

I am nervous about using i-c@fé with a whole class. I will be so busy sorting out the computers, I won't be able to help them with the magazine. Will they just waste their time?

If you are worried about the computers, try to sort out as much as you can before you take the class. Check that Flash and Adobe Acrobat have been installed. You can enlist the help of the ICT technician here! They can also set the internet browser to go straight to the site you want.

If you are worried about the pupils wasting time, you could look at the magazine beforehand and decide exactly what you want them to do. Direct the pupils to start with a specific text or activity (according to topic or ability). Some of the articles have "strategies" to help pupils read (click on the "key" button). If you printed these out and copied them, you could ask pupils to work through them to give their task structure. Some of the texts have comprehension questions to test understanding. You could ask for the answers to be written down and handed in. You could even devise your own comprehension questions – if you do, please email us a copy at i-cafeFeedback@oup.com, so that we can post them on the teachers' bulletin board.

I like the idea of my pupils reading independently and for pleasure in the foreign language, but I do need to have evidence of what they have achieved.

We hope that the articles in i-c@fé will interest pupils enough to want to read them, and that the activities and strategies (on the "key" button) will make this possible and fun. Where pupils are used to doing independent reading already, this will be a natural progression. If you are looking for evidence of pupils' reading (maybe to report on progress through the National Curriculum Levels), then maybe you could ask them to fill in a "Who, Where, What, When, How, Why" grid. These are easily made and adapted to different texts. I often tell pupils I need their evaluation of a resource. As well as providing interesting evidence and feedback on their reading, it motivates them to read in the first place. If you do have feedback, please email us at i-cafeFeedback@oup.com, so we can share your ideas with other teachers on the bulletin board.

I think it is important to let pupils read independently, to explore and choose material. I don't like to impose tasks on them.

We hope you will love i-c@fé. Pupils can choose texts to suit their ability and interest. The tasks are designed to be fun rather than to test. The strategies (on the "key" button) are there to give pupils a start with the skills they need to become more independent readers. Pupils can access the magazine at home or in the library as well as in school. We would love to hear how i-c@fé suits the needs and interests of your pupils. Please email us at i-cafeFeedback@oup.com.