



## Lesson Plan - The Importance of Emojis in Multimodal Digital Communication – Unit 1

Part of a sequence of lessons to learn about the importance of Emojis in multimodal digital communication

- Introduce multimodal communication by having students reflect on using text and emojis in everyday digital interactions.
- Demonstrate how emojis modify or enhance meaning in digital communication through examples and class discussion.
- Engage students in a hands-on activity where they create and interpret messages using text and emojis, followed by reflection.

**Skills:** language skills (reading/writing), communication skills, (social) media skills

**Class:** 3<sup>rd</sup> year

**Material:** PPT, Smartphone/Tablet

**Lesson length:** 45'

### General objectives

By the end of this lesson, the students will be able to:

- Understand how multimodal communication integrates text and emojis to enhance meaning compared to face-to-face communication.
- Recognise the context-dependent nature of emojis and how their meaning can shift.
- Practice creating and interpreting multimodal messages to explore the relationship between text and emojis.

### Linguistic Awareness:

- Recognising the shift from prototypical meanings to context-based interpretations.
- Understanding the interaction between text and visual modes (emojis) in communication.
- Introducing the idea of meaning in context.



Timing	Tasks/topics	Objectives	Material used	How?	Who?	Linguistics concepts
7'	Hook activity	Explore students' interest on the topic of multimodality highlighting the difference in "spatiality" between face-to-face interaction and digital interaction.	Smartphones/laptops	Students analyze their online communication to explore how emojis contribute to multimodal interactions by conveying emotions and tone.	Teacher/students	Multimodal communication
10'	Comprehension	Illustrate how emojis function as a multimodal element that conveys meaning in digital communication.	PPT	Students compare text examples with and without emojis to analyze their impact on meaning.	Teacher + students	Multimodality
10'	Meaning in context	Show that the meaning of emojis is context dependent and that there is a difference between what is said and what is communicated.	PPT	Students interpret the referential and implicit meanings of emojis, analyze how their meaning changes in different contexts	Teacher	What is said vs. what is communicated
10'	Hands-on activity	Help students understand and articulate how emojis contribute to meaning in digital communication by translating their meaning into text.	Smartphone/tablet	Students create a short multimodal message using text and emojis	Students in pairs	
8'	Discussion	Show how multimodal communication enhances meaning and depends on context.		Students explain differences between multimodal and monomodal comments using examples.		Multimodality Context dependency