Clearing the skies: From tag clouds to Topic Maps

Topic Maps 2007

Cerpus
Virtual vs. traditional schooling?

- Administrative
- Communication
- Calendar
- Assignments
- Tests
- Writing tools, techniques
- Instructor focus
Formal and informal learning

Spectrum of Learning

Formal
You go where the bus goes.

Informal
You go where you choose.
Personal Learning Environment
Web 2.0 is here!

An aggregate web of connected data sources and services
del.icio.us tags
Tags and learning?

- Joseph Novak’s building blocks of knowledge:
  - Concepts
Bringing it all together

Personal Learning Environment

- flickr
- del.icio.us
- YouTube
- technorati
- elgg
- VLE/LMS
- services
So you’ve got tags...

“That don’t impress me much…”
- Shania Twain

“You’ve got the bricks, but can you build the house?”
- Cerpus
Joseph Novak’s theory of learning

• The building blocks of knowledge:
  • Concepts
  • Propositions
Tag cloud

ethanol  hydrocarbon

alcohol

wine  beer  liquor

intoxicant

health injury  social problem

fermentation
knowledge

- Ethanol has a structure formula.
- Ethanol is alcohol.
- Alcohol is a hydrocarbon.
- Intoxicant might cause health injury.
- Health injury is a social problem.
- Intoxicant is produced by fermentation.
- Fermentation is produced by alcohol.
- Alcohol consists of ethanol.

information

- http://www.rusdir.no/fakta_om/alkohol/

Structure formula:

```
H     H
|     |
H-C-C-OH
|     |
H     H
```
Bringing it all together

Personal Learning Environment

[Diagram showing various services such as flickr, del.icio.us, YouTube, flickr, services, technorati, VLE/LMS, elgg]
Brainstorming

assessment portfolio | work portfolio | presentation portfolio
social perspective | cultural perspective | quality
continuity | | motivation
meta cognition | | meta learning
goals | issues | criteria
work effort | knowledge | reflections
dialogues | Dewey | Vygotskij
Mead | Bakhtin | Dysthe
**Flying Scotsman**

The LNER Class A3 Pacific locomotive number 4472 "Flying Scotsman" (originally no. 1472) was built in 1923 for the London and North Eastern Railway at Doncaster Works to a design of Sir Nigel Gresley. It was employed on express trains on the East Coast Main Line from London King's Cross to Doncaster, Leeds, York, Newcastle upon Tyne or Edinburgh. It ended service with British Rail in 1963, and was sold to preservation, initially to Alan Pegler who saved the locomotive from being scrapped. It is frequently referred to as the most famous steam locomotive in the world.

**Image**
- Flying Scotsman

**URL**
- Flying Scotsman (Moodle)
Associations

Association

LNER used to own / owned by Flying Scotsman

owned by

Scope:
All
Railway

Cerpus AS N-8432 Alsvåg http://cerpus.com cerpus@cerpus.com
Knowledge map
Latest project results

- Nordland fylke (County of Nordland):
  - ePortfolio project
  - Methodological freedom: various approaches
  - 20,000 new topics in BrainBank since October
“Traditional” TM dual layer approach

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Number 4468 Mallard is a London and North Eastern Railway Class A4 4-6-2 Pacific steam locomotive built in the 1930s by the LNER and designed by Sir Nigel Gresley in England. It was in service until 1963 when it was retired after a lifetime distance of almost 1.5 million miles (2,400,000 km). Mallard is now part of the national collection at the National Railway Museum in York, England. Mallard is the holder of the world speed record for steam locomotives at 126 mph (203 km/h).
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Topicmap as a service

Digital environment

Resources

web services
Clearing the skies?

- Tags and tag clouds are useful
- Tags as topics in a topicmap are more useful
- If learners can learn the “Web 2.0 way” and build their own knowledge structures along the way, the sky is clearing