Finding the Right Tool for the Community:

Bringing a Wiki-Type Editor to the World of Reusable Learning Objects

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The MURLLO Project

**Management, Use and Repurposing of Language Learning Objects**

Address the needs of Modern Languages Teachers Community of Practice

=> Content authoring tool: ~wiki
MURLLO Structure

1. Original RLOs (EAP)
2. Modern Languages
3. Community of Practice
4. Organizational Learning
CoP meets RLO

CoP

😊

Teachers
modern languages
(mostly) unsophisticated users
+
Researchers, learning technologists

practitioners

task focused

reuse is
common

RLO

Independent
self standing
learning content

tagged
(database reuse)
different contexts
interoperable
Share and Reuse

Potential Gains

• improve quality of teaching
• share/disseminate good practice
• increase resource consistency
• enhance sense of community

Proof of concept
Real feedback and use

Barker et al,
Long-Term Retention and Reuse of E-Learning Objects and Materials
JISC 2004
Considering metadata

Standard metadata
• is not enough

Additional metadata
• Context

CoP

Standard tools difficult

Solution – integrated toolkit
MURLLO Purpose

Pedagogically sound reuse of online learning objects
- Re-purpose for different learning contexts
- Tackle limitations of current tools
  - unsuitable for non-technical practitioners
- Build practitioners toolkit
  - Content editor
  - Metadata manager
  - Resource discoverer
Integrated toolkit

Metadata Facilitator

Wiki-type editor

LO Discoverer

Editor
HTML content repurposing

Facilitator
Modify LO metadata

Discoverer
Assist repurposing
Wiki-type editor

- For novice users
- Online editing workspace
- HTML editor
- Customised for learning objects
- Locate and click
- Collaborative authoring
- Track and revert changes
- Version management
- Content packaging import/export

- Minor corrections (metadata unchanged)
- Pedagogical revisions (metadata probably revised)
- Complete repurposing (some or all metadata must be modified)
Activity 2: Exploiting different tools for language learning

You are now going to think about how you might exploit different online channels of communication to practise your skills in the language you are learning.

Read each description of the benefits of a particular tool for language learning below and match it with the online communication tool that it refers to. Select an option from the drop down box and then check your answers.

1. This asynchronous tool allows you to practise writing in the language you are learning. Using a 'keypal' exchange you could improve your language accuracy and receive and provide some peer correction of your writing.

Select your answer

Show answer

2. This tool is synchronous and may be available in written or spoken mode. It can be used for one-to-one or group communication practice. It might be used to discuss collaborative tasks or to practise fluency.

Select your answer

Show answer

3. This medium requires use of a synchronous written form of communication and provides practice in conversational language. Users typically display a colloquial style and use abbreviations and emoticons. As in ordinary conversation, the response is instant and this allows you to practise your fluency.

Select your answer

Show answer
Wiki Editor – German L0

Aktivität 2: Wie kann man die verschiedenen Internetoptionen zum Sprachenlernen einsetzen?

Sie werden sich jetzt damit beschäftigen, wie man die verschiedenen online Kommunikationsmöglichkeiten des Internets zum Sprachenlernen einsetzen kann.

   - Antwort wählen
   - Antwort zeigen

2. Dieses synchrone Kommunikationsmittel oder Gruppenkommunikation eingesetzt arbeiten.
   - Antwort wählen
   - Antwort zeigen

3. Dieses Kommunikationsmittel wird in umgangssprachlich kommuniziert und kann nicht unmittelbar in der Kommunikation unmittelbar und deshalb kaum es.
   - Antwort wählen

http://desk.ecs.soton.ac.uk/Selection Field - Mozilla Firefox

Selection Field

Name: select
Value: Antwort wählen
Size: line

Available Options

Text
Value

Antwort wählen
Antwort wählen
Instant messaging
Email
Video conferencing

Set as selected value: Dialog
## Metadata Changes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metadata</th>
<th>English Version</th>
<th>German Version</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Using the internet for language learning</td>
<td>Im internet sprachen lernen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Language</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>German/Deutsch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>This English language resource reviews online communication tools for language learning and includes links to different web-based communication tools for different languages</td>
<td>This German language resource reviews online communication tools for language learning, and includes links to different web-based communication tools for different languages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keywords</td>
<td>Internet, language, learning, online, communication, English</td>
<td>Internet; language learning; online communication; German</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authors/creators</td>
<td>Watson, Julie</td>
<td>Watson, J. and Laxton, J.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusion and Future

- WIKI-like editor
  - In use
  - reuse and re-purpose learning objects
- Additionally
  - Integrated tools make an coherent management unit
- Evaluation
  - Functionality of tools
  - Impact on User Community
Thank You 😊

Questions and Comments?

MURRLO:  
http://www.elanguages.ac.uk/researchcommunity/projects/murllo/

Su White: saw@ecs.soton.ac.uk
Barker, E., James, H., Knight, G.: Long-Term Retention and Reuse of E-Learning Objects and Materials. Report commissioned by the JISC, 2004


Eduserv funded project MURLLO. Available at http://www.elanguages.ac.uk/murllo/


JISC funded project Sharing Language Learning Objects (L2O). Available at http://www.elanguages.ac.uk/sharing


not used

• Following slides were not used
Why MURLLO? – a viewpoint

eLanguages (UK eUniversity 03-05)
English for Academic Purposes RLOs
  – 1500 RLOs/GLOs stored in CLARe
    (Contextualised Learning Activity Repository)
  – Re-purpose Keep learning design; replace content:
    • How to store relationships?
    • How to store details of context of use?

Efficient resource discovery:
RLLOMAP etc may not be sufficient
Manage copyright of assets and RLOs
Develop business models
  selection, licensing and exporting of collections
Pedagogically sound re-use and re-purposing
The MURLLO Architecture
Metadata Facilitator

- The existing tools not particularly user friendly
- The need for an easy-to-use and accessible web-based metadata editor
- Facilitate contextual metadata editing
## Design Choice

– build Wiki tool by integrating a HTML editor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required features</th>
<th>Tools</th>
<th>MediaWiki</th>
<th>DokuWiki</th>
<th>TWiki</th>
<th>Plone</th>
<th>Silva</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Treat LO as a whole package /folder</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display LO (HTML pages) as it is (how many HTML tags can be recognized)</td>
<td>_ recognize some tags</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>large portion of tags but not all</td>
<td>_ apart from styles</td>
<td>_ apart from styles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HTML editing (WYSIWYG)</td>
<td>_ plugin</td>
<td>_ plugin</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Import HTML file or zip file (content package)</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_ not stable</td>
<td>_</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Export HTML or zip file</td>
<td>_ simple html</td>
<td>_ simple html</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Versioning</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_ add-on</td>
<td>after products</td>
<td>publishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Versioning for media files</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_ add-ons</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allow embedded media (Flash, video)</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Image editing (or other media files editing)</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_ from html editor</td>
<td>_ from html editor</td>
<td>_</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comparison of existing tools (× not available; ○ partially available; ● fully available)

ICALT 2007 Niigata Japan
18-20 July 2007
Su White
http://www.lsl.ecs.soton.ac.uk/
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>LO Metadata</strong></th>
<th><strong>Asset Metadata - u1s104h.mp3</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title or file name of resource</strong></td>
<td>Set of 3 audio clips (embedded in Hot Potatoes gap fill exercises)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Native Language</strong></td>
<td>en</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description of resource</strong></td>
<td>Audio clips of 3 language learners explaining the pros and cons of using a different kind of dictionary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Keywords</strong></td>
<td>Monolingual, bilingual, specialist dictionary, language learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Author/Contributor</strong></td>
<td>eLanguages, University of Southampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>File Type</strong></td>
<td>audio/mpeg3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Duration (time dependant assets)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language specifics - Region</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language specifics - Accent/dialect</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language specifics - Register</strong></td>
<td>2 NS – received pronunciation; 1 NNS with accent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Suggestion for further use</strong></td>
<td>NNS listening comprehension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Information for users</strong></td>
<td>These audio clips have attached transcripts with gap fill tasks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presentational form or Genre</strong></td>
<td>Interview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language functions</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Discourse or text type</strong></td>
<td>Monologue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Are there subtitles/translation?</strong></td>
<td>Embedded transcripts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Approx Word-count or page count</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Copyright Holder</strong></td>
<td>eLanguages, University Of Southampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Name of related source(other LO, assets)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Selecting and Exporting Tool: online shopping trolley

- Allow searching across different learning object repositories
- Allow selecting learning objects – put into shopping trolley
- Allow exporting selected objects – checkout
Contextual Metadata

• Context: “A set of circumstances in which a learning object is used or may be used"

• Examples:
  – information about the intended target audience;
  – the purpose or instructional methods;
  – pedagogic approach being used
Integrated toolkit

Wiki-type editor
    HTML content repurposing

Metadata Facilitator
    modify LO metadata

LO Discoverer
    assist repurposing