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English 1B

24 April 2018

WP #2 Draft

The technology that I would choose for this project is software. Software is such a powerful tool that allows users to accomplish a wide variety of tasks through algorithms. We can communicate with others, look up information that we need, and many other things that make our everyday lives easier. The specific software that I would like to discuss is Google Translate. Google Translate allows the user to input any language and have it translated to another language of their choice. I think this will really be a big aid in letting people learn a new language and decipher any character or words that they don’t know. I would like to target those who are avid users of­ technology and are also trying to learn more about a language. They would definitely already be biased towards the use of technology. It is so present in our everyday lives that it’s almost impossible for even older individuals to not use some form of technology. I think they would have a willingness to try Google Translate especially if they are trying to learn a new language or if they had specific words that they wanted to translate. Almost all of my friends have used or heard of Google Translate before, which can attest to how widely it is used.

A. facilitate deep reading; cognitive development; problem-solving abilities

Google Translate definitely helps the user develop their deep reading, cognitive development, and problem-solving abilities through its innovative technology. By using Google Translate to supplement language learning instead of simply using it as a replacement to learn a new language, users are challenged to learn the language traditionally. Furthermore, due to its imperfect translations, it trains the user on what phrases sound incorrect and should not be used. Often times, learning what is wrong first can teach an individual how to correctly learn the language.

B. Language development and understanding of unknown surroundings

People can use Google translate to better understand their surroundings and know what is going on around them even if they can’t understand that language. For example, when I was in Taiwan, I used Google Translate for some of the Chinese characters that I couldn’t read. It really helped me communicate with others and understand things that I otherwise wouldn’t. There is a need for an evaluation on Google Translate because of its immense impact on an individual’s language development.

C. increase knowledge of technology

Using Google translate can help someone understand technology and use it better. They will be able to utilize the tools that are available to us in order to improve their daily lives. Technology has so many innovative qualities to it and software such as Google Translate allows users to gain a higher understanding of the way technology works and its use in our daily lives. We can integrate Google Translate very easily because of its portability—users can access Google Translate directly from their smartphone that they undoubtedly carry with them very often, which makes it easier than asking an actual person who knows the language. Technology is an important part of our daily lives, but should supplement and improve certain tasks instead of replacing it.

The software Google Translate greatly improves an individual’s ability to learn languages allows him/her to better immerse themselves in unknown cultures. The use of technology in this situation allows us a portable solution to learn languages. Innovation is such an important part of the world’s culture that should not be abandoned. Abandoning technology is essentially equivalent to abandoning innovation, so humans should continue to make advancements in this industry to improve daily lives.

Annotated Bibliography

Dow, Lindsay. “10 Cool Ways to Maximise Google Translate for Language Learning.” *Lindsay Does Languages*, 24 Jan. 2017, www.lindsaydoeslanguages.com/maximise-google- translate-for-language-learning/.

This article is written by an independent online English teacher. She has a language website to help people learn different languages as well as listen to her podcast. In this article, she focuses on ten different reasons why Google Translate is helpful and can be of use to people who are learning new languages or are around an environment where a language is foreign to them. She lists the each technical feature of Google Translate and then goes on to explain in detail how this can help the user. I found this article very informative because it explains how Google Translate is such a portable and useful technology that many language-learners rely on it or use it frequently in order to aid their understanding of a new language. This definitely supports the argument that Google Translate is a great language learning aid.

VOA. “Eight Things You Didn't Know Google Translate Could Do.” *VOA*, VOA, 8 Nov. 2017, learningenglish.voanews.com/a/eight-things-you-didnt-know-google-translate-could- do/4097446.html.

This article is written by a website that supports the learning of the English language. They include resources to help first time English-learners acquire simple phrases and greetings. Videos, lessons, and articles are provided on this website. This specific article is written in order to detail the way that Google Translate can not only help the user learn a specific language and adapt to a culture, but also how it can allow the user to gain a greater understanding of technology as a whole. The many features of Google Translate are explained in detail and an overall picture of how using this form of technology can improve an individual’s understanding is provided. I thought this article was a great source to show how the many technical features of Google Translate can help increase an individual’s understanding of technology as a whole. Instead of the main focus of this article being on the language itself, it focuses on technology.

VOA. “How Will Machine Translators Change Language Learning?” *VOA*, VOA, 20 Dec. 2016, learningenglish.voanews.com/a/how-will-machine-translation-change-the-future-of- language-training-and-learning/3634810.html.

This article is a very interesting article that helps to support my claim that technology tools such as Google Translate are able to facilitate human learning even further and improve an individual’s problem solving skills. This is from the same website that supports learning English. This website provides many tools such as videos, lessons, and blog posts in order to help readers learn the English language. This specific article talks about how in this day and age, technology is omnipresent and very useful in our daily lives; however, at the rate at which technology is growing, many find it alarming that we are using machine translators such as Google Translate to replace actual language teachers. This supports my argument because Google translate is supposed to be used as a tool to aid cognitive development and improve problem solving—it does not claim or was not designed to replace human language learning. Because Google Translate is not perfect at translating phrases exactly as they should be, a higher level of understanding is required to recognize the imperfection. This means that in Google Translate is a technology simply used to supplement the learning of a different language. A deeper understanding and problem solving mindset is developed when using Google Translate by understanding that it should not replace human interaction, because it actually challenges the user to learn the language in traditionally.

“Google Translate Can't Replace Learning a New Language.” *Brainscape Blog*, 26 May 2017, [www.brainscape.com/blog/2012/07/google-translate-learning-a-language/](http://www.brainscape.com/blog/2012/07/google-translate-learning-a-language/).

This article is written on a blog from an application that provides flash cards to help users learn specific subjects faster. They using flash cards are scientifically proven to help people learn things faster and remember it for longer. This article serves as a counterargument for my evaluation. It talks about how Google Translate should not be used as a substitute for learning a new language because its translations are imperfect. Many people claim that they do not need to learn a certain language just because Google Translate exists and they can just use this technology in lieu of putting in time and effort to learn it traditionally. This article claims that it does not facilitate the kind of human learning that should be used in order to actually acquire a new language because the user would be learning incorrect phrases. This would definitely be a counterargument to my claim that Google Translate is a helpful technology to those hoping to learn a new language, but serves to strengthen my point that Google Translate should simply be a supplement to language learning. I am arguing how the use of technology can better an individual’s life and improve it, and Google Translate’s portability and ease of use definitely allows the user to do so.