

# **‘In what ways can e-learning enhance the learning experience of students in Higher Education?’**

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1) *My Experience of e-Learning*

2) *Benefits*

3) *VLEs as Tools*

4) *Next Steps*





*"Tell me, and I'll forget. Show me,  
and I may remember. Involve me,  
and I'll understand"*

(Chinese Proverb)



## Accessibility:

- Text2Speech software
- Changing font size
- Magnify screen size
- Change background colour
- Speakers of Other Languages
- 'Slow Readers'
- Location



## Flexibility:

- Student-Centred
- Self-paced
- Location
- 'At the touch of a button'
- E-Assessment
- Allows for lecturers to deviate from lesson plan
- Reduces the number of 'contact hours'



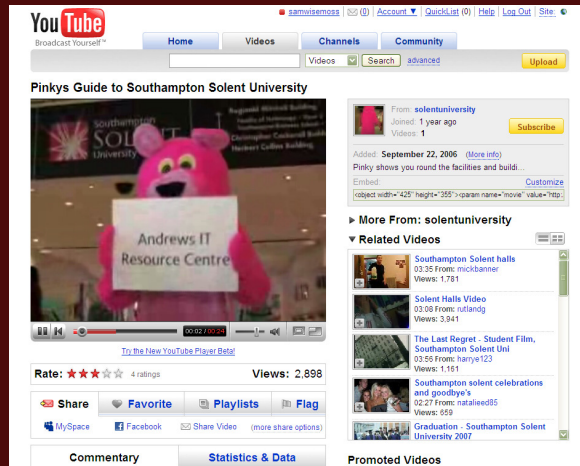
## Collaborative Learning & Interaction

- Forums
- Email
- Collaboration
- Message Boards
- Instant Messages



# Multi-Media

- Videos
- Music
- Pictures
- Cartoons
- E-Portfolios
- Diagrams
- Games
- Key Texts
- Journals



# Accommodates 'Learning Styles'

- **Auditory learners**
  - Audio Clips, Music
- **Visual learners**
  - Video/Picture/Diagrams
- **Kinaesthetic learners**
  - Games/'Follow-my-Lead' instructions/'Drag and Drop'



## Virtual Learning Environments:



- **Interactive Homepage providing access to Digital Learning Resources:**

- **Course Specific:**

- Links to useful websites
- Reading materials
- Module assignments/coursework
- PowerPoint slides and handouts
- Videos & pictures
- Sound recordings



## Virtual Learning Environments:



- **Interactive Homepage providing access to Digital Learning Resources:**

- **Non-Specific:**

- Library
- University Publications
- ICT online tutorials
- Students First
- Careers/Jobshop/CVs
- Degree calculator
- Keys Skills help
- Forms



## Virtual Learning Environments:



- **Interactive Homepage**  
providing access to  
communication and events  
information:

- Email
- Useful email addresses  
and phone numbers
- Course specific forums
- Events promotion
- Calendar
- E-Portfolios
- Blogs



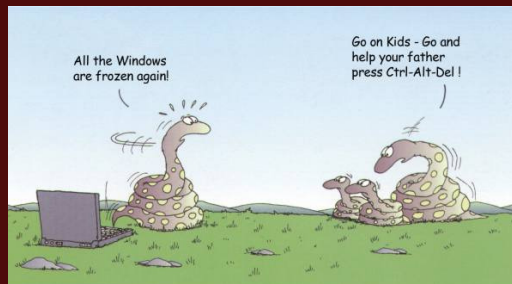
*"The biggest obstacle to innovation  
is thinking it can be done the old  
way."*

(Jim Wetherbe, Texas Tech, 1990)



## Next Steps: Cultural Acceptance

- Promote benefits of e-Learning to teaching staff and offer advice on how to use it in the classroom
- Offer sessions during the student induction period to show students how to use VLEs
- Offer 'drop-in' sessions for those who do not feel comfortable with using a computer
- Ensure that all applications are as accessible as realistically possible.
- Seek out and identify those who may not have home access to a computer and internet and work together to find a solution



*"The power of the Web is in its universality. Access by everyone regardless of disability is an essential aspect."*

(Tim Berners-Lee)



**Thank you**