

The background of the slide features a soft-focus photograph of a tropical scene. In the foreground, several palm trees with vibrant green fronds are visible, some slightly out of focus. In the background, a multi-story building with a light-colored facade and windows is partially visible, also blurred. The overall lighting is bright and natural, suggesting a sunny day.

Using Social Media to Develop Language Proficiency

Yali Chen

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Outline

- Literature review
- Social media
- Example
- Discussion activity
- Areas worth attention

Culture in language learning

- “Culture is a deeply ingrained part of the very fiber of our being, but language — the means for communication among members of a culture — is the most visible and available expression of that culture” (Brown, 1994).
- “Culture awareness both enables language proficiency and is the outcome of reflection on language proficiency” (Kramsch, 1993).

Social media in language learning

- Involves social aspects in language learning
- Links interactive social media to language learning
- Develops communication skills in target language
- Provides chances to participate in actual relevant conversations

Social media

- Blogging
- Discussion forum
- Video/audio sharing
- Collaborative editing
- Polling

Example

- News article about an event
- Internet video with the news and opinions from the host and guests
 - Also to include online comments from the videos
- Editorial article about this event
- A forum discussion with debates and opinions about this event

Discussion activity

After reading the articles and watching the video, please go to the discussion forum (<http://bbs.tianya.cn/post-free-5086794-1.shtml>) and complete the following:

- Read the initial post on the forum discussion and briefly write down your opinions on it.
- Identify one or two responding posts from the forum that express the same or similar ideas as your viewpoint, and one or two responding posts that express the opposite
- Respond to two of your classmates, one you agree with and another you disagree with, present your arguments
- Summarize the event and your opinions, list the new words and cultural background information you have learned

Language skills

- Reading / listening comprehension
- Reading speed
- Skimming / scanning
- Writing (grammar, vocabulary, sentence structure)
- Cultural background knowledge
- Exposure to values of native speakers
- Current events and hot topics

Areas worth attention

- Topic selection
- Scaffolding
- Detailed instructions
- Explanations of certain words or cultural background
- Facilitation / assistance
- Sufficient feedback



Questions?

Insights?

The background of the image is a soft-focus tropical scene. It features several palm trees with vibrant green fronds. The sky is a pale, hazy blue, suggesting a bright, sunny day. The overall atmosphere is warm and serene.

THANK YOU!!