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Fostering a RFID-driven Language Learning Environment for Developing Receptive Language Abilities: Applications, Issues & Challenges

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Abstract

The development and application of wireless networks and sensor technologies is transforming the ways that next-generation learning leads human developments in many fields, including computer-assisted language learning (CALL), which is a targeted topic in human language developments & communications via the Internet. Context-aware ubiquitous technologies have been evolving and their applications have been constantly developed to facilitate users' various aspects of language learning. From the early 2000s onwards, new forms of mobile technology containing additional sensor devices have been providing new directions for CALL, and this application has led to context-aware ubiquitous language learning (CAULL), which enables users to interact and learn with sensors and radio frequency identification (RFID) embedded objects in their surroundings to develop the target language.

However, there is little research concerning the design, use, and development of a CAULL environment in terms of receptive language abilities (reading and listening skills) as well as of vocabulary, grammar and cultural awareness development. Thus, there is a great potential for interested researchers to think about and explore how a CAULL context can be designed and developed in order to creatively facilitate human language learning, with selected and focused language skills and areas for the purpose of language development.

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In this study, there are four aspects that the researcher would like to explore how users develop their English as a foreign language (EFL) informally in an innovative CAULL environment—which is designed for helping users develop receptive language abilities—including (a) the CAULL context, (b) users in the CAULL context and human-computer interaction (HCI), (c) sensor-embedded learning objects, and (d) the integration of the CAULL context, users, and learning objects. In the presentation, the researcher summarizes the introduction, major aspects, research design, applications, issues, and challenges when designing a CAULL environment for users to develop the receptive language abilities.

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