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JUDUL: MOBILE ENGLISH GUIDE OF COMMON ERRORS AND EXPRESSIONS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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MOBILE ENGLISH GUIDE OF COMMON ERRORS AND EXPRESSIONS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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This report is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Computer Science (Interactive Media)

FACULTY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA 2008

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this project report entitled

MOBILE ENGLISH GUIDE OF COMMON ERRORS AND EXPRESSIONS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

is written by me and is my own effort and that no part has been plagiarized without citations.

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DEDICATION

Specially dedicated to my beloved parents, siblings and family,

For my supervisor, Dr Sazilah Salam, (UTeM)

And lastly to my beloved friends and who have encouraged, guided and inspired me throughout my journey in education.

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ABSTRACT

This report is produced for developing a mobile courseware for learning English entitled "Mobile English Guide of Common Errors and Expressions for Secondary Schools". This learning application is delivered through mobile devices. The courseware is applied constructivism learning theory and accelerated learning techniques that consist of highlighting, visualization, concept maps and drill and practice to force learning in a fun, interesting and powerful way. The courseware is consists of four modules. The first module; 'Common Error Guide' will guide the user in which the items are categorized according to noun, verb, preposition, adjective, negative sentence and time. The graphics are shown to create an illusion of the sentence or to visualize the sentence. User can recognize and differentiate between each of the words through the faces that express the feelings via 'Feeling-Expression Words' module. In 'Basic Grammar Notes' module, students will be able to learn basic grammar of English. There are quizzes provided in the last module which comprises common error mistakes, feeling-expression words and basic grammar. The courseware is hoped to help lower form secondary school students to aware about grammatical mistakes and vocabulary as the paper-based technique make them ignore to learn grammar and vocabulary which are important in learning English and cause them to do the same errors.

ABSTRAK

Laporan ini diterbitkan untuk membina perisian pembelajaran telefon bimbit untuk belajar bahasa Inggeris bertajuk "Mobile English Guide of Common Errors and Expressions for Secondary Schools". Pembelajaran ini adalah disampaikan melalui peranti bergerak. Perisian pembelajaran ini mengaplikasikan teori pembelajaran "Konstruktivism" serta mempercepatkan pembelajaran yang meliputi teknik 'highlighting', visual, peta konsep dan juga latih tubi untuk mewujudkan pembelajaran yang menyeronokkan serta berkesan. Perisian pembelajaran ini mengandungi empat modul. Modul pertama ialah 'Common Error Guide' yang membantu pengguna mengkategorikan sesuatu mengikut kata nama, kata kerja, kata ganti nama, kata sifat, ayat pasif, dan juga masa. Grafik pula adalah bertujuan untuk menghasilkan pembayang yang lebih jelas kepada ayat yang digunakan. Pengguna akan mampu mengenal dan membezakan dengan menggunakan perkataan yang sesuai untuk reaksi wajah menerusi modul 'Feeling-Expressions Words'. Melalui 'Basic Grammar Notes' pula, pengguna mampu mengenal dan belajar asas tatabahasa bahasa Inggeris. Terdapat beberapa kuiz disediakan di dalam modul terakhir iaitu 'Basic Grammar' dan 'Feeling-Expression Words'. Adalah diharapkan bahawa perisian ini dapat membantu pelajar menengah rendah mengenai kesilapan penggunaan dalam bahasa Inggeris, sama ada dalam tatabahasa ataupun perkataan yang digunakan serta dapat membantu mereka daripada mengulangi kesilapan yang sama.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATION

2D -- two Dimension

CS3 -- Creative Suite 3

SWF -- Shockwave Flash

JPEG -- Joint Photographic Experts Group

MP3 -- MPEG-1 Audio Layer 3

HTTP/HTTPS -- Hypertext Protocol/Secure

SMS -- Short Messaging System

MMS -- Multimedia-Messaging System

XML -- Extensible Markup Language

v2 - Version 2.0

FLV -- Flash Video

API -- Application Programming Interface

SMK -- Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan

E-Learning -- electronic learning

M-Learning -- Mobile Learning

PC -- Personal Computer

PDA -- Personal Digital Assistant

CD -- Compact Disc

UTeM -- Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka

MB -- Mega Bytes

IrDA -- Infrared Data Association

Wi-Fi -- Wireless Fidelity

WAP -- Wireless Transfer Protocol

GPRS -- General Packet Radio Service

GPS -- Global Positioning System

TV -- Television

HDD -- Hard Disk Drive

GB -- Giga Byte

MS -- Microsoft

SDK -- Software Development Kit

OS -- Operating System

PSD -- Photoshop Document

DVD -- Digital Versatile Disc

RGB -- Red Green Blue

CMYK -- Cyan Magenta Yellow Key (Black)

PNG -- Portable Network Graphic

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

Media globalization has been made possible by the ongoing changes and developments in information and communications technology. Mobile phones as medium have become a new cultural phenomenon in the modern society. Mobile phones are no longer just phones. The content of the application that is been developed is same as some of the content of dictionary for secondary school students added with 2D animated images. However, it is developed as a mobile application for Malaysian secondary school students which are more practical and interactive compared to using the thick dictionary.

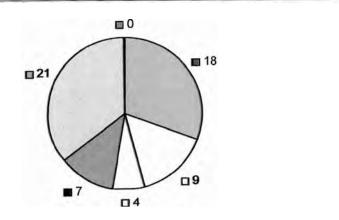
From Wikipedia (2007), one definition of mobile learning is: Learning that happens across locations, or that takes advantage of learning opportunities offered by portable technologies. The term covers: learning with portable technologies, where the focus is on the technology (which could be in a fixed location, such as a classroom); learning across contexts, where the focus is on the mobility of the learner, interacting with portable or fixed technology; and learning in a mobile society, with a focus on how society and its institutions can accommodate and support the learning of an increasingly mobile population.

Thus, the user can learn English on their mobile, for example, while waiting for the bus, or when hang out with friends, rather than putting aside time or leaving work to bring and searching manually in dictionary. Because they can be easily carried out, mobile learning resources can be even more convenient than manual dictionary. Mobile devices enable anytime and anywhere access to resources designed for mobile learning use while manual dictionary are often the worst way to carry out.

Students always have difficulty to remember and usually do several common grammar mistakes; therefore, this project do a research based on accelerated learning techniques and technology including multimedia, mobile computing. According to Bobbi De Porter (2001), accelerated learning techniques are multifaceted, encompassing a wide variety of creative methods and techniques based on current theories and research of how people learn best. Speech recognition technology has the potential to enhance the English learning process in an attractive ways.

1.2 Problem Statement(s)

When asked about the difficulties in English, the students said that most of their problems stemmed from their lack of knowledge of grammar besides the problem of being shy and scared of speaking in English. They also mentioned vocabulary and meaning, as their second major obstacle, and considered lack of comprehension only as a third problem. The student's difficulties with English can be seen through Figure 1.2 (a) that resulted from a survey. The survey will be explained in detail in chapter 3.



Students' Difficulties with English

Key:

mistake

A. Lack of comprehension of grammar rules
B. Lack of knowledge of the vocabulary
C. Lack of comprehension of the content of the texts dealt with in class
D. Pronunciation
E. Being shy and scared of speaking in English in class and making

Figure 1.2 (a): Students' Difficulties with English

According to Figure 1.2 (b), students usually look up words in the textbook or in a dictionary to solve their problems if they have any difficulty in understanding or finding out words in English. The other way is they will ask someone for help (the teacher, classmates, or relatives).