Duolingo vs. Classroom IMT 570- Final Presentation

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Recommendation













Flexibility

Time

Proficiency

Interaction

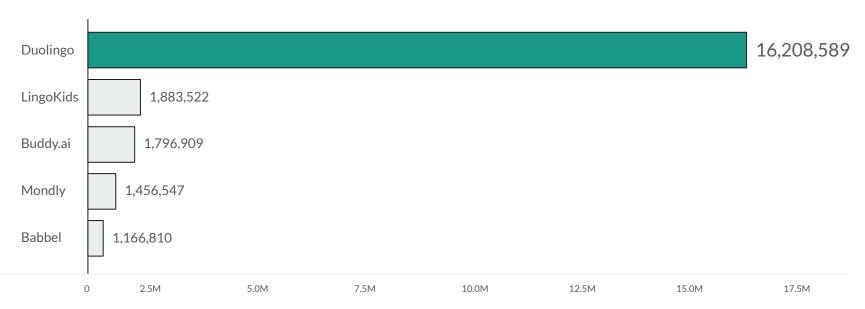
Prestige

Entertainment

Our Motivation.

Why Duolingo?

Leading Language Learning Apps Worldwide in January 2024, by downloads



(Statista, 2024)

Why Classroom-Setting?



Prevalence



Resource-Abundant



Structured & Professional

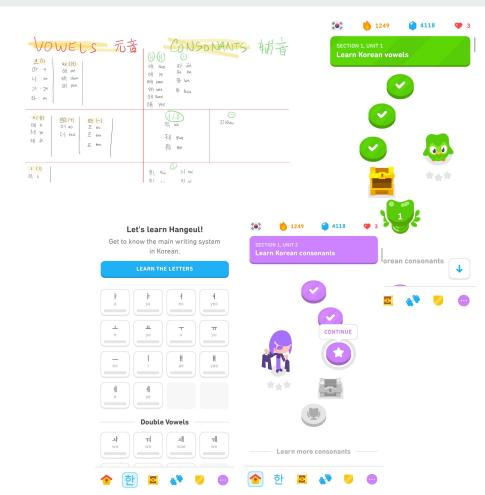
Our Methods.

Survey



Case Study

- Learned Korean using Duolingo for 30 days
- Gained first-hand experience exploring its features and functionality
- Able to memorise all vowels and consonants taught without other people's help.



Interview Method









Initial Coding

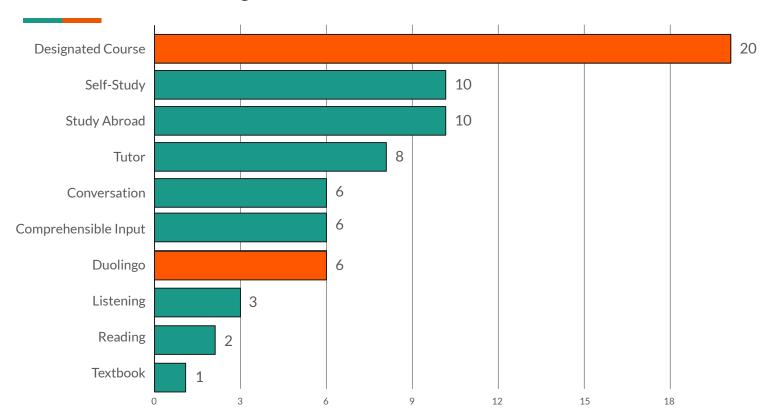
Generating Themes

Reviewing Themes

Defining and Naming Themes

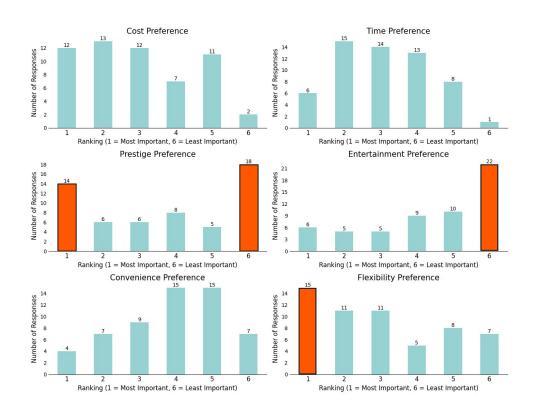
Our Findings and Recommendations.

Most Effective Learning Methods





What did our respondents rank preferences?



Highlights:

Entertainment

Flexibility

Prestige



Case Study Findings

- **Entertainment** Many interactive features to keep learner interested and motivated.
- **Flexibility & Time** Able to learn anytime anywhere, no need to invest a lot of time.
- Require strong self-control remember to PRACTICE EVERYDAY!







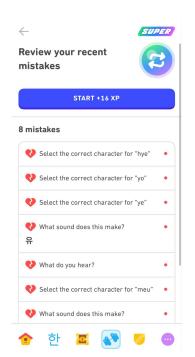
13 May, Day 15, Time: 22:04, Location: IMA soccer field

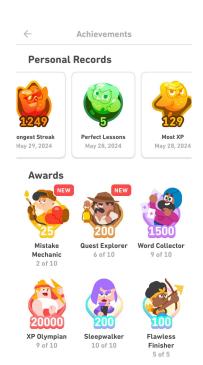
- a. **Daily lesson** practicing the characters learned from lesson 3.1.
- b. Lesson detail: Section 1 Unit 1: Learn Korean Vowels lesson 3.1. Did 1 exercise and took notes while learning around 10 min
- c. Challenges: Some letters are challenging to pronounce
- d. **Daily Reflection:** I started to identify the characters faster based on their common letters. With the letter cards feature on Duolingo, I was able to memorize the characters faster and easier without asking anyone's help.

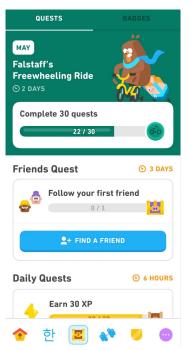
At the end of the journal, share what you found over the 30 days about Duolingo's learning experience.

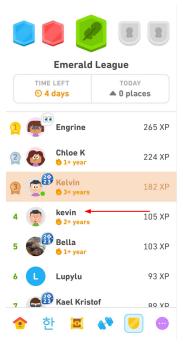
After completing the case study, I found out that in order to have a good learning outcome only using Duolingo and only studying by myself, I have to have very strong self-control. I have to be consistent to take lessons everyday. Sometimes I was busy the whole day, and I didn't have time or just felt lazy; I missed a Duolingo practice at the end.

If this happens more than once, I will potentially lose interest in learning using Duolingo daily and forget about the language at the end. Self-control is essential in this learning method; if a person has weak self-control, then there is a good chance that he/she won't learn the language successfully.









Interview Findings



• Flexibility and Engagement



- Interactive Learning and Participation
- Application and cultural comprehension
- Oversimplification and Practical Usage
- Pronunciation and Learning Outcomes

Theme	Observation	Insight	Representative Quotes
Flexibility and Engagement	All participants acknowledged Duolingo's flexibility and appreciated its interesting interaction, which increased their engagement levels after class.	This theme was consistently noted, highlighting Duolingo's ability to maintain user interest through flexible learning.	"I love how flexible Duolingo is. I can fit in a lesson whenever I have a few minutes, which makes it so much easier to keep up with my language practice." – interviewee 3
Interaction Learning and Participation	Participants emphasized the significance of structured, in-person classes that foster active learning through professor and teaching assistant engagement. They valued the opportunity to ask questions, especially about nuanced aspects like pronunciation.	The theme of interactive learning was strongly emphasized, indicating the benefits of in-person engagement over solitary app-based learning.	"The structured, in-person classes are crucial for my learning. The interaction with professors and teaching assistants helps me grasp complex concepts more effectively." – interviewee 6

Interview Findings

- Flexibility and Engagement
- Interactive Learning and Participation



Application and cultural comprehension



Oversimplification and Practical Usage



• Pronunciation and Learning Outcomes

Application and Cultural Comprehension	Participants pointed out the lack of cultural comprehension in Duolingo, which led to difficulties in applying the language in real scenarios. In contrast, traditional classes integrated cultural elements that enhanced their learning experiences.	The absence of cultural context in Duolingo was a common concern, highlighting a significant gap in the app's curriculum.	"Duolingo is great for basic language practice, but it lacks cultural context, which makes it hard to apply what I've learned in real-life situations." – interviewee 4
Oversimplificat ion and Practical Usage	Participants noted Duolingo's tendency to oversimplify words and focus on translation rather than practical usage, often repeating questions to reinforce patterns instead of promoting real-life application.	This recurring theme highlighted a limitation in Duolingo's approach to language teaching.	"I noticed that Duolingo often repeats questions to reinforce patterns, but this doesn't always translate to practical language use in everyday situations." – interviewee 6
Pronunciation and Learning Outcomes	Interviewees 2 and 3 emphasized that traditional language classes focus more on sentence structure and grammar, leading to positive learning outcomes. However, only interviewee 1 felt that Duolingo excelled in helping with her Chinese pronunciation.	The mixed feedback on pronunciation and learning outcomes reflected varied perceptions of Duolingo's effectiveness	"For me, traditional language classes are invaluable because they provide a comprehensive understanding of grammar and sentence structure, which Duolingo doesn't cover as thoroughly." — interviewee 8

Limitations, Future Work.

Impact, Strengths, Limitations/Ethical Consideration



Lesson Learned

Data collection and analysis of various language learning approaches is crucial.



Implication

Three methods of data collection helps recommend the best language learning methods for students' career goals.



Strengths

Research provides strong recommendations in six categories. Choosing the top three ensures the best learning experience.



Weaknesses Future Work

Add more categories for a tailored approach, such as switching from Duolingo to classroom learning at certain levels.



Ethical Consideration

Interview recordings, survey anonymity, and case study disclaimers.

Our Product.

What factors are most important to you when selecting a language learning method? Please select three.



Q&A