A FORMATIVE EVALUATION OF A PROTOTYPE MULTIMEDIA COURSEWARE FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

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A Research Report Submitted to the Faculty of Education, University of Malaya in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Education

1998 Perpustakaan Universiti Malaya
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In connection with this study, I wish to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to the following:-

My supervisor, Puan Abtar Kaur for her unfailing guidance, encouragement and rare understanding in making this study possible.

The Principal, Senior Assistant, colleagues and students at Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Agama Sheikh Haji Mohd Said for their valuable assistance and co-operation which have been rendered in one way or another.

My husband, children and family members for their understanding, support and endurance.

I owe my success to all these special people.

I thank you all.
ABSTRACT

This study was an attempt to conduct a one-to-one formative evaluation on the prototype multimedia courseware in order to determine the extent of inclusion of the Nine Events of Instruction in the design of the courseware. A prototype multimedia courseware on a poem, *Throwing Down A Tree* was used in this study the focus is on the one-to-one phase of formative evaluation. This poem was simplified to accommodate the different language ability level of the learners.

The evaluation of this courseware was conducted on three try-out students with different English Language abilities namely, above average, average and below average. The researcher obtained information about the courseware from the learners' responses in the questionnaire, their verbal and non-verbal responses. The purpose of this evaluation was to determine the strengths and weaknesses in relation to the instructional and technical qualities as well as to assess learners' attitudes towards computer-based instruction.

The findings revealed that this well-designed courseware possessed may positive features such as friendly, learner control, learner involvement, motivation, colour schemes, instructions and feedback. Moreover, learners displayed positive attitudes towards using the courseware.
However, there were a few weaknesses such as insufficient and less challenging activities, lack of personalization, inconsistency in presentation and less attractive colours. Furthermore, the courseware did not cater for accidental termination and more importantly, provision should have been made for accessing.

Recommendations were made in order to further improve the courseware. It is the researcher's contention that a model quality courseware could be developed if modifications and improvements are made on their weaknesses.
ABSTRAK

SATU PENILAIAN FORMATIF PERISIAN MULTIMEDIA PROTOTAIP
UNTUK KEFASIHAN BAHASA INGGERIS

Kajian ini merupakan satu percubaan untuk mengendalikan penilaian formatif secara "seorang ke seorang" untuk menentukan sejauh mana "Sembilan Agenda/Pengajaran Acara" terkandung dalam reka bentuk perisian. Satu perisian prototaip multimedia berasaskan puisi yang bertajuk Throwing Down A Tree digunakan dalam kajian ini. Tumpuan penilaian formatif berdasarkan fasa "seorang ke seorang." Puisi ini telah diolah dan dimudahkan untuk disesuaikan dengan taraf kebolehan bahasa pelajar.

Penilaian perisian ini telah dilakukan oleh tiga orang pelajar yang mempunyai kebolehan penguasaan bahasa yang berlainan iaitu tinggi, sederhana dan rendah. Penyelidik memperolehi maklumat mengenai perisian melalui respons pelajar dari soal selidik dan pertuturan serta melalui pemerhatian/peninjauan semasa sesi temuraham.

Objektif penilaian ini adalah untuk menentukan kekuatan dan kelemahan dalam aspek-aspek pengajaran dan teknikal serta nilai sikap pelajar-pelajar terhadap pengajaran berasaskan/berpandukan komputer.
Dapatan kajian menunjukkan bahawa perisian ini telah direka dengan baik dari segi penggunaannya, kawalan pelajaran oleh pelajar, penglibatan pelajar secara aktif, motivasi, penggunaan warna dan arahan serta maklum balas yang betul dan merangsangkan. Dapatan kajian juga menunjukkan bahawa pelajar-pelajar mempamirkan sikap positif terhadap penggunaan perisian.

Walaubagaimanapun, terdapat beberapa kelemahan seperti kekurangan aktiviti serta aktiviti-aktiviti yang kurang mencabar, kekurangan keperhatian diri, penyampaian pelajaran yang kurang tekal dan penggunaan warna yang kurang menarik. Lebih-lebih lagi, pelajaran tidak dapat diteruskan sekiranya berlaku kesilapan semasa penggunaannya (accidental termination).

Beberapa cadangan dikemukakan untuk memperbaiki lagi perisian multimedia ini. Pengkaji berpendapat bahawa dengan mengatasi kelemahan-kelemahan serta membuat beberapa modifikasi, satu model perisian yang berkualiti dapat digubal.
CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS i

ABSTRACT ii

ABSTRAK iv

CONTENTS vi

LIST OF FIGURES x

LIST OF TABLES xi

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION 1

1.1 Background of the Study 1

1.2 Rationale 4

1.3 Need for Evaluation 4

1.4 Statement of the Problem 9

1.5 Purpose of the Study 11

1.6 Research Questions 11

1.7 Focus of the Study 12

1.8 Significance of the Study 12

1.9 Limitations of the Study 13

1.10 Definition of Terms 15
CHAPTER 2: REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 The Systems Approach and Systems Approach Models 17

2.2 Theories of Learning 21

2.2.1 Behaviorism 23

2.2.2 Cognitive Psychology 24

2.3 Gagne's Instructional Model 27

2.4 The Three Domains 35

2.5 Formative Evaluation in Instructional Design 36

2.5.1 The Purpose of Formative Evaluation 39

2.5.2 The Components in Formative Evaluation 44

2.5.3 One-to-one Evaluation Stage 47

2.5.4 Formative Evaluation in Computer-Based Instruction 48

2.6 Learners' Attitudes 51

CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY 54

3.1 The Design 54

3.2 A poem 55

3.3 Structure of the Lesson 55

3.4 Gagne's Nine Events 58
3.5 Instructional Strategy
3.6 Subjects
3.7 Pilot Test
3.8 Research Instruments
  3.8.1 Learners' Evaluation Questionnaire
  3.8.2 Observation
  3.8.3 Interview
3.9 Procedure

CHAPTER 4: DATA PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION
4.1 Introduction
4.2 Data Analysis and Discussion
  4.2.1 Research Question One
  4.2.2 Research Question Two

CHAPTER 5: RECOMMENDATIONS, CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH
5.1 Recommendations
5.2 Conclusion
5.3 Implications for Further Research
# REFERENCES

## APPENDICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appendix</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appendix A</td>
<td>Storyboard</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Screens 1–36</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix B</td>
<td>Original poem</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Throwing A Tree</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix C</td>
<td>Simplified Poem</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Throwing Down A Tree</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix D</td>
<td>Learners' Evaluation Questionnaire</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix E</td>
<td>Interview Questions</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1  The Instructional Development Process based on Dick and Carey’s Model  20
Figure 2  A Basic Model of Learning and Memory, Underlying Modern Cognitive (Information Processing) Theories  26
Figure 3  Basic Sequence Incorporating Gagne’s Nine Events of Instruction  28
Figure 4  Bloom’s Cognitive Taxonomy  36
Figure 5  Components of Formative Evaluation  43
Figure 6  The Structure of A Poem  59
LIST OF TABLES

Table 1  Tasks and Output of Instructional Design Process 22

Table 2  CAI Alternatives with the Nine Events of Instruction 31

Table 3  English Language Ability Levels 65

Table 4  Learner’s Responses to the Nine Instructional Events 72

Table 5  Gaining Attention 74

Table 6  Presenting Objectives 75

Table 7  Recall of Prior Knowledge 77

Table 8  Presenting Information 79

Table 9  Providing Learning Guidance 80

Table 10  Elicit Performance 81

Table 11  Providing Feedback 83

Table 12  Assessing Performance 84

Table 13  Time Taken to Complete the Activities 85

Table 14  Promote Retention and Transfer 86

Table 15  Attitudes Toward Using CBI Lesson 89