

Tech Tools for Teachers by Nik Peachey



Word Clouds Using word clouds for course revision

Level: Pre-intermediate +

(can be adapted for different levels)

Age: Teenagers / Adults **Time needed:** Approx. 90 minutes

Aim: To use word clouds for text-based

revision; to create word clouds using

the web-based tool, EdWordle

Skills: Reading, speaking, writing, web skills

Materials: EdWordle printable instructions,

downloaded from onestopenglish;

pre-prepared collection of

word clouds

- Before the lesson, create a series of word clouds using EdWordle (www.EdWordle.net/) one for each text you have used during the course so far. Start the lesson by pinning up your series of pre-prepared word clouds around the classroom.
- Tell students the word clouds all come from texts they have studied. Tell them they can have four to five minutes to look at the word clouds and see how much they can remember from each of the texts the word clouds come from.
- Once the students have looked at the word clouds, ask them to sit down and then give one word cloud to each pair or small group of students. Ask them to share information about what they remember from the original text. You could give them specific questions if you prefer, such as:
- What was the text about?
- What did you learn from the text?
- What new words did you study from the text?
- What grammar structures did you study from the text?

- 4 Once the groups have had some time to discuss their word cloud, they can pass it on to the next group and take a new one. Give each group the chance to discuss each word cloud for a few minutes.
- Once the groups have seen all the word clouds, get each group to choose one word cloud and then work together to write a short summary of the text.
- Once the groups have finished their summaries, they can exchange them with another group and the new group can try to add information to the summary. This can be done orally by pairing the groups.
- 7 When they have finished, ask them to pass the word cloud and the summary to a new group, give the new group the original text and ask them to score the summary, giving one point for every piece of information they included in the summary.
- 8 You can repeat this process on multiple lessons and also encourage students to make their own word clouds of any text they study and use it for revision. You can download **printable instructions** to follow on how to use EdWordle.

