

A Selection of Digital Resources for the English Classroom

For writing	Brief description	Stage 4 Outcomes
Lightning Bug http://www.lightningbug.com.au/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wonderful resource. Lots of writing stimulus, jumpstarts and downloadable teacher resources 	EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-4B, EN4-5C
Storybird http://www.storybird.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great site for generating ideas for stories, and helping students with their narrative writing. • Lovely evocative images and easy navigation. 	EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-4B, EN4-5C
The Hero Factory http://cpbherofactory.com/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students can create their own superhero, comic book cover, comic strips, character profiles, Hero Facebook page, and lots more. 	EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-4B, EN4-5C EN4-8D
Hatch's Plot Bank http://www.angelfire.com/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A great site for assisting students to develop ideas for stories and scripts. There are more than 2000 scenarios! 	EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-4B, EN4-5C
The Brainstormer http://www.distractionbeast.com/brainstormer.swg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes a random generator to spark ideas for creative thinking and writing • Helpful for brainstorming ideas in groups, pairs or individually 	EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-4B, EN4-5C

<p>Benetton advertisement site http://production.investis.com/ben_en/image_gallery/campaigns/?branch_id=1109</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Useful for stimulus in issues discussion and pre-writing • Useful for developing point of view, argument, expository writing • Can be used for creative writing – eg. write in role of one of the people/objects in the photo 	<p>EN4-3B, EN4-7D EN4-8D</p>
<p>Art and photographic sites http://www.uelsmann.net http://www.photographymuseum.com/mutter/scottmutterNewGallery.html</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imaginative and creative writing – speak for the image, the tree • Useful for stimulus on ‘constructing’ ‘realities’ – ‘what is real, what is truth? Compare to constructed identities on, for example, MySpace and Facebook. Deliberate selection and manipulation of material, ordered and presented in particular ways for a particular purpose • Useful for exploring the CRAFT of ‘writing’ – processes of selection and representation in images and words 	<p>EN4-5C, EN4-46C EN4-7D, EN4-8D</p>
<p>Vivian Maier www.vivianmaier.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large range of superb photographs – useful for stimulus, writing starts, debates, drama activities etc. 	<p>EN4-5C, EN4-46C EN4-7D, EN4-8D</p>
<p>Found Objects www.community.livejournal.com/foundobjects/</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A quirky and thought-provoking site with images and stimulus for writing and other forms of creating and representing 	<p>EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-4B, EN4-5C EN4-6C</p>
<p>Banksy http://www.banksy.co.uk/menu.html</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very evocative graffiti on this site – a great source of stimulus for a range of focus areas in English. Could be useful for teaching persuasive writing, exploring propaganda, censorship etc. 	<p>EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-4B, EN4-5C EN4-8D</p>

For creating poetry		
Digital Poetry and Images http://www.elco.k12.pa.us/online_home_work/O%27Neill/Digital/Entrypage.html	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some great ideas here for integrating visual and poetic texts 	EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-5C, EN4-6C
Poetry and Games – eg, acronyms, acrostic poems, haiku http://www.readwritethink.org/MATERIALS/ACROSTIC/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some interactive sites to create short forms of poetry 	EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-3B, EN4-4B EN4-5C
Poetry Just for Kids (older ones too) http://www.vrml.k12.la.us/2nd/more/poetrykids2.htm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lots of interactive opportunities here for creating poetry 	EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-3B, EN4-4B EN4-5C
The Poetry Foundation http://www.poetryfoundation.org/features/videolanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poets reading their work, clips of discussion about poetry and an evocative video by Michael Rosen on the importance of poetry and literature generally in young people’s lives 	EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-3B, EN4-4B EN4-5C, EN4-8D
Webquests and choose your own adventure (CYOA)		
Choose your own adventure: CYOA http://www.cyoa.com/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choose your own adventure sites provide resources to engage students in higher order thinking, responding and creating 	EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-5C, EN4-6C EN4-8D, EN4-9E

<p>Webquest maker http://www.zunal.com/</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This site provides templates and models to create your own webquest (for teachers and students) 	<p>EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-5C, EN4-6C EN4-8D, EN4-9E</p>
<p>Webquests for literature http://webquest.sdsu.edu/literature-wq.htm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This site offers a wide range of webquests suitable for primary and secondary students 	<p>EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-5C, EN4-6C EN4-8D, EN4-9E</p>
<p>Roald Dahl webquest and others http://english.unitecology.ac.nz/resources/webquests/roald_dahl/</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students can create their own webquests as well as engage in a whole range of others' webquests 	<p>EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-5C, EN4-6C EN4-8D, EN4-9E</p>
<p>Interactive Shakespeare sites</p>		
<p>Shakespeare Insult site: http://www.dl.ket.org/humanities/connections/class/medren/insults.htm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students can have a lot of fun with this insult generator. It can be used as the basis for engagement with Shakespeare, drama, role-play and improvisation Enjoyable way of extending vocabulary and generating understandings of the origins of common words and sayings Also see the Folger Shakespeare site (below) that has many strategies for linking Shakespeare to contemporary contexts and media (rap music, other music, and more) 	<p>EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-3B, EN4-4B</p>
<p>Sonnet Shakeup site: http://www.bookrags.com/sonnet/</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interactive site that scaffolds students into creating sonnets 	<p>EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-3B, EN4-4B</p>

<p>Folger Shakespeare Library: http://www.folger.edu/index_sa.cfm?sp_ecaudid=2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent for teacher resources, interactive tasks for students and group performance templates and scaffolds • Graphic and cartoon templates for many of the plays 	<p>EN4-2A, EN4-3B EN4-4B, EN4-5C</p>
Digital Storytelling		
<p>Creating digital stories: http://www.photobus.co.uk/index.php?id=2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very helpful hub site for resources on digital storytelling • Can be used in conjunction with activity based on the poem “Where I’m From” – creating your own digital story. See http://blog.transylvaniandutch.com/2009/08/poetry-copy-change-where-im-from-george.html and http://www.georgeellalyon.com/where.html 	<p>EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-3B, EN4-5C EN4-7D, EN4-9E</p>
<p>BBC Digital Story Site: http://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/activities/storytelling-grid</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are lots of resources here for making digital stories and some really engaging examples/models of digital stories 	<p>EN4-1A, EN4-2A EN4-3B, EN4-5C EN4-7D, EN4-9E</p>
Publishing student writing: (external sites – also use blogs, local, created sites)		
<p>http://www.education-world.com/a_tech/tech/tech042.shtml http://www.webenglishteacher.com/publ</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These are only a handful of the many sites that offer avenues for publishing students’ work • Teachers and students can create their own sites for publishing student work, or sharing ideas (eg. through platforms such as 	

<p>ish.html</p> <p>http://www.edutopia.org/self-publishing-student-writing</p> <p>http://www.wordpress.com</p>	<p>WORDPRESS. Easy to set up and maintain)</p>	
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