

# Get going with allango!

allango, the new homebase for all of Ernst Klett Sprachen's growing portfolio of digital materials, allows teachers to access all course material on a single platform, and to work together and share materials with students and colleagues. Find out how preparing for and teaching in different classes has become so much easier thanks to allango.

allango (*all languages to go!*) is the new digital hub for all of Ernst Klett Sprachen's course materials, for learners and teachers alike. Gone are the days when you have to access one app (such as *Klett Augmented*) to access your audios and videos and another app or website to access further digital components. Now, with allango, all content can be accessed via any browser from any device. You don't even have to download and install an app at all. You simply open your preferred browser, type in allango.net, log in with your customer credentials – and start teaching. It really is that easy!

## Virtual copies for each class

One of the many challenges I've faced as a typical English teacher in adult education, working at different institutions with many different classes, is keeping track of where exactly I am in each of my many classes. For example, I've been teaching with *Let's Enjoy English A2 Review* for some years now. Some of my classes run parallel and I've

found keeping track of where I'd left off with what class difficult at times. In the pre-digital era I had folders full of copiables, and post-its in various colours, loose sheets with notes and reminders to myself of what I had covered in which class and where I needed to pick up again. When digital teaching materials became available and, especially as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic, teaching was increasingly happening online, things got even more complex.

*“One of my favourite features allows me to compile and save my very own lists of materials which I can use with the book.”*

Now I had electronic folders on my laptop, containing all kinds of pdf documents with my ideas, plus lists of links in various word documents. I often knew I'd saved something, but I couldn't find it – or at least not without hours of searching! You might be getting the sense that I'm not the most orderly and structured person – and you're right: and sometimes that really frustrated me! Now at long last, thanks to allango, the problem has been solved for me! The new platform allows me to make virtual versions of digital editions. Of course, you'll find the original version of all material on allango, appropriately named “Original (unedited)”. You then simply click on “Manage versions”. By clicking

on “New version” a new virtual copy is generated, which you can then name however you like. I give these new versions the name of the class in question. When I'm teaching each class, I use my ‘customized’ class version, adding notes and links to it as we make progress. Now I always know what I've covered and what needs to be covered! It is a feature that is as simple as it is useful.

## My lists feature

Another of my favourite allango features is called *My lists*. This allows me as a teacher to compile and save my very own lists of materials which I can use in connection with the coursebook in question. My list might have a link to an interesting online article that I've found, or to a video clip on YouTube, or to a worksheet I've designed for use in another class, that would be appropriate with this class too.

Here is an example of how I used the *My lists* feature to prepare a lesson using *Let's Enjoy English A1.1, Out and About*, page 143, which features an article about National days in Britain and Ireland.

## Zum Autor

Robert Kirstein, VHS teacher,  
Business English trainer and  
author of *Great! and Great!*  
2nd edition





Figure 1

In Figure 1 you can see what comes up on allango, when you call up the page in the coursebook version. The fold-out menu on the right shows you what extra material is available for that particular page. For this page, page 143, a video clip and two pdfs for teachers, one with keys to tasks and one with tasks to go with the video clip, have already been provided by the publisher. Teachers can purchase a Teaching plus licence for each coursebook, so they can access the teacher only material. (I definitely recommend this!) The publishers have also assured me that more material will be added by them at regular intervals, which promises to be a really useful new service. However, in my case, I wanted my learners to have extra material to

work on at home. I wanted them to read a text I had found on holidays and festivities in other English-speaking countries and answer some questions on it in writing in preparation for the next lesson. I set up a list, just for my class, that I shared with them via the Share button (see Figure 2).

All I had to do was upload the pdf-document with my text and tasks to the file-sharing service of my choice (in my case Google Drive) and then add a link to the document to *My lists* for this class on allango. My learners then simply clicked on the link in *My lists* and the text was automatically downloaded onto their devices. In this case I only added one link, but there is no limit to how many entries you can add.

As a further bonus: you can share your lists! That's an ideal way to share ideas and preparation with your colleagues, and also very helpful if you need to stand in for an absent colleague.

### Free curated lists

As much as I find the possibility to create personalised lists a huge benefit, I know from experience that, as busy teachers, we often don't have the time (or inclination) to create new material of our own – let alone add it to any lists!

Fortunately, allango includes a “from publisher” tab in the *My lists* section, where you'll find ready-made, free-of-charge, carefully curated and annotated lists of links to extra materials, such as webpages with videos, exercises and activities for your coursebook.

I haven't been teaching with allango for very long yet, but I can already say, I feel better organised and better equipped, and preparing for my classes has never been easier.

My recommendation:

Get going with allango – right away!

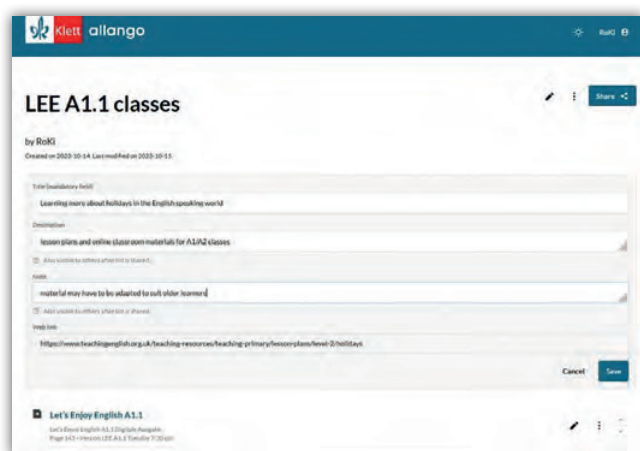


Figure 2



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Let's Enjoy English A1.1 (NP10050163000)