

Media Literate Support for Self-Organised EFL Learning: YouTube Video Instructional Tasks

By

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Outline Summary

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What is CALL Localization?

- Localization is the process of adapting internationalized software for a specific region or language by adding locale-specific components and translating text (Wikipedia).
- CALL Localization may include:
 - L1 Instructions
 - Culturally sensitive materials
 - Culturally Specific GUI design

The Internet

- Local
 - Possible to work within culturally specific environments.
 - E.g. An EFL website for Japanese students with Japanese instructions.
- Global
 - Often in EFL CALL s/s will click thru to broader international real world contexts.
 - E.g. The s/s find their way to CNN.
- Out of Depth
 - Confidence and motivation stunted by inability to browse real world sites.

An Alternative Approach

Rather than localizing the CALL Internet based applications to the classroom,

why not

localize the classroom to the Internet?

Localizing The Classroom

- The teacher enters the Internet domain.
 - The teacher in 3 spatial domains
 - physically present in the classroom
 - relaying instructions via online video
 - available 24/7 in the homework setting
 - The teacher acts as a guide to a wider world than fully independent students could probably cope with.

Utilising Media Literacy

- A Media Literacy Perspective
 - The idea that visual media may aid lower proficiency users to understand and communicate (Gruba 2006).
- Working Assumptions
 - Japanese university students are, to a certain extent, media literate.
 - S/s would benefit from a classroom that utilises their media literacy to scaffold their EFL studies.

How: Intuitive Task Design

- The lesson organised into a series of tasks
- One task per webpage
 - Each task compartmentalised
 - Intuitive packets of information
 - Variety of visual formats
 - Standardised locations
 - Video centred
 - Resource link below video
 - Parameters right side

How: Simple Web Design

- Simple Design
 - Task Parameters
 - right side
 - Central Video Task
 - subtitled
 - Resource link under video
 - Next link >> to next task
- Clean & Uncluttered
- Understandable



How: Video Usage



- Video Tasks
 - Teacher Presented
 - Subtitled
 - YouTube Relayed
- Benefits
 - Auto-repeatable
 - Available 24/7
 - Read & Listen

The Benefits

- Training Students in Technologically Assisted Autonomy.
 - The Internet For Autonomous EFL Study
 - Easily available
 - Often free
 - Real world
 - Global & Local
- Leveling Up
 - Boot strapping students for higher degrees of challenge.

The Challenges

- Classroom Perception
 - Too much student freedom and autonomy.
 - Is this a real class?
 - Where is the teacher?
 - Some students want a more teacher led experience.
- Overcome
 - Use of Power Point Presentations
 - Linking Instructions
 - Task Examples

Conclusions

- Useful
 - Self study skills for life
- Professional
 - The mix of video, internet and power point provides a good balance for a university setting.
- Appealing
 - Cutting edge
 - Real world feel
 - Almost unbounded variety

Any feedback or questions are welcome

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