



# BIGBLUEBUTTON TUTORIAL

## 1. Link

<https://bigbluebutton.org/>

## 2. Short description of the tool

**BigBlueButton** provides real-time sharing of audio, video, slides, chat, and screen. Learners are engaged through sharing of icons, polling, and breakout rooms. The teacher has a wide variety of interactive tools to run interesting and engaging lessons with sound, video, chat, quizzes etc... A simple and intuitive tool which is an online alternative to face-to-face in-class meetings. It can be used as complimentary online synchronous tool for developing learners' interaction strategies.

## 3. Which language competences can be developed with the help of this tool?

- Understanding interaction between other speakers
- Identifying cues and strategies
- Listening to audio media and recordings
- Sustained monologue
- Online conversation and discussion
- Addressing audiences
- Information exchange
- Interaction Strategies (turn-taking, cooperating, asking for clarification)
- Sociolinguistic appropriateness
- Mediating Activities
- Mediating Strategies
- Plurilingual and pluricultural competence

## 4. The requirements concerning the tool

**BigBlueButton** is an open source web conferencing system for online learning. The goal of the project is to provide remote learners a high-quality online learning experience.

**BigBlueButton** uses a full HTML5 client for its interface. This means the same client runs on desktop, laptop, Chromebook, and mobile devices (iOS 12.2+ and Android 6.0+). **BigBlueButton** recommends *Chrome* and *Firefox* as these browsers provide the best support for WebRTC.

## 5. Language of the tool

English and other languages.

## 6. Suggested language level (A1-C2)

A1☒ A2☒ B1☒ B2☒ C1☒ C2☒

## 7. What competences from DigCompEdu Framework does the tool develop?

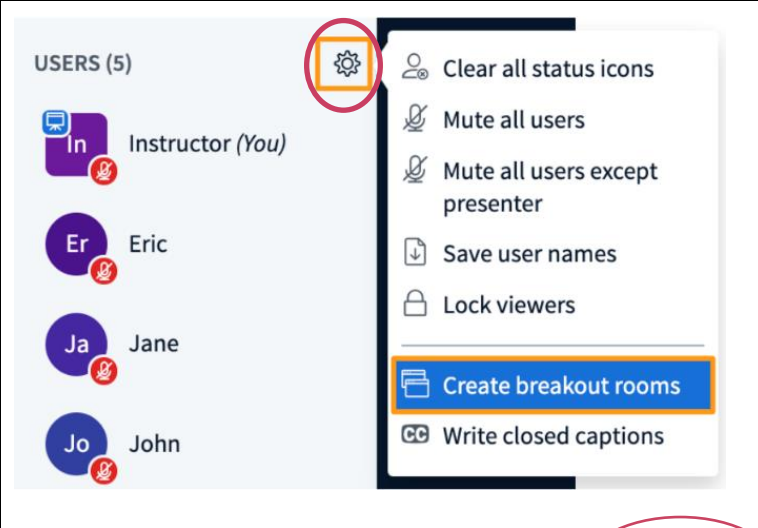
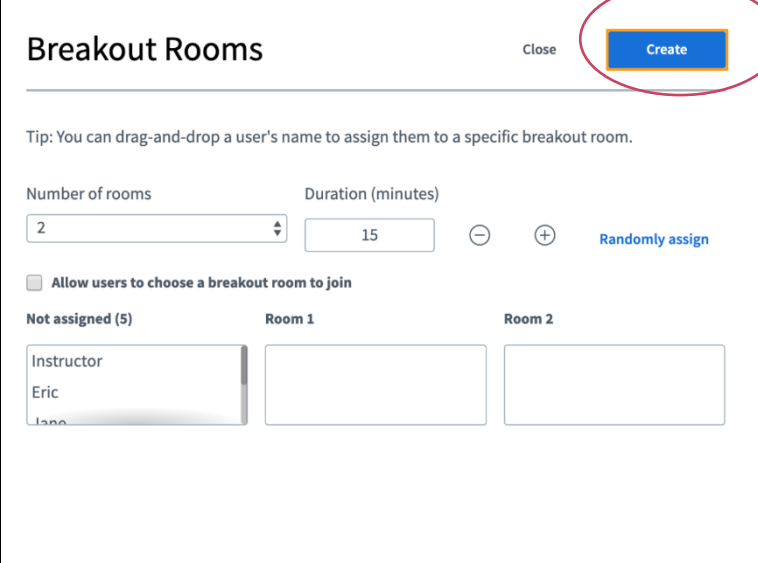
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|--|---|
| 1. Professional Engagement                   | 1.1 Organisational communication            |
| 3. Teaching and Learning                     | 3.1 Teaching                                |
|  | 3.3 Collaborative learning                  |
| 4. Assessment                                | 4.1 Assessment strategies                   |
| 6. Facilitating Learners' Digital Competence | 6.2 Digital communication and collaboration |

## 8. How can the tool be used by teachers/learners?

This tool can be used by language teachers for online meetings in real time or provide adult learners with a previously recorded lesson. During the lesson teachers and learners may use **BigBlueButton** to listen to podcasts, recordings, read texts (chat option), share links to e.g., video and share screen (writing, documents). Learners are engaged through sharing of icons, interactive quizzes and group work. A language teacher can also divide a larger number of learners into smaller study groups (working in teams using breakout rooms):

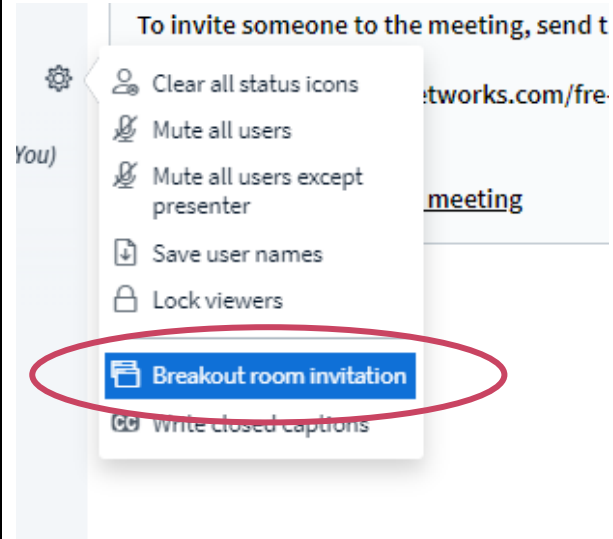
## 9. Case study – example

Most of the features offered by **BigBlueButton** are similar to other kinds of tools, we would like to focus on breakout rooms as an additional means of adult learners' engagement; you can use breakout rooms to encourage small group discussion, collaboration, and cooperation amongst adult learners. Moderators have the ability to create and manage learners' breakout rooms in their live **BigBlueButton** session.

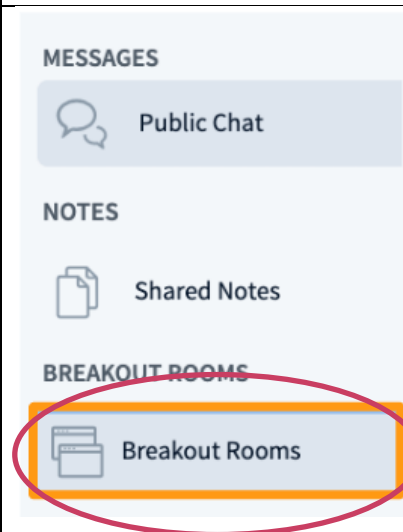
<p>1. When creating the breakout rooms, only viewers who have successfully joined the <b>BigBlueButton</b> session can be assigned to a meeting room; all those connected will appear in the users list of the interface. Moderators can create breakout rooms via the users list – use the <b>Cog Wheel</b>.</p>	
<p>2. You can configure the breakout rooms to achieve multiple discussion format and sizes. You can choose from the following functions: <b>number of rooms</b> (from 2 to maximum 8), <b>allow users to choose a breakout room to join</b>, <b>duration</b> (all rooms will close once this duration time is met; users will be brought back into the main meeting room), <b>randomly assign</b> (learners are divided into groups by the system).</p>	

3. Once the breakout rooms have been configured, select **Create** to launch. Viewers will receive a prompt to join the respective room they have been assigned to; all users assigned to join a room will be removed from the audio in the main meeting room and prompted to rejoin in their breakout room. When viewers join the breakout room, they will see the current slide from the main room. The left/right arrows for slide navigation will be disabled as the breakout room has only one slide (the current slide from the main room).

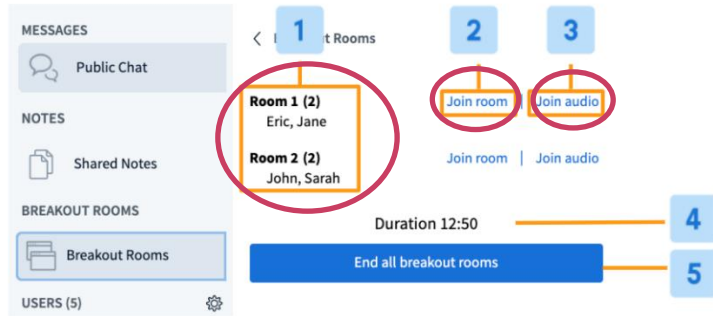
4. To **invite late joiners** the teacher has to choose **Breakout room invitation** to invite any learners not currently in a breakout room to join.



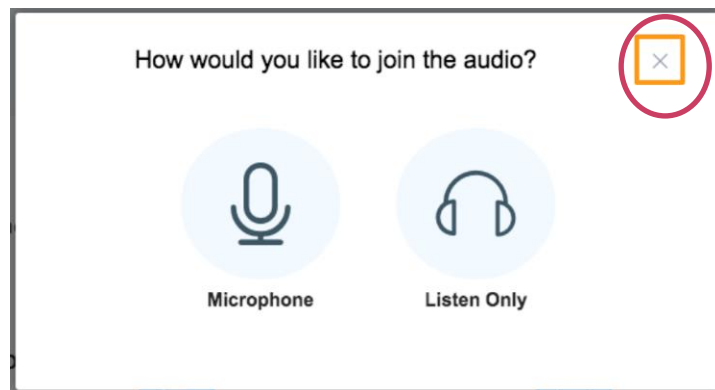
5. To manage breakout rooms moderators can manage and join the rooms from the main **BigBlueButton** meeting through the Breakout Room Control panel.



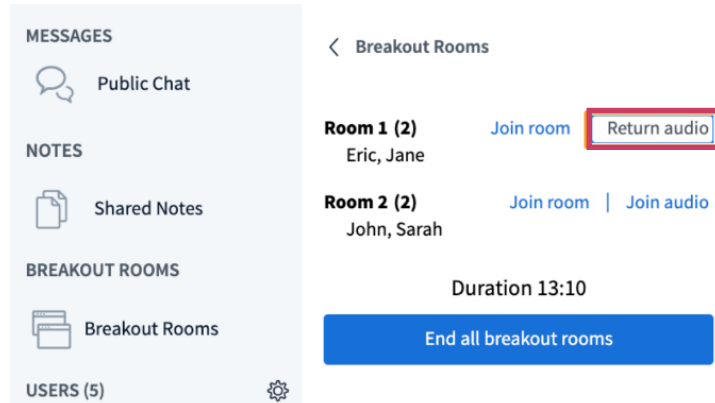
6. The moderator's **Breakout Room Control** panel will appear under messages above the users list to the left of the **BigBlueButton** interface. Select to expand and view.



7. The breakout room control panel will list all active breakout rooms, **Number and Names of Attendees in Each Room**, as well as additional settings and moderator capabilities. Join room; when selected, this enables you to join the breakout room directly. You can connect with audio or without (listen only). If you do not wish to join the audio in the breakout room, select "X" in the audio chooser when prompted.



8. As the moderator you can open as many of the breakout rooms as you like via the **join** function. All additional breakout rooms tabs will appear at the top of the browser window. Select **Return audio** to return to the main room.



## 10. Things you have to bear in mind when using the tool

- Use *Chrome* or *Firefox* for best performance.
- If you want to record a meeting, join yourself.
- It is not possible to prepare the meeting in advance, e.g upload a presentation or links.
- All viewers enter the breakout rooms with moderator status: the first individual to connect is assigned the presenter role.
- Breakout rooms cannot be recorded.
- Content from the breakout room cannot be pulled to the main room.
- Once the breakout rooms have been created and started, the duration cannot be extended.

## 11. Similar tools

**Skype** <https://www.skype.com>

**Google Meet** <https://hangouts.google.com/>

**Zoom** <https://zoom.us/>

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