Exploiting Mobile Technology to Enhance EFL

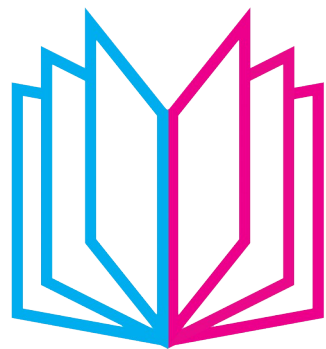by
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JALT2016:
Transformation in Language Education
Nagoya, Japan • November 25-28, 2016

Learner's Interactive Bitext Electronic Reading Application

The Benefits of Parallel Texts

- Frees learners from tedious dictionary lookups

- Facilitates rapid vocabulary acquisition

- Presents new vocabulary in authentic contexts

- Exposes learners repeatedly to frequently used words

- Enables learning through the pleasure reading

Voluntary Reading and Comprehensible Input

According to renowned linguist Stephen Krashen:

- Free voluntary reading is "the most powerful tool"

- Learners rapidly absorb grammar and vocabulary

- Reading should be interesting and enjoyable

The Limits of Traditional Parallel Text

- Only two texts allowed to be displayed, whereas some languages require three or more

- Location of grammar and vocabulary notes can be inconvenient

- Difficult to identify word-level correspondences for non-adjacent words (e.g. picked the baby up)

Interactive Parallel Text (IPT)

- Allows learners to effortlessly read vast amounts of L2 texts

- New medium for accessing comprehensible L2 texts

- Libera is a cutting edge platform for reading enjoyably

- Texts precisely linked on segment (word or phrase) level

- Interactive links highlight L2 segment and activates glosses, grammar notes, audio, and transcriptions

Main Features of Libera

- Customized dictionaries
- Segment bar
- Word Info screen
- Favorite word list
- Full-form search
- Grammar Notes
- Full audio recordings
- Multi-panel interface

Four-Panel Sentence Mode

Texts are precisely linked at segment (word or phrase) level. Tapping a segment in any one text simultaneously highlights the linked segment in all other texts.

Japanese

Idiomatic English

Customized Dictionary

IPA Transcription

Segment Bar

Customizable Multi-Panel Interface

- Sentence-level analysis with up to four versions of text
- User free to choose contents for each panel
- Four-panel mode ideal for in-depth study

Single Text Mode

- Best suited for advanced learners
- Segment bar provides meanings and pronunciation

Full Audio Functionality

- Clear native recordings with multiple voice options
- Recordings of both sentences and individual segments
- Adjustable audio speed

Grammar Notes

- Help learners understand difficult grammatical points
- Accessible by color coding from main text

Word Info Screen

For in-depth vocabulary study, a separate screen displays each dictionary with example sentences for each word.

IPT in the Classroom

- Ability to motivate: students feel that they can put their language skills to use right away
- Bridges gap between classroom and independent learning
- David Nunan argues that free learning outside the classroom can significantly enhance guided study
- Augments rather than replaces traditional textbook learning and classroom work
- Students can read texts several levels above their level
- Can be used as supplementary material or extra credit to stimulate students to read independently

Available Languages

Available Now:

- Arabic for English Speakers
- English for Japanese Speakers

Coming Soon:

- Japanese for English Speakers
- Chinese for English Speakers
- English for Chinese Speakers
- Spanish for English Speakers
- Russian for English Speakers

Thank You for Attending

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