

## Google Map Basics for the Technologically Challenged

Creating maps through Google Maps is an excellent way for students to practice English, and the process can be mastered by following a few basic steps. You don't have to be a tech wizard to learn to navigate this tool!

I generally have students create their own accounts and maps, but students or classes could also create a group account and share a password.

Here is what your students should do. Why not try it first yourself and see just how easy it is?

### Learning English with Google Maps in 9 Steps

**Step 1:** Create a Google account (if you do not already have one).

**Step 2:** Sign into your Google account.

**Step 3:** Go to the Google Maps page and click on the map search bar. A window will drop down that says "My Maps." Click on "Create."

**Step 4:** Click on "Untitled Map" to type in a name and description.

**Step 5:** Search places in the map search bar. When you find what you're looking for, click on the icon that looks like a balloon to add a marker. Put your cursor over the location and click to add the marker.

**Step 6:** A screen will appear where you can title the marker, add a description and links. By clicking on the camera icon you can add videos or photos.

**Step 7:** Be sure to save changes.

**Step 8:** Continue to search and add locations. There are also tools that can be used to draw lines and measure distances. Add different layers if your map becomes too cluttered.

**Step 9:** Make the map public or send the link to your teacher. You can keep adding to your map as an ongoing project.