Tools for Climbing the Pyramid: ACTFL: 2010

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Advances in communications technology and the growth of regional and global problems make knowledge of other countries and the ability to communicate in other languages more essential to the promotion of mutual understanding and cooperation among nations and their peoples.
Authorized Activities

Activities Funded under LARC Grant: (A,B, C, D, F)

A) The conduct and dissemination of research on new and improved teaching methods, including the use of advanced educational technology;

B) The development and dissemination of new teaching materials reflecting the use of such research in effective teaching strategies;

C) The development, application and dissemination of performance testing appropriate to an educational setting for use as a standard and comparable measurement of skill levels in all languages;
Authorized Activities

Activities Funded under LARC Grant: (A, B, C, D, F)

D) The training of teachers in the administration and interpretation of performance tests, the use of effective teaching strategies and the use of new technologies;
F) The development and dissemination of materials designed to serve as a resource for foreign language teachers at the elementary and secondary school levels.
The Pyramid

- Research
- Documentation and Analysis
- Dynamic Lab Activities
  Teacher Training/Elluminate
  Moodle/BYKI/ Skype
The Pyramid

Research


b. Kitajima, R. Types of feedback on the students' oral descriptive skills, Presentation at 2010 ACTFL Conference.
Resources from TALC

Backbone
Speech Indexer
Word Smith
Sketch Engine
MyCusp – U. of Michigan
Examples of Resources

Speech Indexer

(Universal Design; Persian Learner Corpus)

LARC SDSU
Speech Indexer
Examples of Resources

Backbone

(BCLAD Project)
Backbone Annotator

1. **Speaker:** Que necesitamos para competir con los depredadores más feroces de la tierra? Dominar el fuego, fabricar herramientas, sobrevivir cataclysmos y desastres naturales... Y pasar de ser criaturas inestables ha transformarnos en seres humanos.

2. **Comentador:** Lo único que estamos haciendo es descubrir los secretos de los muertos volviendo la vista atrás a hace millones de años.

3. **Narrador:** Esta es la historia de nuestra batalla por la supervivencia.

4. **Narrador:** Nuestra especie casi se extinguió.

5. **Narrador:** De una lucha que acabó empujando a un animal a elevarse por encima de las demás criaturas de la tierra. Esta es nuestra historia, la historia de lo que nos hace humanos.

6. **Narrador:** Ciencia al Desnudo, Origen del hombre, De Donde Vimos.

7. **Narrador:** La búsqueda de lo que nos hace humanos comienza en Sud Africa, Aquí esperamos descubrir los secretos de nuestro pasado, como desarrollamos el lenguaje y la inteligencia, que nos transformó de simples bestias a seres humanos.

8. **Narrador:** La investigación está encabezada por el doctor Lee Berger, un detective científico que se

LARC SDSU
Backbone Annotator
Backbone Corpus

Pedagogic corpora for content & language integrated learning

Search Interface

- English Corpus
- English as Lingua Franca Corpus
- French Corpus
- German Corpus
- Polish Corpus
- Spanish Corpus
- Turkish Corpus

VIDEO INTERVIEWS - SPOKEN DISCOURSE
- English, French, German, Spanish, Turkish
- English as a lingua franca
- Speakers from different walks of life
- Culture, region, education, business, technology

SEARCH RESULTS - LEARNING ACTIVITIES
- Thematic & linguistic search categories
- More than concordance data
- Sound and video
- Language learning modules in Telos and Moodle

LARC @ SDSU
Examples of Resources

Word Smith
## Word Smith: Key Words

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Word Smith: Lemmatization

Joining Entries Together (Lemmatisation =)

In a word list, a key word list or a list of collocates you may want to store several entries together: e.g. want: wants: wanting: wanted. Bringing them together means you're treating them as members of the same "lemma" or set -- rather like a headword in a dictionary.

Manual joining
You can simply do this by dragging one entry to another. Suppose your word list has

WANT
WANTED
WANTING

you can simply grab wanting or wanted with your mouse and place it on want.

(See choosing lemma file if you want to join those to a word which isn't in the list)

A lemmatised head entry has a red mark in the left margin beside it. The others you marked will be coloured as if deleted. The linked entries which have been joined to the head can be seen at the right.

Here we see a word list based on 3-word clusters where originally a "good deal" had a frequency of 24, but has been joined to a "great deal" and a "good few" and thereby risen to 141.

If you cannot see all the items you want to join in one screen, you can do the same thing using function keys.
1. Use F5 to mark an entry for joining to another. The first one you mark will be the "head". For the moment, while you're still deciding which other entries belong with it, the edge of that row will be marked green. Any entries which you then decide to link with the head (by again pressing F5) will show they're marked too, in white. (If you change your mind you can press F5 again and the marking will disappear.)
Examples of Resources

MICUSP

Goals: what we can attain
"In my opinion" occurs 17 times in 15 papers (You searched in 16 disciplines at 4 levels of 7 paper types with 8 textual features)
Two Relevant Quotes

1) The easier the technology is the more likely teachers will be to use it (Pearson Representative)

2) The creation was easy – the content was hard! (Pooneh, Persian instructor on using Moodle to create exam items.)
Redefining Tasks

1) Finding and aligning tools:

• Frequency lists, genre based
• Voice recognition software
• LTI rated CAST exams
Redefining Tasks

2) Making it to the top of the Pyramid!

✓ Corpora Tools as the link between the bottom and the top of the pyramid:

  ○ Accessing
  ○ Creating
Thanks for attending

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