Overview: Suggestions for using the Macmillan Dictionary BuzzWord article on m-learning and the associated worksheets.

Total time for worksheet activities: 35 minutes

Suggested level: Intermediate and above

1. If you intend to use the worksheets in class, go to the BuzzWord article at the web address given at the beginning of the worksheet and print off a copy of the article. Make a copy of the worksheet and the BuzzWord article for each student.

2. If the members of your class all have computer access, ask them to open the worksheet before they go to the Buzzword article link. Make sure they do not scroll down to the Key until they have completed each exercise. You might find it helpful not to print a copy of the Key for each student but to check the answers as a class.

3. Encourage the students to read through Exercise 1 before they look at the article. When they have completed the exercise, ask them to compare their answers with a partner. Then check the answers as a class.

4. In Exercise 2, make sure that the students know that the words in the exercise appear in the same order in which they appear in the text.

5. When your students have completed Exercise 3, ask them to correct the false statements (see the Key for the corrections).

6. In Exercise 4, ask the students to complete the exercise and then discuss their answers with a partner. Check the answers as a class.

7. Encourage the students to try to form the chunks in Exercise 5 without looking back at the text. When they have completed the task, ask them to compare their answers in pairs. Then they can check their answers by looking in the text.

8. As a winding up activity, ask the students if they think m-learning is a good idea and to give reasons why or why not.
1 Find the information

Read the BuzzWord article on m-learning and answer these questions.

1. What does the m- in m-learning stand for?
2. Apart from mobile phones, which other three examples of mobile devices does the article mention?
3. What is the ‘obvious benefit’ of m-learning?
4. What is blended learning?
5. When did the concept of mobile learning first appear?
6. What does VLE stand for?

2 Find the word

Look in the text and find the following words. The first letters of the words or phrases are given. The words are in the order in which they appear in the text.

1. a three-word phrasal verb meaning to practise and improve your knowledge of something
   b_______________ u_______________ o_______________
2. a two-word adjectival expression meaning getting bigger all the time e______________-e_______________
3. a three-word phrasal verb meaning to use your fingers to write something using a keyboard or a smartphone
t_______________ a_______________ a_______________
4. a two-word phrasal verb meaning to bring something such as a feeling or a memory to your mind
c_______________ u_______________
5. a past participle meaning sat on a small, high seat p_______________
6. a two-word expression meaning to start to be approved of or used by many people in a society
g_______________ c_______________

3 Comprehension check

Are these statements true (T) or false (F) according to the text?

1. M-learning is any kind of learning that takes place via a portable, hand-held electronic device.
2. M-learning needs to take place in a particular location, such as a classroom or a computer within a fixed space.
3. M-learning provides teachers and instructors with more flexibility.
4. M-learning enables learners to collaborate with other learners.
5. M-learning is regarded as the principal learning method rather than a component of a learning programme.
6. The rising prices of tablets and smartphones could act as a barrier to m-learning.
4 Verb + noun collocations

Match the verbs in the left-hand column with the nouns and noun phrases in the right-hand column to make expressions from the text.

1. respond to
2. conjure up
3. access
4. provide
5. submit
6. navigate

a. schoolwork
b. resources
c. one’s way to an address
d. someone’s needs
e. support
f. images

5 Chunks

Rearrange the words to make expressions from the text.

1. the learning move on
2. particular in location a
3. front perched a computer of in
4. fixed space a within
5. needs specific to response in
6. the during few years last
1 Find the information

1. mobile
2. tablet computers, netbooks and digital readers
3. it does not need to be in a particular location
4. a combination of conventional teaching methods and electronic and/or web-based resources
5. in the 1970s
6. virtual learning environment

2 Find the word

1. brush up on
2. ever-expanding
3. tap away at
4. conjure up
5. perched
6. gain currency

3 Comprehension check

1. T
2. F. M-learning doesn’t need to take place in a particular location.
3. T
4. T
5. F. M-learning is viewed as a component of a learning programme.
6. F. The prices of tablets and smartphones are falling.

4 Verb + noun collocations

1. d
2. f
3. b
4. e
5. a
6. c

5 Chunks

1. learning on the move
2. in a particular location
3. perched in front of a computer
4. within a fixed space
5. in response to specific needs
6. during the last few years