

Audioblogging: Supporting the Learning of Oral Communication Skills in Chinese Language

Presented by:

Tan Yuh Huann 陈育焕

Co-authors:

Ow Eu Gene John, Tan Seng Chee

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Some background

- Languages taught/learnt:
 - English (as a first language)
 - Mother-tongue languages (as a second language), includes Chinese, Malay & Tamil
- Family background/trend:
 - Approx. 50% of Pri. 1 students came from English-speaking homes

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Overview of study

- Field of instruction: Chinese language
- Technology used : Audioblogs
- Subjects : Primary (elementary) school students
- Design of learning environment:
Framework based on Activity Theory
(Jonassen & Rohrer-Murphy, 1999)

Some findings

- Students
 - Listen and learn from better students/recordings
 - Can now listen to own voice and seek improvement
 - Action of commenting changed their own oral performance
- Teachers
 - Increased confidence in oral performance
 - Seek out recordings with good comments to listen
 - Students asked if they could make another recording after reading comments

Discussion 1

- What are the theoretical foundations of learning from blogging/audioblogging as an emerging technology?

Discussion 2

- W.r.t your research interest/expertise,
 - a) What are some researches that could be conducted on blogging/audioblogging?
 - b) What are some ideas you have for investigating the phenomena?
 - c) How are the findings going to contribute to the field?
 - d) How do you think this might have an impact on the field?

Discussion 3

- This study was primarily conducted to inform practice. How do we manage a balance between informing theory and practice?

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Thank you
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