

Today'sMeet

Enhance classrooms. Enable discussions. Empower students.
Today'sMeet gives everyone a voice

Today'sMeet is a great way to engage students during class. Students can use this tool to ask questions, make comments, give feedback, discuss, and take class notes during the lecture. It is free with no account needed. You just create a "room" for the time you want and students join the room. You can print out transcripts from sessions.

Steps to create your own room:

1. Go to <https://todaysmeet.com/>
2. Type a name for your room
3. Select how long to keep the room active
4. Click "Open Your Room"

Ready? Get started right now

1. Name your room

2. Keep the room open for

3. Open your room

Today'sMeet

lobianco53

Listen

Wow! I didn't know that sabre-toothed tigers lived during the same time as early humans!

less than a minute ago by Luke

You have that correct, the base word Neo means "new" or "recent"

3 minutes ago by Mr. LoBianco

So the Paleolithic Era happened before the Neolithic Era or do I have that reversed?

4 minutes ago by Manney

Hey class! If you have any questions or comments during the video feel free to ask or comment away!

Benefits of creating an account (optional):

- keep track of all of your chatrooms in one place
- restrict access to your rooms
- close rooms early if the conversation gets too far off track
- moderate comments in a chatroom

Today'sMeet has just announced a Teachers Tools package that will enhance Today'sMeet but will cost money. This feature has not launched yet but it is expected to be launched in the next few weeks.

With **Teacher Tools**, you'll be able to

- Get **better access control and accountability** by limiting a room to students or faculty at **My School**.
- **Access transcripts of your rooms permanently**, even after they close.
- Keep embedded rooms working **forever**.
- **Pause a room** to put the conversation on hold and **resume when you're ready**.
- Keep the conversation on track by **muting troublemakers**.
- Provide a **topic or prompt** that will **stay at the top of the room**.

- 1. Have a conversation.** Students can talk about anything in a Today'sMeet room, and often you'll draw out the shyest, quietest students — the ones who would never raise their hand in class discussion.
- 2. Share links.** Post the URL for a website you want everyone to visit. Links you post are clickable in Today'sMeet.
- 3. Ask questions.** During a lecture, presentation or movie, if students are unclear about something, they can ask questions and get answers without interrupting.
- 4. Give examples.** Looking for students to show how something relates to their life? Or how they would apply a new concept? Participation is immediate and much faster than raising hands to answer.
- 5. Take a poll.** Ask for a vote among a couple choices and the results will be visually obvious in a matter of seconds.
- 6. Check for understanding.** Ask a comprehension question and have students type the answer WITHOUT clicking "Say" (the button you use to submit your answer to the room). Then, if they all click "Say" on the count of three, you'll see who understands.
- 7. Gather feedback.** Did your presentation make sense? Do students like changes to the school? What is really working in class? What would they like to see more of?
- 8. Gather anonymous feedback.** If you want participants to be REALLY honest, ask them not to type their names (maybe just a letter or character, or the same thing for everyone) when they answer.
- 9. Create "rotating stories."** Create a Today'sMeet room with a story starter. Have each student add a new sentence to the story. (Or, have every student create a Today'sMeet room and start their own story ... then have each student visit every other student's room to add a sentence.) See where the story goes.
- 10. Discuss an event.** The State of the Union speech. A movie relevant to class. A presentation in the auditorium. Host a behind-the-scenes quiet discussion.
- 11. Hold online office hours.** Tell students you'll be available at a Today'sMeet room at a certain time to answer questions.
- 12. Crowdsource details.** When my Spanish classes and I make up stories in Spanish, I like to ask them for details to add — a character's name, where the character goes, what a character does next. I can get suggestions from everyone in about 15 seconds.
- 13. Connect with other classrooms.** Extend a discussion beyond the four walls of your classroom. Invite a class from down the hall, in another city, in a different country.
- 14. Connect with experts.** Find an expert in the subject your class is discussing and see if he/she will engage with your students in a Today'sMeet room. You can have a guest speaker without the hassle of travel.
- 15. Host a contest.** The first person who correctly posts in the Today'sMeet room wins!

16. Teach brevity. Students can easily get too verbose and use unnecessary words. Expressing thoughts in 140 characters is an exercise in simplicity.

17. Practice digital citizenship. TodaysMeet rooms are online spaces for discussion much like many social media sites. They are a safe place to post and then talk about the do's and don'ts about engaging online.

18. Facilitate group projects. Students can post links to useful articles, relevant information and ideas they want to include in a group TodaysMeet room.

19. Create a club/team communications site. Post meeting cancellations and changes. Connect with parents. Save yourself tons of phone calls or text messages if everyone checks the group TodaysMeet site.

20. Have asynchronous staff/committee meetings. Host a discussion where participants can discuss when it's convenient for them. Let everyone pop in to a TodaysMeet room throughout the day (or week) and wrap up the meeting at a predetermined time.

Three Good Ways to Use TodaysMeet in Your Classroom

By Richard Byrne (www.freetech4teachers.com)

Using TodaysMeet to support lectures:

What I've done in the past is post my slideshows (which are basically lecture outlines) on the classroom blog two days prior to discussing that content in class. Then in class we discuss the content of the slideshows and I add "spice" to the slideshow content. While this discussion is going on, my students write questions and comments as they pop into their heads. This enables more students to ask more questions and share more comments than if they all had to raise their hands and wait to be called upon to speak.

Using TodaysMeet while watching videos in the classroom:

Using TodaysMeet for back-channeling while showing a video is a great way to handle clarifying questions and comments in real-time. Prior to using backchannels when I showed a video I would stop it at various intervals to discuss the students' reactions and questions. Now when I show a video in a classroom, I set-up a backchannel using TodaysMeet. The back-channel allows students to record their reactions to what they see while at the same time I am able to answer questions that arise as they watch the video.

Using TodaysMeet to collect anonymously questions and comments:

TodaysMeet does not have an option for requiring users to log-in with an email address. This is both a blessing and a curse. It's a blessing because it means that your students don't have to remember a username and password to use the service. It's a curse because students can use any alias they like when they join your TodaysMeet room. If you want your students to use aliases in your TodaysMeet room, ask them to write them down for you so that you can determine who is who if you have to step into a conversation that goes awry.