JALT CALL 2009

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Expanding Learner Potential – It’s your CALL!
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Designing perceptual measures to evaluate computer assisted language learning environments using the Moodle Questionnaire tool

The increasing use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in language learning has created opportunities for the transformation of the learners' educational experience. It can increase flexibility of provision and also advance the personalization of learning. However, increasing use of ICT creates many challenges for educators. For example, what is the impact of this increased use of ICT on the educational experiences of learners? A number of quantitative measures, such as grades allocated, standardized test scores, or proficiency can be used to measure these experiences. However, these measures are in general focused on educational outputs. They do not adequately measure, monitor or truly evaluate the details of the educational process. Other measures can be used that are just as effective, for example, student impressions of the environment in which they operate are vital. Their reactions to, and perceptions of, this environment have a significant impact on individual and group performance. Indeed, research indicates student achievement is enhanced in those environments which students feel comfortable within and positive about. This interactive presentation will be focused on three topics. Topic one will briefly review the development and use of perceptual measures in educational settings. Topic two will firstly, explore the functionality of the Questionnaire Tool in the learning management system Moodle and secondly, illustrate how this functionality can be used to design and deploy a perceptual measure. Topic three will demonstrate how a perceptual measure has been successfully used to review digital content presented to Japanese English language students.