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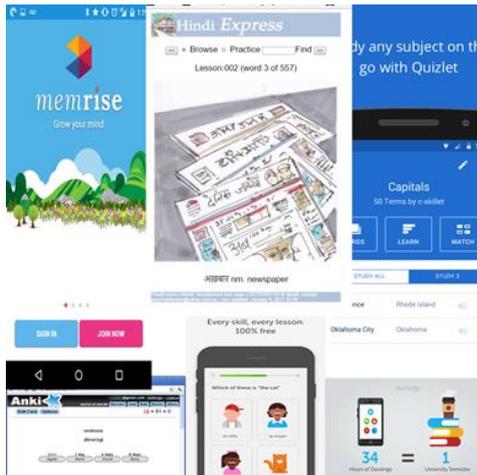
Upcoming Seminar

ANU Language Teaching Forum

Monday 22 May 2017, 4.15 – 5.15 pm
Room W3.03, Level 3, Baldessin Precinct Building #110, ANU

Speaker Dr Peter Friedlander, SCHL, CAP, ANU

“LEARNING FROM LANGUAGE APPS”



There are now countless Apps available that promise to make language learning easier. I want to discuss here what makes language learning Apps useful and what are their disadvantages, and what trying to use them can teach us about designing language learning materials.

I will situate this within a discussion of the concept of ubiquitous learning that was the theme of the CLaSiC 2016 language teaching conference in Singapore and the idea of learning anywhere at any time.

However, I will contrast that with my own experiences of trying to learn from some Apps and the limitations in them due to their mechanistic approach to language acquisition which is at odds with a communicative approach to language learning. I will point out that we

can learn valuable lessons from Apps about how to present materials in limited spaces.

I will show the contrast between thinking about Hindi teaching materials as textbook pages, web pages and phone screens and how understanding them as mobile Apps helps.

My conclusion is, apart from language learning itself, we can learn a lot from mobile language learning apps, in terms of how we can present materials to learners who see the world through phone screens.

CRICOS# 00120C

This forum is jointly coordinated by the College of Arts & Social Sciences (the School of Literature, Languages & Linguistics and the Centre for Arab & Islamic Studies) and the College of Asia & the Pacific (the School of Culture, History & Language).

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