

Personal Site: for and against

Are you an extravert? Are you Internet addicted? Do you have a spare hour every day? If you answer yes, yes, and yes, you definitely should have a personal site. Otherwise, you had better weight the pros and cons before you press the SETUP button.

The good news is you will definitely enjoy the opportunity to share your brilliant ideas, unforgettable experiences and deep feelings. You will also promote yourself as a professional and gain a better chance to motivate your students. I remember having got eight e-mails from my students immediately after they were allowed to post me their home tasks instead of bringing them to school on paper. No wonder teenagers will be exited by the opportunity to visit your personal site.

The trouble is, they will soon get bored unless you add new rich content and improve the design regularly. Here comes the main difficulty with being a site host: you have to work on it harder and harder. Moreover, the better it is, the more you want to perfect. Finally, you can find yourself quite exhausted by the enterprise which started as a game and now is backbreaking work.

So rather than starting the project, think twice. Are you still eager to make your students' lives happier? To inspire them, not just to teach? Are you sure? It is really worth doing then. At least, I strongly believe it is.