

What to expect from digital language classes

The below is a useful guide to help you with your digital language learning journey with the Modern Language Centre (MLC).

The below will highlight key tools and tips for maximising your online learning experience, be it pre-class preparation, homework or accessing additional learning resources.

Digital platforms

The MLC will be delivering online language classes. You will be guided and supported by your language tutor to independently use online platforms and engage with them in a creative, educational way.



KEATS

KEATS is King's Virtual Learning Environment where you will find all information in relation to your language module. You will find the Syllabus, important dates, assessment criteria (if applicable), useful links, resources, teaching material, videos, podcasts and also the opportunity to discuss with your peers via a Class Forum.



Discussion Forum

A very useful way to interact with your peers and with your tutor outside class time is using KEATS Discussion Forum, which can add a great value to your language learning experience. You can post messages in the target language and can engage with your peers in a more informal way. Your tutor might also ask you to carry out some structured tasks via the Forum.

Online class interaction (Synchronous teaching)

During your digital language class, you will be asked to interact with your tutor and with your peers as you would have done in an in-person environment. There will be spontaneous learning but also a set of structured activities to follow and to actively engage with. Your cooperation and your participation to these activities is very important for the smooth running of the digital experience and for your own learning progress.



Class duration

The online seminar duration will be the same as if taught face-to-face class, although it might be delivered slightly differently and might be split in different sections to prevent digital cognitive overload. Your tutor will guide you through the seminar structure which might be different from week to week according to specific learning objectives.



Breakout rooms

You will be guided by your tutor in joining breakout rooms where you will be able to work with your peers in small groups carrying out some tasks, working on a project, or doing some presentations in the target language. The tutor will navigate in between all breakout rooms to offer support and guidance if needed and to provide feedback.



Netiquette

In order to create a collaborative, supportive and positive digital learning environment, your tutor will guide you through some important netiquette rules to be followed and respected so that everybody can participate in class activities and digital resources can be used effectively.



Contact us:

Language Modules: modern.language@kcl.ac.uk

Evening & Saturday Language courses: mlc@kcl.ac.uk

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The below is a useful guide to help you with your digital language learning journey with the Modern Language Centre.

The below will highlight key tools and tips for advise on how to prepare for, during and after a class.

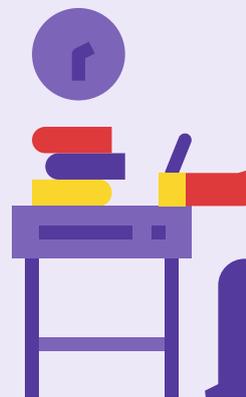
Preparation for the next class (Asynchronous teaching)

At times your homework tasks will be essential as a preparation for next class so that the time spent online will be maximized. These tasks might be linked to new resources and material the tutor will ask you to explore on your own, at your own time and pace, before discussing them together during the online class. These activities will be essential for your independent learning and to develop your capacity for reflectivity and autonomous learning in a foreign language.



Homework (Asynchronous teaching)

You will be assigned weekly homework tasks for revision and consolidation, as you would have normally been assigned to in a face to face situation. These tasks will be carried out asynchronously at your own time and pace. On KEATS you will find plenty of activities in support of your live online class to encourage your active learning and your continuous engagement with the target language.



Accessibility & inclusion

Your tutor will be very careful to include everybody in participating to both synchronous and asynchronous activities and will be sure to design teaching resources that are easy to navigate and accessible to use accordingly to different skills and abilities.



Technical issues

You might encounter some technical issues while being online and with asynchronous tasks. Your tutor will guide and support you with the digital learning environment as best as they can, although if you need specific technical support, we suggest you contact the College IT service: 8888@kcl.ac.uk



Assessment & Feedback

Assessment & Feedback are part of a continuous process while you are learning a language, even if your module does not include a formal assessment structure. The same applies to your digital language learning. Your tutor will provide you with plenty of synchronous and asynchronous opportunities to check on your learning and feedback and guide you through your language learning experience. You will also be asked to reflect on your own learning and to carry out some self- and peer- assessment tasks that would support you in becoming a life-long independent language learner.

Contact with your tutor (KCL students)

Your tutor can be contacted for personal and academic matters during office hours, if applicable. Our tutors are approachable and ready to support and help when needed. If you need pastoral care, we also suggest you contact your personal tutor or the MLC Senior Tutor.



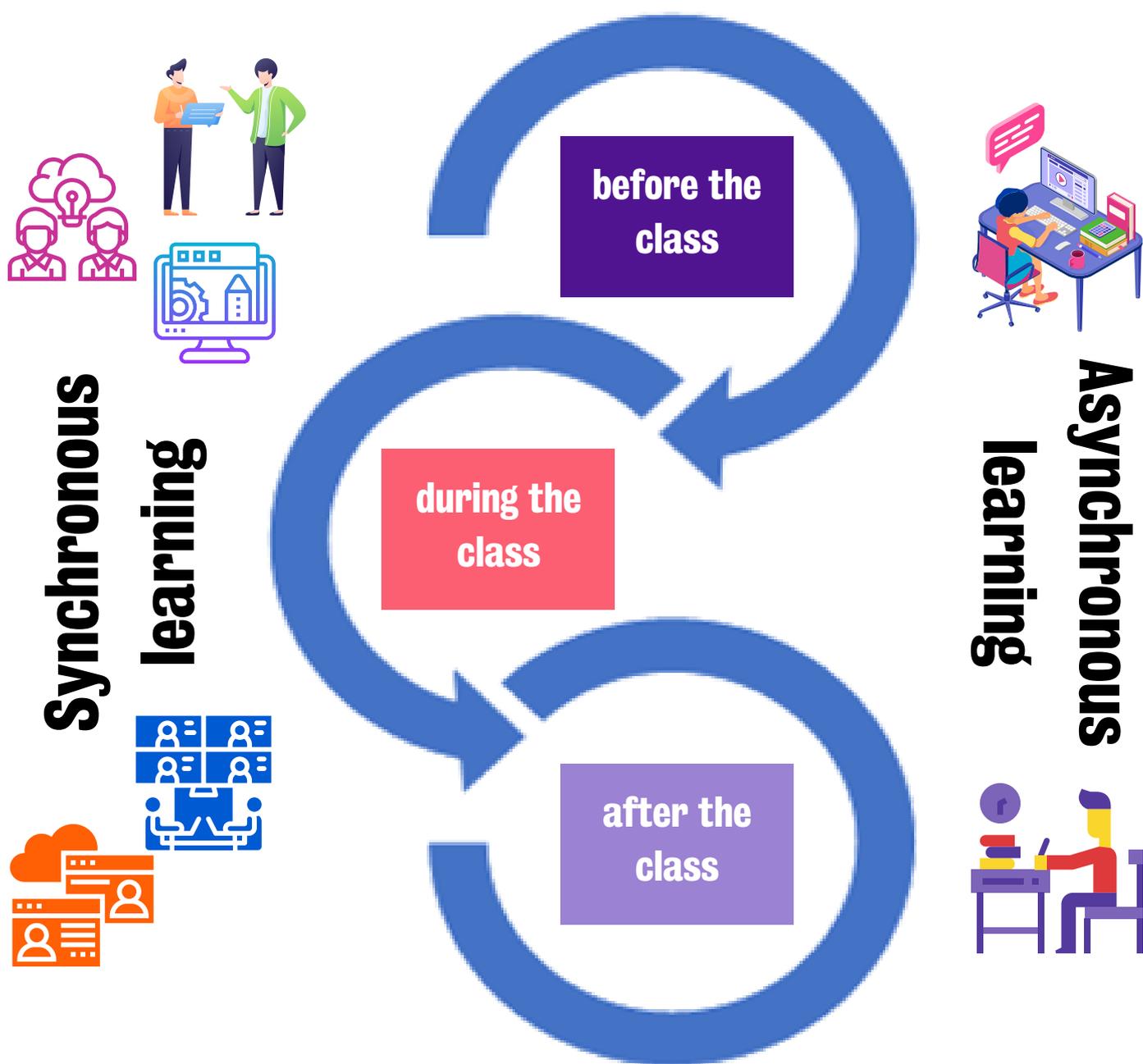
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What to expect from digital language classes

The figure below might help you visualise the MLC's digital language learning experience including **synchronous** (live online sessions) and **asynchronous** activities (offline session carried out on your own, or with your peers, before and after each live session)



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What to expect from digital language classes

Independent study, asynchronous learning; discovering concepts, vocabulary and grammar rules on your own.

Pre-class activities might include some reading or listening comprehension exercises, some writing tasks and some grammar exercises that would be preparatory to the live online class.

Online class, synchronous learning; interaction with tutor and peers; further analysis, practice and consolidation of concepts you explored on your own.

before the class

Asynchronous learning

during the class

Synchronous learning

after the class

You might be asked to work on your own, or in small groups in breakout rooms and to use the target language while interacting online. You might also be asked to carry out some projects and to provide feedback to peers in a collaborative and constructive way.

Independent study, synchronous learning/peer learning; further consolidation of concepts explored during the online class and preparation for the next class.

You might be asked to work independently or with your peers on single or collaborative tasks and projects in the target language. Some of these tasks might help consolidate your learning, others might be exploratory in preparation of a subsequent session

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