

# *Is Technology a Modern Blessing or 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Curse?*

*"When all else fails, read the instructions."*

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# Objectives:

- Discuss the challenges of integrating technology in the classroom/language program and examine possible solutions to making productive use of current/future technologies.



# Questions:

- The one word I use to describe technology is \_\_\_\_\_.
- The greatest impact that technology has had on my teaching/learning is \_\_\_\_\_.
- The Web site or electronic gadget that I use the most with my students is \_\_\_\_\_.
- The greatest challenge I face in using technology in the classroom is \_\_\_\_\_.

# Technology in the Classroom: Utopia or Chaos?

## ***utopia***

*What has your experience been like?*

noun

(the idea of) a perfect society in which everyone works well with each other and is happy

## ***chaos***

noun

a state of total confusion and lack of order

# Keys to Successful Integration

1. Have realistic expectations on how technology can help you
2. Define your objectives and perform a needs analysis - “Less is More” Principle
3. Don’t underestimate the complexity of technology
4. Create tasks that are specific and have measurable outcomes
5. Provide sufficient training to teachers and students

# Seeing the Big Picture

"The guy who invented the wheel was an idiot. The guy who invented the other three, he was a genius."

---Sid Caesar  
American Comic Actor

# Conclusion

***"The teacher who is interested in making effective use of any type of visual aid does not need to assume that existing courses of study should be thrown aside and that new units should be built up around particular devices."***

***Harry Arthur Wise (1939). Motion Pictures as an Aid in Teaching American History.***