Method sheet	Name:		Class / Course:
Subject:		Date:	Version: 1 JTR2009- Number of pages: 2

▷Podcasting

Method's application and intention	A podcast is a piece of spoken word, which is made available on the internet. It is designed, recorded and distributed by students. Once published it is openly accessible by everyone who knows its web-address. A podcast is normally recorded in class with the teacher giving individual advices and hints. It is also possible for students to record a podcast at home. Podcasts are recorded at a local computer using recording software like Audacity. They are then saved as MP3 files and presented on the class- or student's homepage. Podcasts can be produced as a series. In this case the class is divided into several teams. Each team has to provide an episode for the series which are published regularly on the internet. This method is applicable to almost every school subject and supports self-managed learning. The teacher's part during a podcasting class is meant to be a "Learning Manager". As podcasting is time consuming it is strongly advised to plan four to six hours of class for a podcasting project.
Meaning	The word podcast is a compound. It consists of the words "broadcast" and "Ipod", which is a portable MP3 player.
Required technology	• PC or Mac • Web-browser like Internet Explorer, Firefox, Opera, Safari or Chrome • Class- / student- homepage or blog or account at http://www.podhost.de • Webspace • Microphone • Recording software (e.g. Audacity: http://www.audacity.com) • Mp3 Codec (e.g. LAME http://www.chip.de/downloads/LAME_13003295.html)
Process	• The teacher creates an account at http://www.podhost.de . On this side the student's podcasts are published later on. • The introduction to podcasts is done by giving the students the task of searching for an English podcast on a topic of their choice. • The students are introduced to the topic (by handouts, internet pages or their own online research). • The students design a script for their podcast. It is motivating for them to include a soundscape into the background of their podcast. This has to be included into the script.

	• The students should reflect upon their script before recording it. This way they can wipe out errors and can discuss the pronunciation of difficult vocabulary. • During the recording process the students are told to pay a high amount of attention to their pronunciation and grammar. They can re-record difficult sentences as many times as they want to. • Finally the podcasts are saved as an mp3 file and uploaded by the teacher to the podhost platform. The class then listens to every podcasts and post a text-comment underneath each podcast. That way they evaluate each other and learn from what the other students came up with. • The teacher also comments on the podcasts. • Students can also comment on the other's podcasts by producing a podcast-reply.
Thematical examples for use in class	• American school-system • Australian natives • Native Americans today • The British Empire • Any given topic that is of interest to the students
Information on the internet	• http://www.podhost.de • http://englisch.schule.de/podcasting.htm • http://www.lehrer-online.de/podcasting.php • http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com • http://a4esl.org/podcasts/ • http://www.podcast.de/