

# IT-HELPS: Free Online Exchange Tools and Activities for Intercultural Communication

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**JAN  
2015**

# GLOBAL DIGITAL SNAPSHOT

A SNAPSHOT OF THE WORLD'S KEY DIGITAL STATISTICAL INDICATORS

TOTAL  
POPULATION



we  
are  
social

**7.210  
BILLION**

URBANISATION: 53%

FIGURE REPRESENTS TOTAL GLOBAL  
POPULATION, INCLUDING CHILDREN

ACTIVE  
INTERNET USERS



we  
are  
social

**3.010  
BILLION**

PENETRATION: 42%

FIGURE INCLUDES ACCESS VIA  
FIXED AND MOBILE CONNECTIONS

ACTIVE SOCIAL  
MEDIA ACCOUNTS



we  
are  
social

**2.078  
BILLION**

PENETRATION: 29%

FIGURE REPRESENTS ACTIVE USER  
ACCOUNTS, NOT UNIQUE USERS

UNIQUE  
MOBILE USERS



we  
are  
social

**3.649  
BILLION**

PENETRATION: 51%

FIGURE REPRESENTS  
UNIQUE MOBILE PHONE USERS

ACTIVE MOBILE  
SOCIAL ACCOUNTS

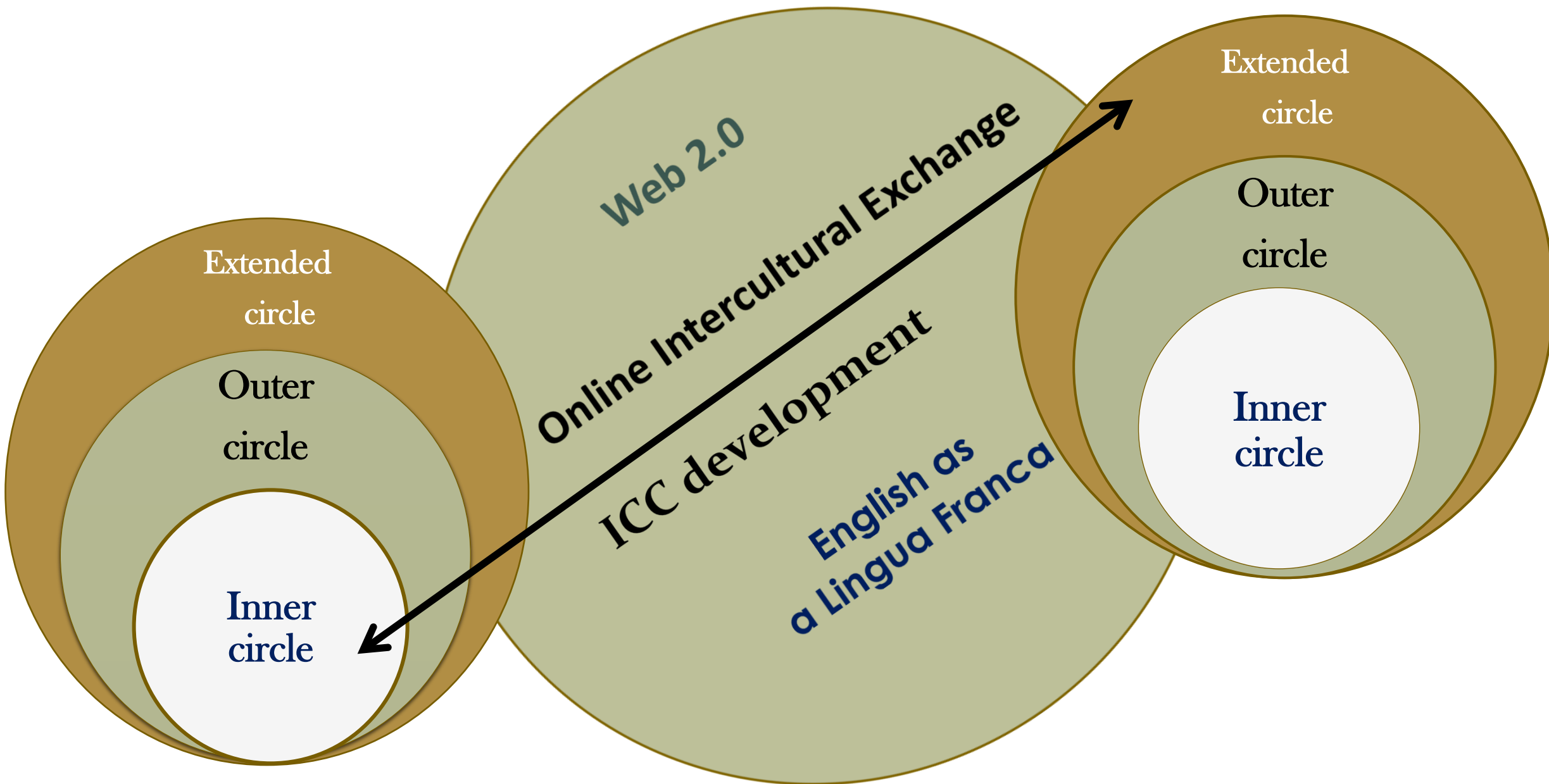


we  
are  
social

**1.685  
BILLION**

PENETRATION: 23%

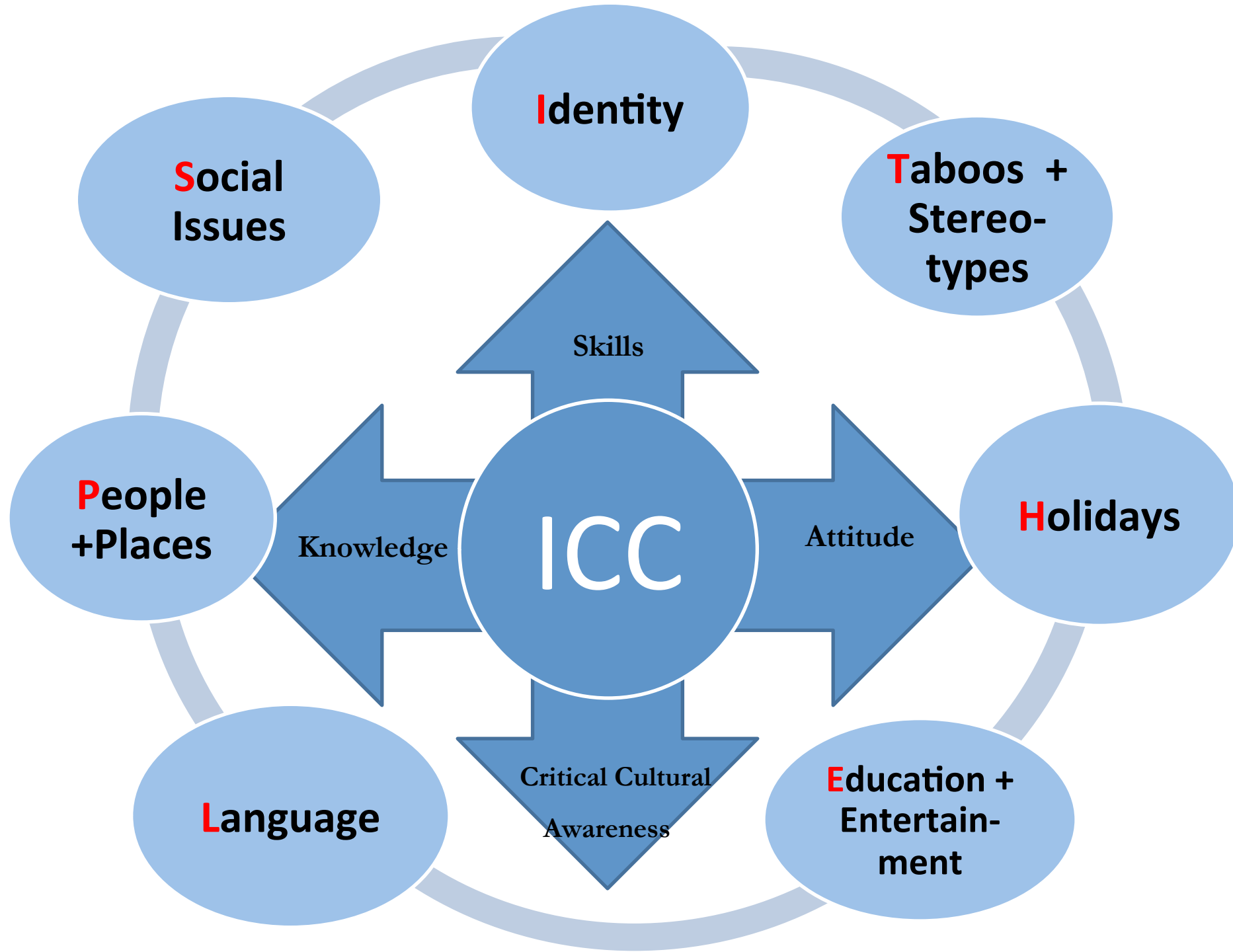
FIGURE REPRESENTS ACTIVE USER  
ACCOUNTS, NOT UNIQUE USERS



**Adapted Model from Kachru's (1985) circles of Englishes**

- It is not just a matter of using the technologies for the sake of application; rather wisdom is needed to design applicable learning activities (Garrison & Anderson, 2003).
- “Even when teachers do believe that technology has empowering potential, they do not always know how to make this happen in the classroom” (Egbert, Paulus & Nakamichi, 2002, p.3).
- “Proficiency-oriented foreign language teaching that fosters effective communication has to take place in a culturally rich environment” (Dubreil, 2006, p. 237).

→ Language and culture are inseparable



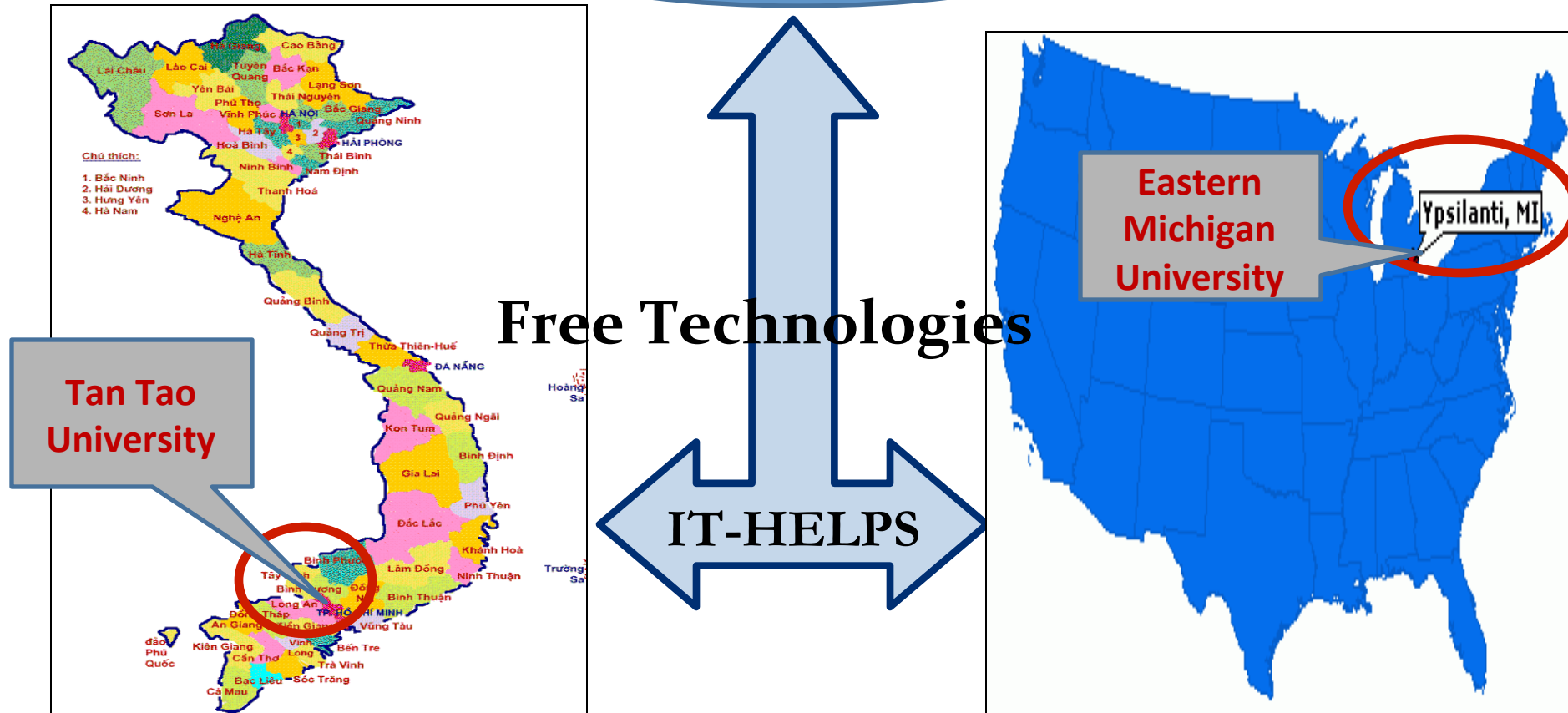
# IT-HELPS Activities

- ❖ Week 1: Self-Introduction videos + Video conference (YouTube, Webs, Skype)
- ❖ Week 2: Discussion Forum (Webs)
- ❖ Week 3: Group project screen-casts + Discussion (Webs, Email, Jing, Dropbox, ThinkFree, Google Docs)
- ❖ Week 4: Movie reflection + Discussion (YouTube, Webs)
- ❖ Week 5: Language attempt videos + Discussion (YouTube, Webs)
- ❖ Week 6: Articles about local places + typical cultural features (Webs, Google Docs, Jing, PodOmatic)
- ❖ Week 7: Videos about social issues +discussion (YouTube, Webs)

# IT-HELPS Objectives

- To foster participants' intercultural communicative competence
- To effectively utilize digital technologies, especially Web 2.0 technologies, for international communication

# INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE



<http://it-helps-exchange-program.webs.com>

# ONLINE EXCHANGE BETWEEN TTU & EMU STUDENTS

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## Online Intercultural Exchange



### WELCOME TO THE IT-HELPS WEBSITE!

This website is created as a platform to support the IT-HELPS activities of the online intercultural exchange program between Eastern Michigan University in the United States and Tan Tao University in Vietnam.

This IT-HELPS website aims to sustain such diverse online intercultural exchanges as online discussion forum, videos/ documents sharing, web designing project, movie discussion, foreign language learning, video conferencing and local community/service learning research. These activities concentrate on enhancing the students' intercultural communicative competence through the use of seven suggested

### Members Area

- [Nguyen Bui \(Sign Out\)](#)
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- [Inbox](#)
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- [Invite](#)

You have (1) new message

[Read your new message now!](#)



March 21, 2012 1:04

### Recent Forum Posts

### Friends

**Nguyen Bui** - available  
type a status message here

Search your buddy list...

▼ this site

▼ Offline

○ Angela

offline

○ anh.tran

offline

○ Dr. Morgan

offline

○ dreinel

offline

○ duy.bui

offline

0 Online

learning research. These activities concentrate on enhancing the students' intercultural communicative competence through the use of seven suggested topics which are abbreviated in the name of the IT-HELPS curriculum: Identity, Taboos and Stereotypes, Holidays, Education and Entertainment, Language, People and Places, and Social Issues.

## Announcements

1/ Here is the link to the group matches of this online exchange: [Group members](#)

2/ You can send instant messages and chat with online members via the MEEBO Bar at the lower right corner of this website.

## Recent Forum Posts

- [Waste Treatment](#)  
by [Nguyen Bui](#) 36 minutes ago
- [Halloween across two countries](#)  
by [Nguyen Bui](#) 50 minutes ago
- [Hanoi's Old Quarter - 36 old streets-Nguyen](#)  
by [nguyenghem](#) 14 hours ago
- [Hue citadel](#)  
by [duy.bui](#) 15 hours ago

[More...](#)

## Upcoming Events

No upcoming events

## Recent Videos

- [Rio and I](#)  
11 views - 1 comment
- [Halloween by Kiwi team!](#)  
5 views - 0 comments
- [Emily, Diane, Rose attempt](#)  
26 views - 4 comments
- [Video for Week 4 discussion](#)  
30 views - 0 comments

## Recent Blog Entries

- [Thank you for your participation in the first](#)  
by [Nguyen Bui](#) | 0 comments

## Recent Photos



Get Widget

Friends

Nguyen Bui - available

type a status message here

Q

this site

Offline

- Angela offline
- anh.tren offline
- Dr. Morgan offline
- dreinel offline
- duy.bui offline

# ONLINE EXCHANGE BETWEEN TTU & EMU STUDENTS

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## Discussion Forum

+ Start Discussion

Search...

view: normal / [recent topics](#)

### Introduction

#### [Self-Introduction](#)

Topics Posts Last updated

18 57 1 months ago  
by [duy.bui](#)

#### [Questions for the first online meeting](#)


As discussed, we will have the first online meeting via Skype at 8:30 p.m on Monday Feb 6th (in the U.S, EST time) or 8:30 a.m on Tuesday Feb 7th (in Vietnam). Please be prepared to answer the following questions that we may use to facilitate this meeting

1 1 1 months ago  
by [Nguyen Bui](#)

## Members Area

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What is the capital  
of the state of  
Texas?

a) Austin

b) Houston

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## Links

Edit Categories Add Link

### Technological support

[www.techsmith.com/tutorial-jing.html](http://www.techsmith.com/tutorial-jing.html)

<http://www.techsmith.com/tutorial-jing.html>

How to use Jing?

Posted December 13, 2011 at 12:42 PM

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=EUs24dAOKVU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EUs24dAOKVU)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EUs24dAOKVU>

How to use PodOmatic?

Posted December 13, 2011 at 12:45 PM

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=D0fM5TPPKV4&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D0fM5TPPKV4&feature=related)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D0fM5TPPKV4&feature=related>

How to combine Audacity and PodOmatic?

Posted December 13, 2011 at 12:47 PM

[www.google.com/educators/p\\_docs.html](http://www.google.com/educators/p_docs.html)

[http://www.google.com/educators/p\\_docs.html](http://www.google.com/educators/p_docs.html)

Everything about Google Docs for educators

Posted December 14, 2011 at 2:47 PM

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[Inbox](#)

[Edit Profile](#)

[Invite](#)

What is the capital of the state of Texas?

- a) Austin
- b) Houston
- c) Dallas

## Recent Forum Posts

[Waste Treatment](#)  
by Nguyen Bui 27 minutes ago

## Friends

Nguyen Bui - available  
type a status message here

Search your buddy list...

this site

Offline

- Angela offline
- anh.tran offline
- Dr. Morgan offline
- dreinel offline
- duy.bui offline

0 Online

# ONLINE EXCHANGE BETWEEN TTU & EMU STUDENTS

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## Video Gallery

Edit Channels Add Video

Search...

All Videos (6)

Sort: Recent Popular

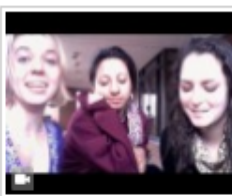


**Rio and I**  
by Meghan W on March 12, 2012 at 6:44 PM  
11 Views - 1 Comment



**Halloween by Kiwi team!**  
by Krissy on March 12, 2012 at 5:56 PM  
5 Views - 0 Comments

Here is our presentation on Halloween! [Trick or Treat!](#)



**Emily, Diane, Rose attempt Vietnamese**  
by Rose on March 7, 2012 at 10:37 PM  
28 Views - 4 Comments

**Video for Week 4 discussion**

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- Invite

## Video Channels

- [Videos of Vietnamese Culture \(1\)](#)
- [A Video for Week 4 Discussion \(1\)](#)
- [The Video Conferences \(1\)](#)
- [Foreign Language Attempts - Week 5 Tasks \(2\)](#)
- [Holidays - The screencasts -Week 3 Projects \(1\)](#)



# ONLINE EXCHANGE BETWEEN TTU & EMU STUDENTS

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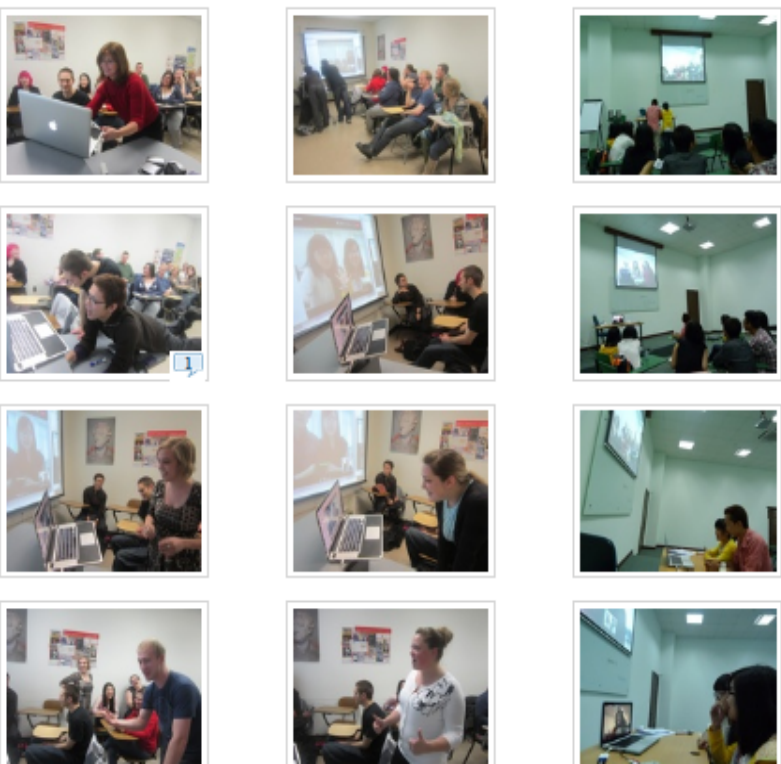
## First video conference - Feb 6

Edit Album Add Photos

Back to Gallery

17 Photos

View as Slideshow



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- Edit Profile
- Invite

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## Recent Forum Posts

- Waste Treatment  
by Nguyen Bui 50 minutes ago
- Halloween across two countries  
by Nguyen Bui 65 minutes ago
- Hanoi's Old Quarter - 36 old streets-Nguyen  
by nguyennghiem 14 hours ago

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## Calendar

+ Add Event

< Previous Month Month | Week | Day | All Events Next Month >

March 2012						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 Deadline for week 8 discussion of the group project	27	28	29	01	02	03
04	05	06	07 Deadline for week 4 discussion	08	09	10
11	12	13 Deadline for group projects (screencasts - week 8 task)	14 Deadline for sharing the language videos (week 5 task)	15 Deadline for Week 6 task submission	16	17
18 Deadline for week 6 responses	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## Members Area

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- Manage Website
- Inbox
- Edit Profile
- Invite

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IT NOW

## Recent Forum Posts

- Waste Treatment  
by Nguyen Bui 52 minutes ago
- Halloween across two countries  
by Nguyen Bui 66 minutes ago
- Hanoi's Old Quarter - 36 old streets-Nguyen  
by nguyen.pham 14 hours ago
- Hue citadel

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[Members](#)

## Contact Us

We look forward to hearing from you!

Please fill out the form below and click "Submit." We will get back to you as soon as possible!

Name

Email Address

Message

Submit

## Members Area

[Login with Facebook](#)

[Sign In](#) or [Register](#)

What is the capital of the state of Texas?

- a) Austin
- b) Houston
- c) Dallas

## Recent Forum Posts

- [Waste Treatment](#)  
by [Nguyen Bui](#) 54 minutes ago
- [Halloween across two countries](#)
















# ONLINE EXCHANGE BETWEEN TTU & EMU STUDENTS

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## Members + Invite

### All Members (34)

Search... Sort by Last Login

				
<a href="#">Emily</a>	<a href="#">Nguyen Bui</a>	<a href="#">nguyen.pham</a>	<a href="#">Rose</a>	<a href="#">Thu Thuy</a>
Member	Site Owner	Member	Member	Member
Female - 20	Female	Male - 18	Female - 22	Female - 18
Ypsilanti, MI	Ypsilanti, MI	Vietnam	U.S	Vietnam
				
<a href="#">duy.bui</a>	<a href="#">thoa</a>	<a href="#">tien.huynh</a>	<a href="#">Oanh Nguyen</a>	<a href="#">Heidi</a>
Member	Member	Member	Member	Member
Male - 18	Female	Male - 18	Female - 22	Female - 21
Vietnam	HCM city	Vietnam	Vietnam	United States
				
<a href="#">William Gillespie</a>	<a href="#">Meredith Massman</a>	<a href="#">Hiroki</a>	<a href="#">Jared</a>	<a href="#">anh.tran</a>
Member	Member	Member	Member	Member
Male - 22	Female - 22	Male - 22	Male - 22	Female - 17
Male - 22	Female - 22	USA	Ypsilanti, MI U.S.A.	Vietnam

## Members Area

- [Nguyen Bui \(Sign Out\)](#)
- [Manage Website](#)
- [Inbox](#)
- [Edit Profile](#)
- [Invite](#)

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## Recent Forum Posts

- [Waste Treatment](#)  
by [duy.bui](#) 5 hours ago
- [Halloween across two countries](#)  
by [duy.bui](#) 5 hours ago
- [Hanoi's Old Quarter - 36 old streets-Nouven](#)  
by [nouven.pham](#) 19 hours ago
- [Hue citadel](#)  
by [duy.bui](#) 21 hours ago

## Upcoming Events

No upcoming events

# ONLINE EXCHANGE BETWEEN TTU & EMU STUDENTS

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## Emily, Diane, Rose attempt Vietnamese

[All Videos](#) > [Foreign Language Attempts - Week 5 Tasks](#)

+ Add Video

[« Prev](#) | [Next »](#)



### Members Area

- [Nguyen Bui \(Sign Out\)](#)
- [Manage Website](#)
- [Inbox](#)
- [Edit Profile](#)
- [Invite](#)

### Video Channels

- [Videos of Vietnamese Culture \(1\)](#)
- [A Video for Week 4 Discussion \(1\)](#)
- [The Video Conferences \(1\)](#)
- [Foreign Language Attempts - Week 5 Tasks \(2\)](#)
- [Holidays - The screencasts -Week 3 Projects \(1\)](#)

# Free Tools for Online Collaboration

1/ Webs

2/ Jing

3/ PodOmatic

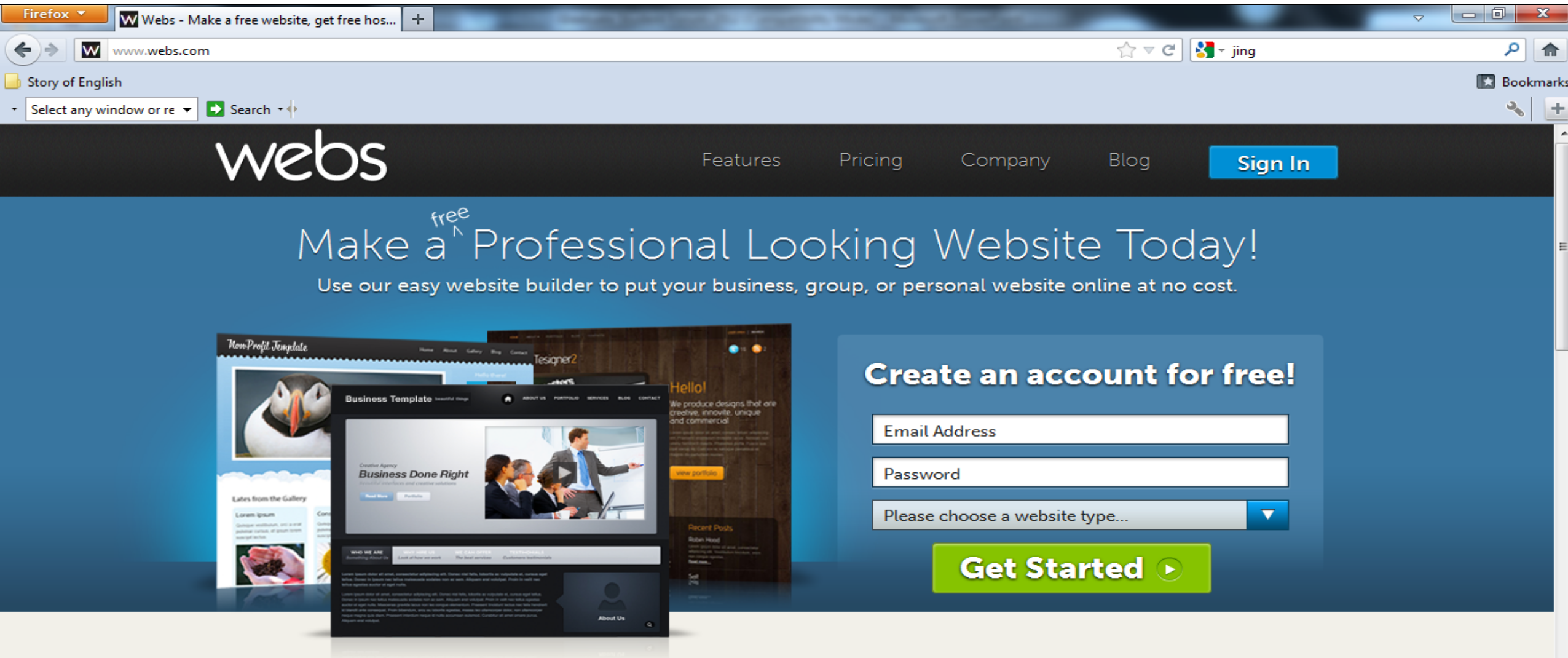
4/ DropBox

5/ ThinkFree

6/ Skype

# Webs ([www.webs.com](http://www.webs.com))

<http://it-helps-exchange-program.webs.com>



The screenshot shows the Webs website homepage in a Firefox browser window. The browser's address bar displays "www.webs.com". The website's header features the "webs" logo on the left and navigation links for "Features", "Pricing", "Company", "Blog", and a "Sign In" button on the right. Below the header, a large blue banner contains the text "Make a <sup>free</sup> Professional Looking Website Today!" and "Use our easy website builder to put your business, group, or personal website online at no cost." To the left of the banner, three website templates are shown: "Non-Profit Template" with a penguin image, "Business Template" with a business meeting image, and "Designer2" with a dark background. To the right of the banner, a white box titled "Create an account for free!" contains input fields for "Email Address", "Password", and a dropdown menu for "Please choose a website type...". Below these fields is a large green "Get Started" button with a play icon.

Firefox

W Webs - Make a free website, get free hos... +

W www.webs.com

Story of English

Select any window or re Search

webs

Features Pricing Company Blog Sign In

Make a <sup>free</sup> Professional Looking Website Today!

Use our easy website builder to put your business, group, or personal website online at no cost.

Non-Profit Template

Business Template

Designer2

Hello!

We produce designs that are creative, innovative, unique and commercial!

new portfolio

Recent Posts

Robert Hood

Get Started

The Most Popular Solution to Create a Free Website

[Browse](#)[Movies](#)[Upload](#)[Create Account](#)[Sign In](#)

## TTU STUDENT virtual culture exchange group clover

[mastervivi12](#)[Subscribe](#)[2 videos ▾](#)[Like](#)[+ Add to ▾](#)[Share](#)**131** views

Uploaded by [mastervivi12](#) on Feb 5, 2012

TTU STUDENT virtual culture exchange group clover

1 likes, 0 dislikes

**University of Phoenix**

by UOPX

3,486 views

Ad

**Vietnamese Student Association Fall 2011**

by ttuvsa

57 views

**The Virtual Body: Coming of Age in**

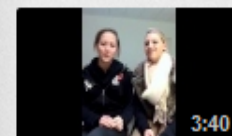
by ChicagoHumanities

2,092 views

**Thai Students Nov 15, 11 part 2**

by fiatism1

10 views

**Virtual Cultural Exchange 12/6**

by ajellisonful

20 views

**U.S. Returns "Priceless" Artifacts to Cambodia**

by NTDTV

2,106 views

[Browse](#)[Movies](#)[Upload](#)[Create Account](#)[Sign In](#)

## TTU student exchange group 3 food issue

[mastervivi12](#)[Subscribe](#)[2 videos](#)[Download This Video](#)

0:53 / 3:52

[Like](#)[+ Add to](#)[Share](#)

9 views



Uploaded by [mastervivi12](#) on Mar 19, 2012

TTU student

0 likes, 0 dislikes



**TTU - Develop An Aggressive Backhand**

by TableTennisMaster

29,337 views



**TTU - Blocking Heavy Topspin (HD)**

by TableTennisMaster

31,187 views



**TTU - Forehand Counter Loop Ball Contact (HD)**

by TableTennisMaster

31,067 views



**TTU - How To Practice Without A Serious**

by TableTennisMaster

11,510 views



**TTU - Fourth Ball Attacking (HD)**

by TableTennisMaster

25,279 views



**TTU Football Off Season 2011**

by CrossFitFaithVideos

13,838 views

# JING: <http://www.techsmith.com/jing/free/>

Firefox | Jing, Record and share videos on your c... | www.techsmith.com/jing-features.html | jing | Bookmarks

Story of English | Select any window or re | Search

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- [Coach's Eye](#)

## Features

The always-ready program that allows you to instantly capture images and record video on your computer—then share them with anyone. Jing is a great tool for adding basic visual elements to all of your online conversations

### Jing for Screenshots

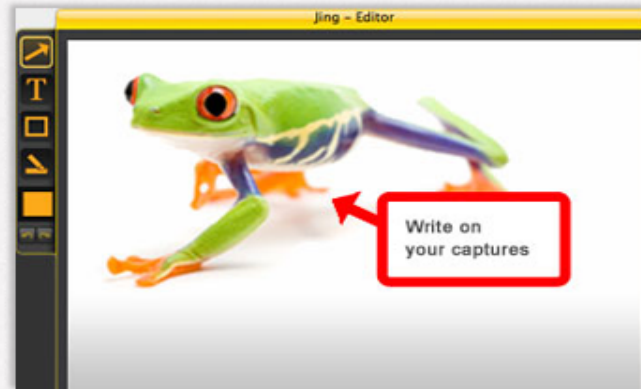
#### Capture What You See

The Jing sun sits nicely on your desktop, ready to capture your screen at a moment's notice. Jing will capture a window, pane, or region with just one click.

#### Jing Loves to Share

Send your screenshots all over the web. With Jing, you can add an image to your blog, or instantly share your captures through IM, email and more. Share your Jing screenshots on:

[Screencast.com](#) [flickr](#) [twitter](#) [facebook](#)



40 files added  
40 files were added to your Dropbox folder.

Address

12:10 AM 3/29/2012

# Features

- Select any window that you would like to record, and Jing will capture everything that happens in that area. From simple mouse movements to a fully narrated tutorial, Jing records everything you see, and do.
- Record video on your computer while capturing your screen
- Share your screen-cast instantly: Simply paste the link into an IM, email, forum post...
- Send your screenshots all over the web → Communication without boundaries

Talk less, say more

# Jing

Screencasts & captures at the speed of conversation

TechSmith

Captured with Jing - [free download](#)

Untitled

New Play View Guides Themes Masters Text Box Shapes Table Charts Comment Share Mask Alpha Group Ungroup Front Back Inspector Media Colors Fonts

Slides

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

# Halloween



Cultural issue 1

Graduate Research Fair 2011 13th Annual

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

00:00 / 02:56 Cultural issue 1

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Link (copy to Facebook or IM):

http://khoinguyenbui.podomatic.com/entry/2011-0

nb

Follow 0 Followers

Podcast: nguyenbui's Podcast

Rank: #unknown

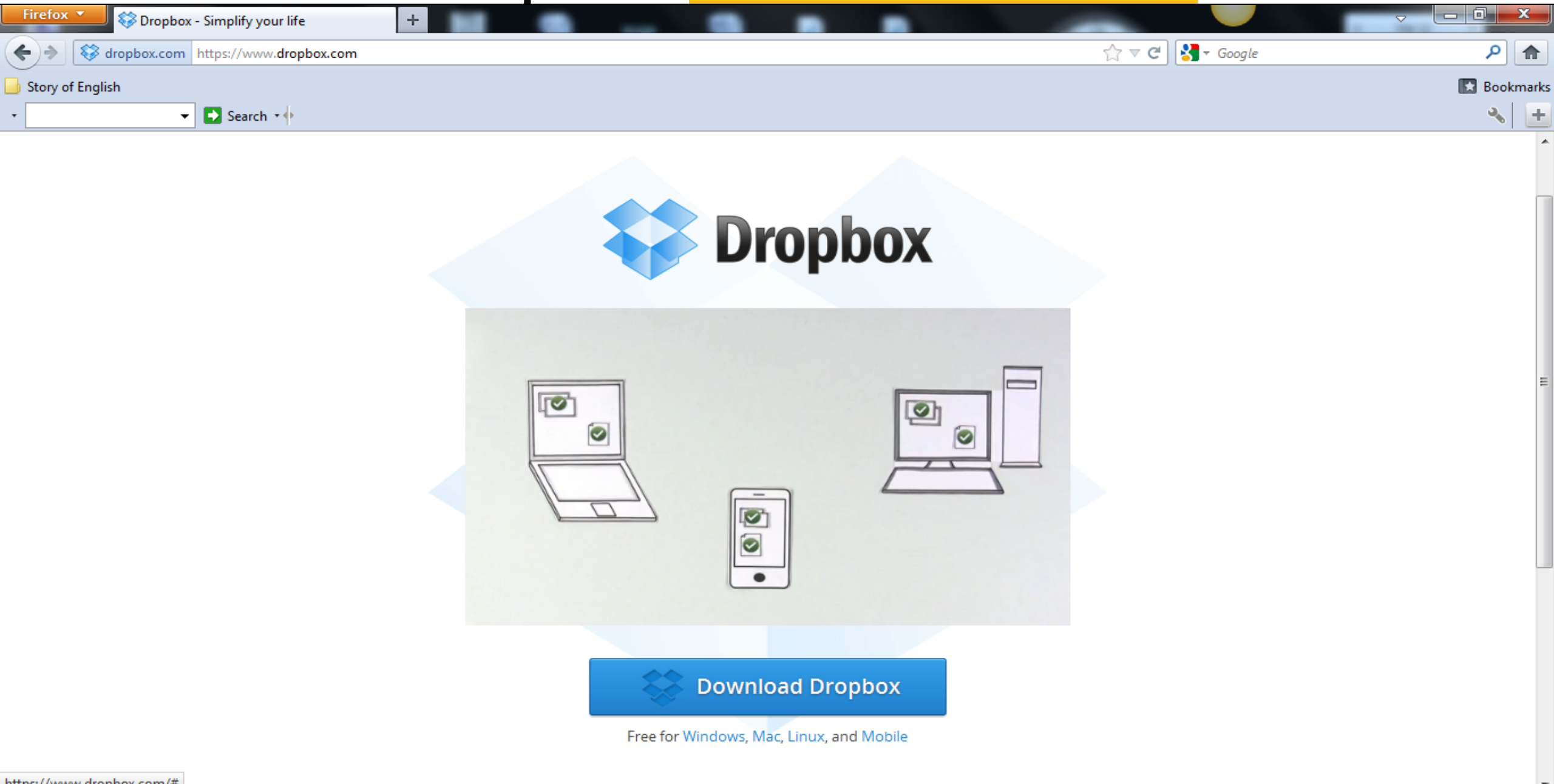
Podcast Minicasts

- The video conference between TTU and EMU students 3:14
- Cultural issue 1 2:56

# Features

- Free website to find, create, distribute and listen to podcasts and vodcasts.
- Record and publish a tutorial podcast or vodcast directly to the web and share it directly on the website
- Audio sharing of information and skills
- Bookmark your favorite episodes on ipods
- 500MB of storage, 15GB of bandwidth per month

# DropBox: <http://dropbox.com>



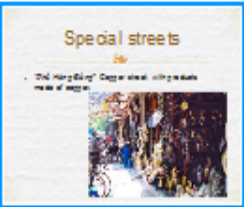
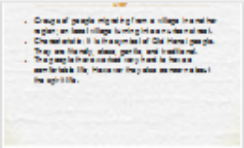
# Features

- 2GB of DropBox for free
- Your files are always available from the secure DropBox website.
- DropBox works with Windows, Mac, Linux, iPad, iPhone, Android and BlackBerry.
- Works even offline. You always have your files, whether or not you have internet connection.
- DropBox transfers just the parts of a file that change (not the whole thing).

# Hà Nội 36 phố phường.pptx

File Edit View Insert Slide Format Arrange Table Help Last edit was made 8 days ago by btnguyen

Start presentation Comments Share



## Special streets



- “Phố Hàng Đồng” Copper street: with products made of copper.



Click to add notes

# ThinkFree

member.thinkfree.com/workspace/projectmain.ws | ☆ | jing | 🔍 | 🏠

Story of English | Select any window or re | ➡ Search | 🔑 | +

thinkfree online | Service Information | My Office | Workspace | Settings | Help | Sign out | Welcome! khoinguyenbui | English

Workspace > Virtual Exchange Program between TTU and EMU



## Virtual Exchange Program between TTU and EMU



Manage project



View members

files (0.0MB / 100MB)

### Tasks

New Task

▶ Class activities and technologies used in the exchange program (1)

### Class activities and technologies used in the exchange program(1)

View Task Info

Manage Task

Delete Task

#### Issues

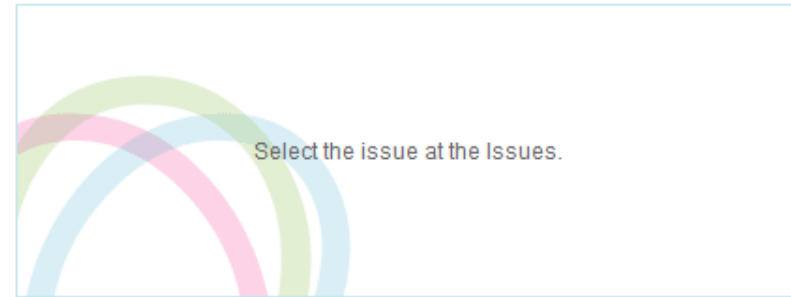
New Issue

##### Possible class activities

Created on : Sep 22, 2011 19:47

Created by : khoinguyenbui@ymail.com

◀ PREV | 1 | NEXT ▶



# Suggestions

- Time difference: Effective video conferences (Skype)?
  - Meebo bar, Facebook, Google talk/ Google hangout, real-time chat
- Technological problems/ ineffective use of new tools?
  - Training sessions or workshops before the exchange  
(Ex: Screen-casts for Linux and PodOmatic)
- How to effectively manage students' online collaborative learning?
  - Weekly blogging for track keeping
- Is technology everything?
  - No. These are just suggested tools to effectively facilitate cooperative learning

## ❖ Other technological tools:

- Facebook or other social networking sites
- Wiki : <http://wikispaces.com/>
- Moodle: <http://moodle.pcsb.org/>
- Weebly: <http://weebly.com/>
- Snagit: <http://www.techsmith.com/snagit/>
- Blogger: <http://www.blogger.com>
- Camtasia: <http://www.techsmith.com/camtasia/features/win>

# References

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