

Needfinding for Language Learning

Glenn Davis

Brian Liu

John Reyna

Tamara Prstić



Glenn

PhD Education (1st year)

Native language: English

Learned: Japanese, Chinese,
Spanish (basic)



Brian

Senior

Native language: English

Learned: Chinese (basic)

Piano teacher for 9 years



John

Final year cotermin

Native Language: English

Limited Working Proficiency:
Spanish



Tamara

Sophomore

Native Language: Serbian

Proficient in: English,
Croatian/Bosnian, Italian, Latin

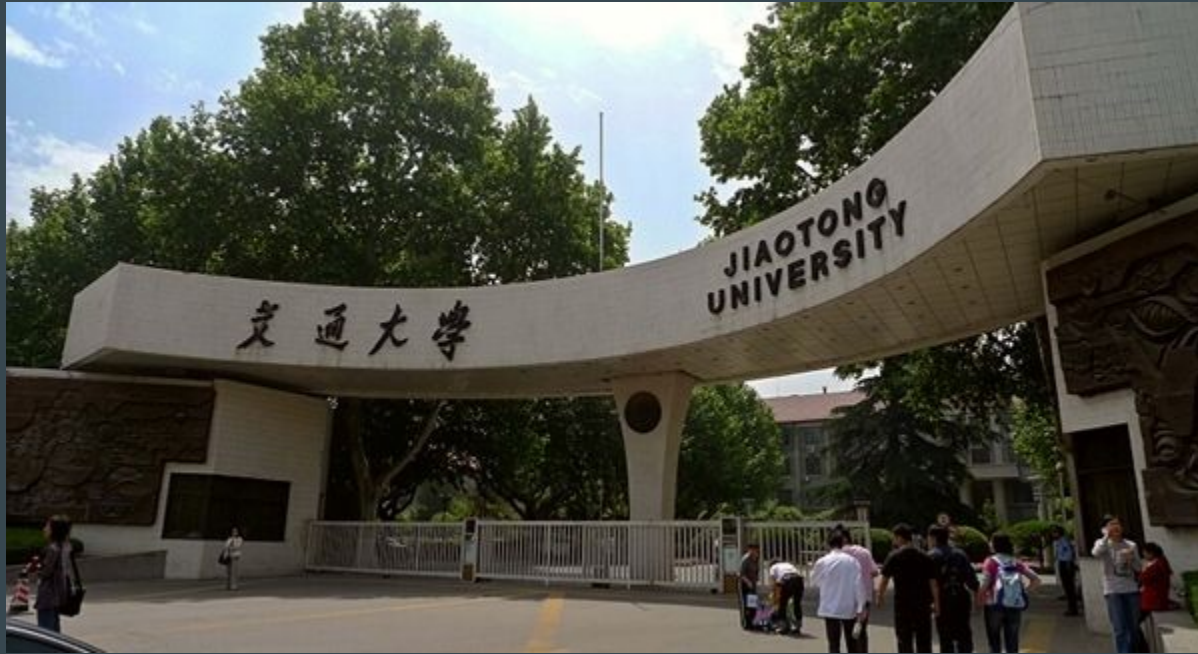
Phil Hubbard

Director of English for Foreign
Students Program at Stanford,
Senior Lecturer in Linguistics



Elise

Sophomore majoring in English and French at Xi'an Jiaotong University in China



Michael Diaz

Former English tutor
and administrator for *Habla*



Brian's mom

Xiuzhi, foreign medical graduate,
came to U.S. in mid-late 20's



Phil: People are missing some important things such as interactive language.

Elise: For some reason I find that paper dictionaries are better for learning, even though they're inconvenient.

Elise: I was able to use my English to talk with a little girl (a teacher's daughter) and introduce some history to her.

Michael: It fostered a good environment for learning in which the janitors felt comfortable with the students and were able to build meaningful relationships over years.

Xiuzhi: without bothering or dealing with anyone else's schedule, presence, or feelings.



<http://tonyzambito.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/insight-me.jpg>



SAID

Missing interaction

Not motivated

Prefer reading to talking, or vice versa, so
they had a weakness

DID

Watched pronunciation video but didn't
stick with it

THOUGHT

Difficult to find someone to practice with

Don't know how to express self

Textbook is boring

FELT

Embarrassed

Pressured

Unconfident

Judged

Insight

Good Communication vs Good Grades

Insight

Confidence ->

Motivation ->

Practice ->

Confidence

Insight

Learners don't want to feel judged, inadequate, nor bothersome.

Surprise Insight

Many learners don't even try apps...

Need

What about apps is ineffective?

Need

Motivation

(Collaborative goal?)

(Gamification?)

Need

Non judgemental, stress-free, real conversations

Need

All-around learning

Summary

Current language learning apps are not motivating

Jumpstart the process of improving confidence
without feelings of embarrassment or insecurity

Pronunciation may be a key issue

People need practice with real conversations