SECTION Model for Technology Introduction

<https://h5p.org/h5p/embed/100161>

Enter your "Students" response:

My students don't currently have access to this software, but this could easily change. The software I have in mind, Perusall, can be integrated into our college's LMS. Students, for now, will be supported by me. I have had a conversation with the institution and there's a chance there will be more supports in place in future years... but just me for now. The software is cloud based and they will have access to it anywhere. The software is a social platform, fairly similar in many respects to communicating in Facebook messenger. If there are problems, they can contact me... but it's pretty straightforward. The platform is free to use.

Enter your "Ease of Use" response

Perusall is pretty intuitive. There are some non-essential functions that it performs which would require more detailed instruction... but it is pretty easy to use from the first exposure. I don't currently have any experience with its reliability but have not read or heard of any issues from other educators who have used it. All teaching materials are downloadable from the platform. Having said that, the provider is well established, and I don't anticipate any issues. Perusall does indeed provide technical support. I've communicated with them recently and they've provided prompt responses.

Enter your "Cost" response

This platform relies on the existence of previously existing content. It will take a little bit of time to set up the system... but there are no issues with content creation. There is no cost associated with this product. I have already received support from my institution with LMS integration. OER integration with this software is highly encouraged. Any content that the educator has the license to use in the classroom can be uploaded to the platform.

Your Teaching and Pedagogical Considerations response:

Absolutely. The creators of Perusall have undergone primary research to show evidence of the platform significantly increasing the amount of academic reading students do in relation to a course. The benefit of the platform is its ability to provide an ideal environment for a flipped classroom. The information transfer is shifted from the classroom to the students’ study time. This allows class time to be dedicated to the sense making of the information transferred. More engaging classroom conversations lead to better understanding and knowledge transfer.

Your "Interaction" response:

The benefit of the social annotation platform is that it leads to greater engagement in the reading material. Students can include their thoughts, concerns, and questions, with which their classmates can interact. The platform creators recommend that educators do not engage as much in the social side of the reading as that teacher presence has a tendency to stifle student conversation. Rather, the educator should develop reports based on the student interactions and brings those points to synchronous sessions for further conversation.

Your "Organisational Issues" response:

My institution does an amazing job of staying current on developing technologies and supporting them following adoption. However, they could improve in the way they communicate those new adoptions. Generally speaking, if you don't ask, they won't tell you. I don't feel any pressure from my institution to solely use the official technologies they're supporting... though I venture out at my own risk. They won't support technologies they haven't adopted... but nor should they. It's unfair to expect them to do otherwise.

Your "Networking" response:

The platform in question is self-contained... although it will provide students with notifications via email when one of their classmates has interacted with one of their annotations. The very nature of this platform is social and collaborative. This is essential to work towards building a sense of social presence in their community of inquiry.

Your Security and Privacy response:

I'm not concerned about this. The Perusall platform has a privacy policy that my institution has vetted and approved. I take that to mean that it's sufficiently safe and doesn't contravene any of my institution’s policies.