

Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL)

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Preface

Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL) is a new interdisciplinary field combining technologies from Information and Communication Technology (ICT) with second and foreign language teaching and learning. If we take into account varied areas playing roles in the field of language learning and teaching such as psychology, linguistics, sociology, education etc., we realize how complicated the field of CALL can be.

Since CALL is ICT related and the field of ICT is evolving very rapidly, technologies playing role in CALL quickly become outdated and a practitioner in the field of CALL should also be up-to-date. That is why the book begins with a short history of CALL and moves to the application of new technologies in the field.

Chapter 1 talks about CALL in general. It discusses general issues pertaining to CALL. It also discusses the history, the role of multimedia and the Internet. Chapter 2 talks about theoretical foundations on CALL. It discusses major frameworks and type of persece of theory in the field of CALL. The next chapters talk about various CALL technologies such as computer mediated communication, e-tandem language learning, distance language learning, social networking. Next chapters deal with different types of assitance, namely, mobile assisted language learning, machine translation assisted language learning, intelligent computer assisted language learning, game assisted language learning, virtual reality assisted language learning, and finally computer assisted language assesement. The next chapter talks about teacher education and it discusses teaher competency, the history and various approaches to teacher education in CALL. The following chapter is devoted to data driven learning and discusses corpus and its role in language learning. The book comes to an end with a chapter dedicated to telecollaboration, a recent topic in CALL in 2019 and 2020.

The language used in the book is simple and easy to understand; however, the last chapter gets a bit complicated due to its varied nature. The author has tried a lot to promote CALL in the country in spite of resistance from the EFL community in the country. He hopes that the publication of this book in Alzahra University which is considered as the center of CALL in Iran will help familiarize more people with this field. The author would like to thank Dr. Marandi for her efforts

to promote CALL in Iran and have its MA syllabus approved in the ministry. The author would also like to ask all the users of the book to send their constructive comments to him to the email address: mirzaeian224@yahoo.com. All the mistakes in the book are the sole responsibility of the author and readers' constructive comments will help him to improve it in future editions.

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