Mobile, Web 2.0, and Virtual Learning Affordance in ESL

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In teaching English as a Second Language, I have incorporated a range of tech-based learning tools to support language acquisition and skill development. This has included creating a blended learning environment where students participate both in classroom discussions and outside the classroom through a Twitter based dialogue. The use of mobile devices and integration of multimedia platforms help to augment their learning. In order to make learning meaningful we need to rethink how we use technology in the classroom. HOW we use social media is key to preparing our students for future employment in the digital age. I would like to demonstrate how social media and mobile technology can contribute to a culture of learning and extend learning outside the confines of the classroom. Also, I would like to share future plans on having my students use the Bubbl mindmap site, create a Wiki page as a class, develop their own blogs, and participate in Second Life to create a virtual world in which to create their own learning environments.