11eg Gynhadledd Dysgu ac Addysgu

11th Annual Learning and Teaching Conference

4-6 Gorffennaf 2023 | 4-6 July 2023

Attention Polar Bear lost! If found, please return to your lecturer: Maintaining attention via digital technology.

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Attention maintenance has become a more common issue within University teaching. Given that the average attention span of an Undergraduate typically between 10 to 15 minutes, I have aimed my teaching at capturing, holding, and recapturing the lecture hall’s attention. Depending on the time of day and number of previous teaching sessions, students’ attention spans appear to vary. The following in this session has been informed by the apparent variation in attention based upon delivering 2-hour lectures during the previous academic year. The following segments provide highlights of the observations made in the lecture hall while using Vevox and/or Quizizz.

1. Vevox: Used to improve students' ability to find academic resources.
2. Quizizz: "Factory reset" - relieving mental strain.
3. Vevox: Let your students influence the teaching narrative.

These mini sessions show how effectively digital technology can engage all of the students in the room, maintain their attention, and use their participation to improve academic skills. In conclusion, when used properly, digital technology can be a very effective tool for refocusing students on the lesson material, helping them practise their academic skills inside of the classroom, and helping them concentrate during class.

