Speaking

Name: Capturing and sharing classroom discussions

Aim: to capture the written record generated during a classroom discussion or debate so that it can be the basis for a writing assignment / homework

Contexts: EAP, secondary

Level: B2 – C2

Type of tool: IWB, voting tools and software, phone/tablet camera

Type of materials: OWN/PUB

Planning: quick

Preparation:
Prepare for the discussion or class debate by selecting topic or materials. Confirm that the tools you plan to use are available and operational.

Procedure:

1. **In the classroom:**

   Conduct the discussion or class debate. For smaller class (2 – 12 students) this can be done as a whole class activity. For larger classes, divide students into small groups to discuss then report back through a spokesperson with flipchart page or single presentation slide.

   Write the outcome on the board or IWB. These could be ideas generated by brainstorming, the pros and cons of an idea, arguments for and against a proposal, or action points in response to a case study. Use any voting tools at the start and the end of any debate to capture any shift in opinions.

   After the discussion or debate, save the IWB screen and any voting results. These can emailed to the students or posted on a blog or LMS. If you are using a conventional board, give the students time to photograph it using their phone/tablet cameras and share those images with anybody in the classroom who does not have such as device available to them.

   Set the writing task and a deadline.

2. **Outside the classroom:**

   Students use the IWB screenshots or their own photographs of the board as a reference while completing the writing task for homework. This task is emailed to the teacher or uploaded to the LMS.

Variation:
Instead of a writing task, students can prepare a presentation on some aspect of the debate. The presentations are then given in a subsequent class or recorded/videoed by the student and submitted to the teacher for assessment.

Notes:
If you plan to distribute material using email, make sure you have all your students' email addresses. If you rely on students to take their own photographs of the board, make sure everybody has access to a useable image before cleaning the board.