

# Online Learning Tips

## 1- Transitioning to online learning

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZiMZMxdZKwdCVBwXgiCJRFpmSEmFWmDC/view>

## 2- Transitioning to online check list

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ffhD2pF-J1umUpUkDPeKuhUI0irxNBmN/view>.

<https://homeschoolhideout.com/educational-shows-on-netflix/>

## 3- Pointers on E-learning *from Christina Chan Andros ;Gracias!*

Here are some pointers:

1. Have PPT or slides premade with a lot of pictures.
2. Have an opening slide with an entrance activity for students to do.
3. Include a slide with students' names (and pictures) if possible and ask a question in the target language. They can show their attendance by writing it in.
4. All activities need to be focused and shorter at the lower levels (think 5-7 minutes) and varied.
5. I have index cards of student names that I shuffle through to call on them.
6. Be explicit with all instructions and have it written for them to refer back to.
7. End with a google form.
8. Your tone and feedback set up the classroom environment. Be positive and encouraging to take risks, make mistakes, learn from one another and grow together!
9. You all got this! It's humbling as a teacher to have so much new. Use that to empathize with how our students often feel when learning a new language.

From Alla Kourova, Associate Professor, University of Central Florida

## 4- Guidelines to Online Learning

Switching to learning online requires some adjustments on your part as well as on the part of your instructors. To be a student in a physical classroom and to be a student in an online course is not the same. Here are some suggestions that can help you maximize your learning despite the sudden switch to online.

**Organizing your space:** Try to control your space. Treat each online session as a regular class where you have to concentrate, pay attention, take notes, engage with the material, etc. Certainly, there will be challenges caused by individual situations, contexts, and family/house arrangements, but to the extent possible and practical, please try to follow these suggestions:

1. Do everything possible to find a quiet space for the duration of the lesson.
2. Ideally, you need a space where you can concentrate. Enclosed spaces like a room with a door are ideal to minimize interruption, disrupting background sound, and other distractions. This includes finding a place where your parents,

siblings or pets will not be a distraction. You may also consider asking your family members (who may or may not be familiar with working/learning online) to respect your learning space.

3. Ideally, you need to be at a table. Living room couches are not suitable for this online course.
4. You need to be on a computer or a tablet. Being on a phone severely limits your participation in an active online learning environment of *an online language course*.
5. Have your notebooks and textbooks next to you.
6. Turn off notifications on your computers; turn off and put away your phones (if possible), unless you need them during class for some tasks or to communicate technical difficulties.
7. Close tabs in the browser that you don't need during the lesson. Keep only those tabs open which you will be using (your instructor will let you know)

**Professionalism:** Treat your online lessons as face-to-face meetings (*especially if your lessons are conducted with the video on*).

1. Dress as if you are going to class. (OK, we are all probably wearing our pajama bottoms, but remember this is a shared academic space and you will be using your camera, so you are expected to look as you would in an in-person class. You do not have to be super made-up but keep it professional.)
2. Be mindful of what is behind you in the room as it will be visible to everybody.
3. Know that you may be required to share your screen to present your work, and/or other related class materials.
4. Therefore, what's visible in your screen and browser should be appropriate for a scholarly environment.
5. Punctuality is important just as it is in a physical class.
6. Plan your meals so that you don't have to eat in front of everybody. Online, you will be right in everybody's face.

**Learning habits:** Here are some tips on how to be an effective online learner.

1. Participate in the shared learning environment. *It is not enough to login and read or listen to the discussions of others.*
2. Avoid lurking in the cyberspace background. Don't text, surf the Internet, write e-mails, shop online, etc. during the online session. (We know. It's hard. Email is right there. Instagram is right there. The news is right there. Everything is right there! But, as you would in an in-person class, do your best to avoid any online and other activities, as well as communications that do not relate directly to the class.)
3. For the maximum benefit, everyone is intended to contribute.
4. If you are not talking, have your **microphone off**, but please try to have your **video on** all the time, unless there are
5. bandwidth issues.
6. Take notes whenever appropriate.
7. Stay focused throughout the online lesson. Follow the instructor in every task.
8. Be prepared to be called on directly (more often than in a physical class). Be prepared to work in small groups in breakout rooms.
9. Learn how to type in Russian.
10. Observe the Honor Code when performing in-class tasks, taking quizzes or unit tests. **Be even more honest with yourselves than usual.** It is about *your* learning.
11. Utilize instructor's online office hours for help. Don't be shy to ask for help.

**Down time:**

On-screen learning can be difficult and exhausting. We all have to get used to spending more time in front of the screen than we did before. It is important to schedule breaks (especially if you have several online classes in a day), to build in time for stretching sessions, short exercise sessions, or a walk outside (provided you keep the recommended physical distance from others). We strongly advise you to plan your off-screen time. Also, be patient with yourselves and kind to others. We are all in this difficult situation together and we will have a learning curve. We need a supportive and kind community now more than ever.