

EasyHan

Korean Vocabulary Flashcard Tool

Design Proposal

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CSE323

Title

EasyHan

Objective

This project is a flashcard program that facilitates students in learning Korean vocabulary. There will be multiple sets of vocabulary words that the user needs to unlock by achieving good performance on the previous set. When working through a set, the user is given a word in Korean that he/she then has to enter in the English definition, type it, and sound the word out. After the answers are submitted, the user is shown the correct answers and is asked to rate his/her performance.

These flashcards will have support for multimedia, like graphics or recorded audio that can be attached and shown to the user to help the memorization process.

Specifications

This project will be run offline on the user's personal computer, eliminating the need for internet access.

When a user selects a level and a set within the level, flashcards will be presented one by one. Once the user completes a set by correctly answering all the flashcards native to that set at least once, the next set is unlocked. Once all the sets in a level are unlocked, the next level is unlocked.

A form of spaced repetition is employed in the project. This spaced repetition system schedules vocabulary words that the user has problems with more frequently, while words that seem to be committed to memory appear less frequently.

The deck of flashcards is cumulative, which means that vocabulary words from the first set can show up in the second set, or even in another level. Since the deck of flashcards accumulates new words as you progress through the levels, the user can enter the last set of the last level to effectively practice all of the flashcards, since he/she has unlocked all of the content.

If a user's progress is on a certain level, and he/she decides to return to a previous level, the deck will consist of cards that have accumulated up to that previous level. For example, if a user is on Level 3 but decides to visit Level 1 Set 4, the deck will only show words from Level 1 Set 1 to Level 1 Set 4. The overall deck will still contain all the cards the user has cards in his/her lifetime. In terms of the interaction between returning to previous levels and the spaced repetition system which keeps track of the overall deck, higher level cards that do not belong in the lower level the user is currently on will be skipped for the time being while appropriate cards can be rated for their performance.

When the user rates his/her own performance, he/she is given 3 options to choose from, Good, Okay, and Needs Work. These 3 options affect the flashcard through the spaced repetition system, where cards that are constantly evaluated as Good are scheduled more sparsely.

Target Audience

The target audience is primarily aimed at students aged 13+. It is expected that the user knows the Korean alphabet, so the target audience is students currently taking Korean. It is also not well-suited for young children, since the program utilizes a system of self-assessment of performance. Younger students who may see it as purely a game to win may “cheat”, while older students will recognize the value of honest self-evaluation towards their goal of learning. At the same time, all students are less likely to employ metacognitive strategies towards language acquisition, such as planning their course of learning. This program gives students guidance and direction without requiring much assistance from teachers or instructors.

Similar Products

Quizlet

<https://quizlet.com/>

Online flashcard tool that has support for various modes to help you study. Ability to create and share sets. An advantage this project has over Quizlet is that it is offline and does not require any signups or social networking, which some people are turned off by.

Anki

<http://ankisrs.net/>

Flashcard program that uses a spaced repetition system. Can be used offline as well as online, which allows you to sync decks. Anki allows users to edit their own decks of flashcards, which can be used for any studying purpose. EasyHan on the other hand narrows it down to Korean and provides preset vocabulary decks to take that burden off of students, who may be put off by having to go through the process of searching for and entering new vocabulary words.