mientras algunos están centrados en otras actividades o pensamientos.

Nombre: Ines Genatiempo

What about forms? What are they? Why should I use them?  
Here's a form the way students see it:

## Questionnaire about NING

Thank you for participating in this survey. I will use the results for my research into using technology for language learning and to improve the way I teach at Sacred Heart. ¡Muchas gracias!

\* Required

What course are you currently taking? \*

SP101 ▼

Did you enjoy using NING?

- Yes
- No
- Didn't really mind but didn't love it either

What features of NING did you like/dislike?

	Very much so	Somewhat	Neutral	Not that much	Not at all
Having your own page	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ability to communicate with others	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

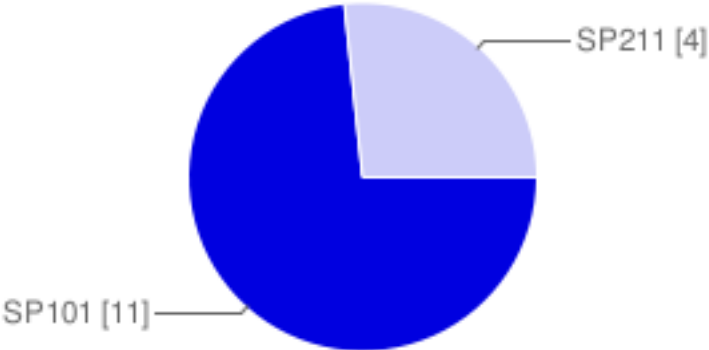
And these are the results I get:

F	G	H	I	J	K
<b>What features of NING did you like/dislike? [Ability to post pictures, music, videos, etc.]</b>	<b>What features of NING did you like/dislike? [The forums]</b>	<b>What features of NING did you like/dislike? [Ability to write a blog]</b>	<b>Do you feel you learned more Spanish with NING than with regular homework?</b>	<b>Could you tell me what specifically did you like about NING?</b>	<b>What didn't you like?</b>
Very much so	Very much so	Very much so	Yes	definitely be used again.	did not like. I enjoyed NING a lot.
Very much so	Neutral	Neutral	No	That I was able to talk with you and the other students, and practice my spanish outside of the classroom.	I didn't dislike anything. I thought that the website was fine.
Somewhat	Neutral	Neutral	The same amount	I liked seeing what people posted on the NING it was interesting to see others peoples pictures that related to the class	I didn't really use it that much



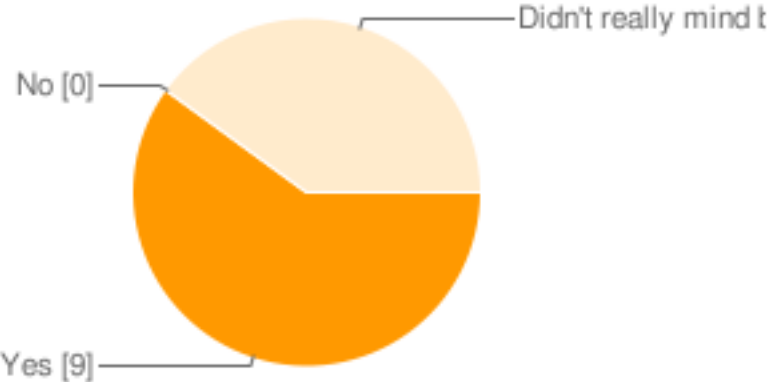
And these:

What course are you currently taking?



SP101	<b>11</b>	73%
SP211	<b>4</b>	27%

Did you enjoy using NING?

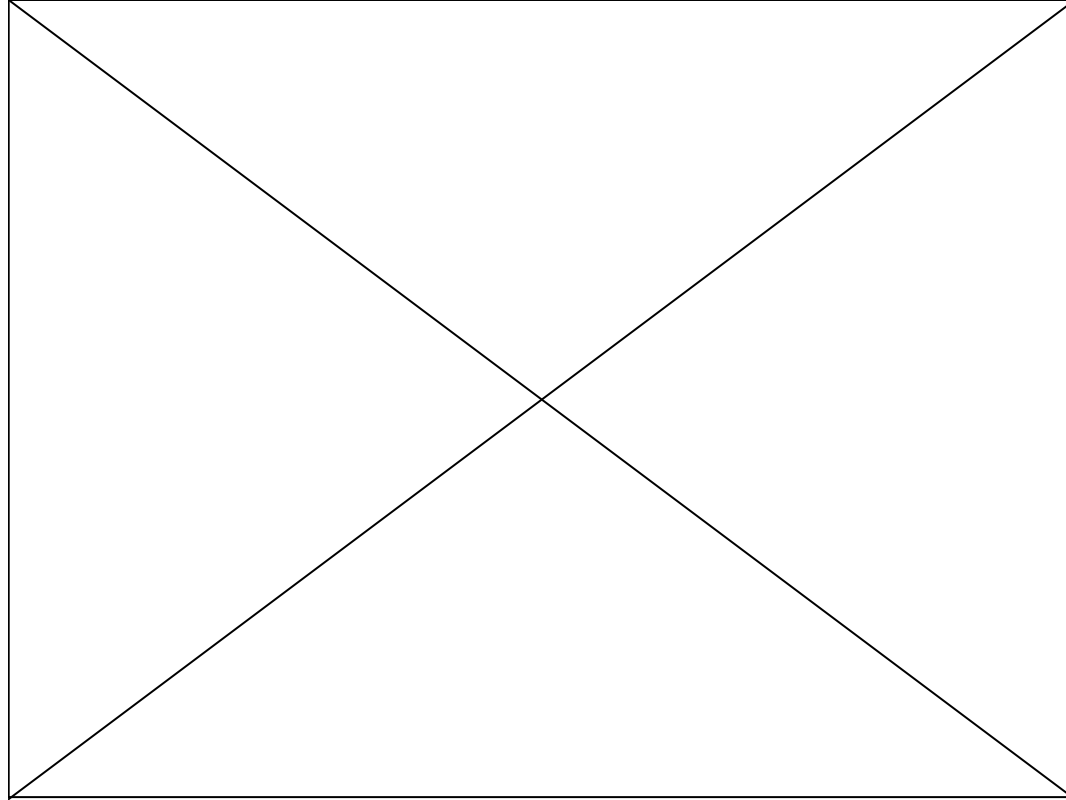


Yes	9
No	0
Didn't really mind but didn't love it either	6

# What can these forms be used for?

- To get to know your students
- To practice some grammatical form or new vocabulary
- For peer assessment
- For self assessment
- As a reflection exercise after an activity
- As a survey tool to see if the students like what you are doing

One more example of Google Docs



OK, by now we know Google Docs. Is there anything else I can do in the MFL classroom or lab?

Yes!!



Wordle™

wallwisher

EtherPad

*Really* real-time collaboration.

bookr



**Poll Everywhere**



[With LINGT you can easily create oral assignments.](#)

It's free until September, 2010, but the prices will be reasonable.

You can add videos and pictures to your assignments.

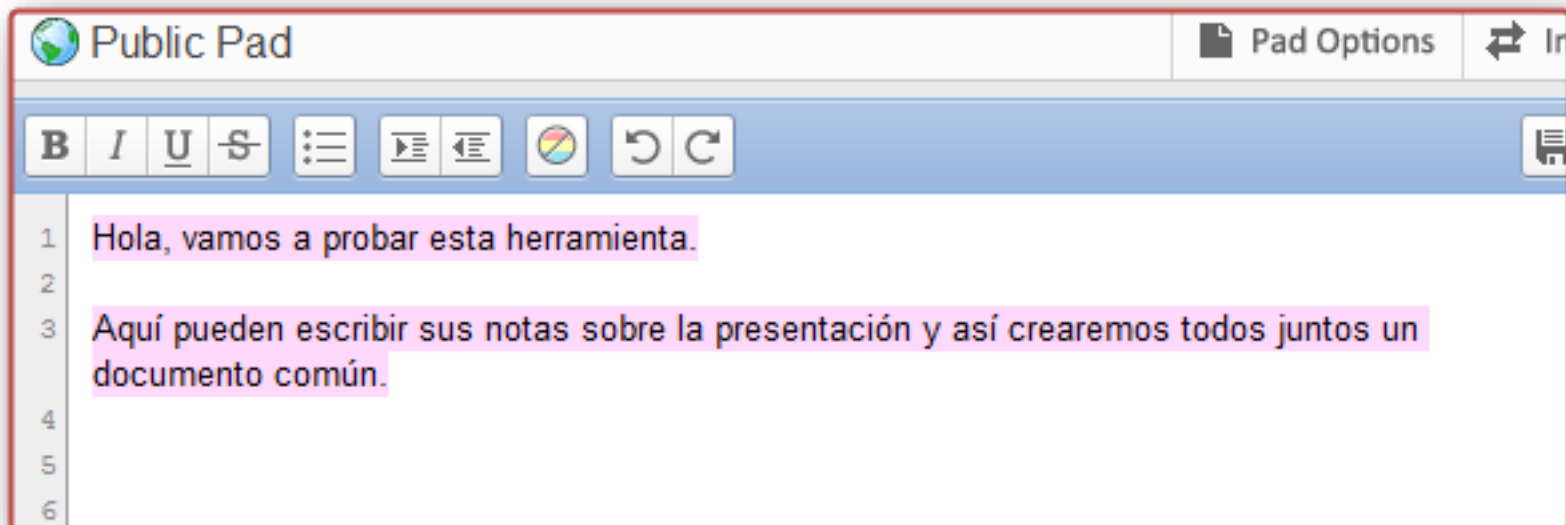


# EtherPad

*Really* real-time collaboration.

EtherPad allows people to work together on a documents at the same time.

Very useful for brainstorming activities in class, for example. Here, we can complete this one.





# wallwisher

With [Wallwisher](#) your students can create nice web posters with text, images and video. It's a great tool for homework assignments to review [vocabulary](#) or grammar.

The screenshot shows a Wallwisher web poster with a dark blue background. At the top left, it says "wallwisher" and "built by me on March 23, 2010 16 posts so far". At the top right, there are buttons for "Build a Wall", "GO TO...", and "DO MORE". The main title is "Las frutas y las legumbres" with a yellow smiley face icon. Below the title is the question: "¿Qué frutas les gustan? ¿Cuáles no les gustan? ¿Y las legumbres? ¿Les encanta alguna?". There are four posts:

- "Anonymous" says**: "A mi me gusta la fresa." with an image of strawberries. Below the image are the words "ZOOM" and "3 days ago", and an "Edit" button.
- "Jenn" says**: "A mi me gusta la sandia" with an image of a watermelon and two slices. Below the image are the words "ZOOM" and "3 days ago", and an "Edit" button.
- "Anonymous" says**: "No me gustan los platanos." with an image of bananas. Below the image are the words "ZOOM" and "3 days ago", and an "Edit" button.
- "Brittany" says**: "A mi me encanta las mazorcas de maiz." with an image of two ears of corn with butter. Below the image are the words "ZOOM" and "3 days ago", and an "Edit" button.

# bookr

Bookr lets you create web "books" using flickr images. These "books" can be embedded in a website (like Blackboard) or the link can be shared.

I use bookr for class projects to review grammar (like the [past tense](#)).



José y un amigo salieron a un discoteca



Después, ellos fueron a Times Square



# Poll Everywhere

Your students answer polls using their cellphones with [Poll Everywhere](#)

Can be used to review vocabulary or grammatical structures.  
Students love it.

The screenshot displays the Poll Everywhere interface. On the left, there is a sidebar with navigation options: "Create New Poll", "My Polls", "Account Polls", and "Public Polls". The main area shows a search bar and buttons for "Search", "Start", "Stop", "Group", and "Ungr". Below these are "Copy Chart Settings" and a status filter "Select All None Started Stopped". The "Question" section lists several polls under the heading "Ungrouped polls":

- Have you studied Spanish before?
- Palabras que aprendieron hoy
- ¿Cuál es la fiesta más popular en la clase?
- Que les gusta hacer en su tiempo libre?
- ¿Qué les gusta hacer en su tiempo libre?
- ¿Cuál es su desayuno favorito?
- ¿Cuál es su comida favorita para la cena?
- Vocabulario referente a "comida"
- Copy (1) of Vocabulario referente a "comida"
- ¿Cuál día feriado prefieren?

I hope you found this presentation useful

If you need any more information, you can contact me at  
[mundaysa@gmail.com](mailto:mundaysa@gmail.com) or visit my website,  
[PROFESORES DE ESPAÑOL](#)

**¡¡MUCHAS GRACIAS!!**