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SURAT TUGAS

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Dekan Fakultas Kependidikan dan Humaniora Universitas Kristen Duta Wacana Yogyakarta, dengan ini memberi tugas kepada dosen Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Universitas Kristen Duta Wacana yang namanya tersebut pada kolom (3) Lampiran Surat Tugas ini untuk membuat Modul Mata Kuliah Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris yang tercantum pada kolom (4). Penugasan ini berlaku untuk semester Genap Tahun Akademik 2021/2022.

Demikian surat tugas ini dibuat, agar tugas dapat dilakukan dengan sebaik-baiknya dan dilaporkan kepada pemberi tugas setelah tugas tersebut dituntaskan.

Yogyakarta, 16 Maret 2022

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MODULE OF TECHNOLOGY-ENHANCED LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION

EVEN SEMESTER OF
2021/2022



COMPILED BY
LEMMUELA ALVITA KURNIAWATI, M.HUM.



PENDIDIKAN BAHASA INGGRIS
FAKULTAS KEPENDIDIKAN DAN HUMANIORA
UNIVERSITAS KRISTEN DUTA WACANA
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UNIVERSITAS KRISTEN DUTA WACANA
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1 The drives

What is behind our decisions regarding instructional technology?

In this century, teaching without using any technology has become almost literally impossible. From using overhead projectors to present slides, to posting student grades on the course management system, to answering students' questions via email, to adopting online textbooks and other materials, to having students look up information on search engines, to incorporating social media and building a learning community, to delegating some learning activities to the online environment or offering the whole course online, this list goes on and expands day by day. Every school, every class, every teacher, and every student are expected to use technology to varying degrees. As stated in the most recent National Education Technology Plan by the U.S. Department of Education (2016), "the conversation has shifted from *whether* technology should be used in learning to *how* it can improve learning to ensure that all students have access to high-quality educational experiences" (p. 5).

How to use technology to improve learning experiences in a Chinese language classroom is exactly the focus of this book. But before we get into the practical planning, selection, and use of technology, let's take a minute to think about *why* we want to incorporate technology in our teaching. As the social critic Paul Goodman (1970) wrote in reaction to the quickly emerging technology half a century ago, "whether or not it draws on new scientific research, technology is a branch of moral philosophy, not of science" (p. 40). Whether technology itself is a branch of moral philosophy or science is open to further discussion among scholars, but it is nevertheless true that the way we choose to incorporate technology into our teaching is driven by our philosophy of technology. Just like how our teaching philosophy governs what we decide to teach and how we teach it, our beliefs, attitudes, motivations, and knowledge in regard to the relationship between technology and education construe the answer as to how we use technology in our teaching.

Why do we use technology? There are many good reasons to do so according to thousands of studies. For instance:

Technology increases the accessibility of learning materials and expands learning experiences

Technology increases learners' access to foreign language education in many ways.

For those who take face-to-face language courses in schools, the Internet allows them exposure to authentic target language materials through webpages, blogs, forums, streamed videos, and social media. Teachers who teach less commonly taught languages may find such online resources particularly helpful because the authentic materials are otherwise hard to find.

Sometimes schools might not be able to offer face-to-face courses of certain languages to interested students due to low enrollment or difficulty in finding certified teachers, especially in the cases of less commonly taught languages and more rural districts. These interested learners may now access such courses through virtual classrooms. In the case of Chinese, online courses are often offered by individual universities at the level of higher education, while K-12 courses are often offered by virtual classroom services in collaboration with educational organizations who have expertise in language education. For instance, Michigan Virtual School collaborates with the Confucius Institute at Michigan State University (CI-MSU); K12.com, the biggest education management organization (EMO) in the United States, offers their Chinese courses through Middlebury College's Interactive Languages.

In addition to increased access to learning materials and resources, students who enroll in a face-to-face program may also expand their learning experience beyond the classroom with the help of technology. Teachers may assign students to conduct research by finding information online about the target culture or have them do group projects via virtual collaboration. Some schools have virtual dual language programs or less formal exchanges (e.g., a shared blog, key-pal partnership, or periodical virtual conferences) with students from a collaborative foreign institute. In a flipped classroom, which we will discuss further in Chapter 6, instruction is frequently digitally recorded and viewed by learners at home. All these learning experiences beyond the classroom increase the contact hours with the target language, which is recognized as crucial for learning a foreign language, especially Category IV languages,¹ including Chinese.

Technology helps to tailor learning experiences to individual learners' needs

Technology can make it easier for teachers to design learning experiences that appeal to learners' different proficiency levels, learning styles, and emotional or social needs. For instance, using multimedia materials allows learners to have both visual and audio input at the same time; having course content available online allows learners to (re)learn the lesson at their own pace; doing multimedia projects such as digital storytelling or film/animation production

encourages learners to use the target language meaningfully, collaboratively, and creatively.

Many studies have pointed out that communication in a second language in an e-learning environment is less stressful or threatening to learners than face-to-face settings (e.g., Chun, 1998; Casanave, 2004; Rubesch & McNeil, 2010; Huang & Hwang, 2013).

Technology enables quick feedback and more variety when assessing learners' performance

Compared to paper-based assessments, technology-assisted assessments have been found to be more efficient by reducing the time, resources, and disruption to learning (Gohl, Gohl, & Wolf, 2009). One major advantage of using technology to assess learning is that it enables quick feedback, which is particularly useful in the case of formative assessments. With the current polling/quizzing tools, teachers may embed assessment questions within the lesson, conduct comprehension checks in an undisruptive manner, receive immediate feedback, and quickly adjust their lesson plan to address the content students struggle with. Individual learners may also receive immediate feedback and know where they stand in the learning process. With their progress being transparent to the learners, they may take more autonomy and decide their next step of learning. In other words, the teacher and the learners jointly shape the learning experience and fine-tune it constantly based on the quick feedback gained through technology.

Furthermore, in a language classroom, assessment should not be and has never been limited to paper tests and quick quizzing/polling. Technology may also help provide variety while assessing a wide array of communication in different modes and with different tasks. For instance, authentic multimedia materials may be used to assess listening and reading comprehension; audio/video recording may be used to assess interpersonal and presentational modes of speaking; a real-life problem-solving project may be used for an integrated assessment that involves multiple language skills, cultural knowledge, and communication modes, such as finding and presenting the most appropriate lodging arrangement when traveling in China by comparing options online. Technology did not invent such assessment methods but has enabled a wider variety of tasks learners may undertake to demonstrate learning.

Technology facilitates collaboration and formation of learner communities

Technology helps facilitate collaboration in many ways. First of all, for learners, technology helps transcend the limitation of time and space, allowing them to collaborate on projects beyond school hours and settings. Learners may work together outside of the classroom synchronously using video-conferencing tools (e.g., Skype, Google Hangout, or Zoom) and real-time

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editing applications (e.g., Google Docs or Microsoft Word Online), or asynchronously via email or text messaging.

Many teachers host course blogs, micro-blogs (e.g., Twitter or Weibo), wikis, or social media groups to share course content, events, resources, thoughts, and opinions with students, parents, and even local and global communities. For instance, some study abroad programs ask students to keep a reflection journal on their blogs about their experiences. These blogs are not only the platform for learners to reflect on their intercultural learning, but also serve as the site for parents to witness or actively participate in their learning by viewing and commenting (Kelm, 2011; Lee, 2011; Jin, 2012).

While it is not required for learners to share their video or audio projects publicly, many choose to do so and broadcast their projects to a general audience and reach out to the global community. For instance, a keyword search of “Chinese student project” on YouTube would generate thousands of results.

Teachers may also take advantage of collaborative technology among themselves to share resources and lesson plans, ask questions, provide support, and work on cross-institute or interdisciplinary projects together (Lord & Lomicka, 2004; Arnold, Ducate, Lomicka, & Lord, 2005; Arnold & Ducate, 2006). Such virtual collaboration may be even more important for teachers who are the only teacher of the subject in their school or school district, which is a common situation for Chinese teachers. Over the Internet, these teachers may communicate, share, and work with one another remotely via virtual collaboration.

Technology encourages self-learning and lifelong learning

One ultimate goal of education is to cultivate lifelong learners who would continue to learn: to acquire resources, think critically, and use the learned knowledge and skills to solve real-life problems beyond formal school settings. Demand for *knowledge workers*, who are educated and able to continuously update their knowledge, presents the driving force for educational policy makers and institutions to transform the current education system to one that cultivates such lifelong learners (Evers, Rush, & Berdrow, 1998; Rowley, Lujan, & Dolence, 1998). A key to continuous lifelong learning lies in the dynamic large-scale online communities that provide indefinite learning resources and attract active users/contributors worldwide (Thomas & Brown, 2011), which is what our education should prepare and guide young learners to explore. Information or technology literacy is included in most lists that aim to define the twenty-first-century skills for learners at both national (e.g., Framework for 21st Century Learning; Assessment and Teaching of 21st Century Skills; Common Core State Standards) and local levels (e.g., Iowa Essential Concepts and Skills; Connecticut’s Common Core of Learning; Illinois Learning Standards).

The cultivation of lifelong learners is crucial for language learning, arguably more than other subjects, since the mastery of the subject may not be achieved without immersing oneself in authentic language environments outside of the classroom. Given the required hours for learning a foreign language, especially a Category IV language such as Chinese, the pursuit of mastery may last well beyond the learner's school years. Therefore, an important mission for us teachers is to prepare our learners with the skills and attitudes ready for lifelong learning when they are out of our classes.

Lifelong learning requires both autonomy and collaboration, and technology may help prepare learners for both. On the one hand, technology increases the accessibility to learning materials and expands learning experiences beyond the classroom. With mobile devices in the picture, the language learning experience could be literally seamless and ubiquitous. Learners may watch a video, listen to lesson recordings, use flashcards, or even practice writing on their phone or tablets anywhere, anytime. When they encounter a problem, instead of waiting to ask the teacher the next day in school, they may look it up online, or post their questions and get answers from a virtual community. Such learning is by nature self-purposed, self-directed, and self-paced. Guiding learners to use such resources in a language class may help develop the mindset and familiarize them with the methods for such independent learning.

On the other hand, language classes may also help to cultivate lifelong learners through promoting virtual communication and collaboration so that learners may participate in the larger community of the target language and culture and continue with their learning. Analyzing the language use on authentic websites, blogs, and forums may help learners learn to evaluate the text in its social context and develop critical thinking skills. On the social level, having students communicate in a controlled social platform, such as a closed Facebook group or a private course blog, would allow them to practice developing a virtual identity and using appropriate language and/or *netiquette* (Internet etiquette) while interacting with others in a relatively safe online environment with the teacher's guidance and monitoring.

While the reasons mentioned above are great ones to incorporate technology in our teaching, the benefits of using technology are not the only reasons teachers use it. In addition to these benefits technology brings to learning, which *pull* many teachers to use technology in their classes, there are also *pushing* forces for teachers to abandon traditional non-technology teaching, one of which is the pressure coming from the general climate or the teacher's immediate environment.

In general, the importance of technology is often stressed in education policies and made relevant to the social changes and economic growth at national and international level. For instance, acknowledging that "societal and economic potential can come from harnessing technological innovation in higher education," Androulla Vassiliou, the then European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth, urged that "it is imperative

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that Europe takes the lead in this area” (European Commission, 2014, p. 4) in the report to the European Commission on new modes of learning and teaching in higher education. It is also predicted in the report that by 2024, e-learning may grow fifteen-fold in Europe and “with the promise, or threat, the digital technology will revolutionise our traditional, bricks and mortar universities” (p. 6). In the United States, technology is mentioned more than 100 times in the Common Core State Standards, and “similar expectations exist in states adopting other college- and career-ready standards.” (U.S. Department of Education, 2016, p. 32).

While the incorporation of technology is viewed as a sign of educational progress or superiority, the direct impact of such policies is that the performance of schools and universities are evaluated accordingly, which causes school administrators to look for the use of technology as evidence of effective teaching. Such emphasis on the technological competence of teachers is reflected on the job market. Just glancing over the first page of job postings on the website of the Chinese Language Teachers Association, the biggest job board for Chinese teachers in the United States, requirements such as “skills in effective use of pedagogical technology” (University of Iowa, IA), “comfortable working with technology” (Peninsula High School, WA), “experience in technology-based Chinese L2 instruction and courseware design” (West Kentucky University, KY), “oversee website design and content” (University of Rhode Island, RI), “knowledge of a variety of contemporary teaching approaches and language learning technologies” (George Washington University, DC), “familiarity with current methods and technologies in foreign language teaching” (Pennsylvania State University, PA), “experience with online learning” (Middlebury Interactive Languages, DE), and “skilled in the use of educational technology in the service of learning” (Chinese American International School, CA) popped up (search conducted on July 18, 2016).

Under the pressure that their (continuous) employment at least partially depends on successful incorporation of technology in their classes, language teachers may attempt technology integration regardless of whether they recognize the aforementioned educational benefits brought about by technology. However, while behavior-wise most teachers do use technology in their classes, the different motivations teachers have for using technology (i.e., for the various learning benefits vis-à-vis for the purpose of employment) still strongly impact how much and how effectively they incorporate technology in their teaching (Ertmer et al., 1999; Baylor & Ritchie, 2002; Meskill, Mossop, DiAngelo, & Pasquale, 2002; Ertmer, 2005).

The spectrum of teachers’ attitudes towards technology utilization may be roughly divided into four categories: To one end there are conservatives and to the other enthusiasts, and between them there are skeptical and curious users:

The conservatives are those who do not believe in any learning and managerial benefits technology may bring to their classes. We may hear

them say (with pride) that a good teacher can teach well without technology. They view technology as a distraction and impediment to learning and typically dread or despise learning new tools. Their incorporation of technology tends to be minimal.

The skeptical users do use *some* technology in their classes but often for the sake of school requirement, continuous employment, or peer pressure. They remain skeptical about the benefits of instructional technology and are at best lukewarm about learning new tools.

The curious users view technology as having considerable potential to improve their teaching and tend to actively seek training in order to harness this potential. They might not have incorporated a lot of technology in their classes yet, mostly because of lack of competence, practice, or confidence, but they are eager to learn new tools and model after other teachers who are more experienced in this area.

The enthusiasts believe in the transformative power of technology in education. They do not hesitate to try and experiment with new tools in their classes. Many of them actively participate in online communities and follow the news about emerging tools. Some of them might even take part in designing new tools. They tend to use technology creatively, not only with tools designed for educational purposes, but also adapting general tools for learning contexts. Because the enthusiasts strive to update themselves with the ever-changing technology, they tend to become the experts in their program/school/field that other teachers turn to for help and advice.

If you identify with the conservatives or skeptical users, I am pleasantly surprised that you are reading this book. I humbly hope this book will help you open up more to the potential benefits technology may bring to you and your learners. I also hope that by seeing how other teachers incorporate easy-to-use technology in this book you may gain more confidence and become more open to trying some tools in your own classes. As Meskill and colleagues (2002) pointed out, it is not just knowing how to use technology but the combination of training and the actual experience of using it in one's classroom that makes a teacher comfortable with using technology.

If you are a curious user, I would like to say that I have written this book mostly for you. According to European Commission's report (2014), two-thirds of current higher education teachers recognize that technology may benefit their teaching, but half of them reported that they need training to actually incorporate more technology in their classes. Since Chinese teachers tend to work in isolation and might not have master teachers to model after or training workshops to attend in their immediate teaching environment, this book aims to fill this gap by providing guidelines for choosing among technologies in Chapter 2 and demonstrating from Chapter 3 to Chapter 6 what learning activities master teachers have designed using technology. I hope this

book can help curious teachers gain confidence and inspiration in integrating technology in their own classes.

If you are an enthusiast of technology integration, I hope this book encourages you to reflect deeply on your use of technology in light of pedagogical theories and principles. It is one of the major points that the newest U.S. National Education Technology Plan (U.S. Department of Education, 2016) stressed, compared to the previous version, that teaching transcends technology. As someone who embraces the opportunities and potentials new technology brings, you may sometimes be dazzled by the novelty of newly emerging tools and confuse this novelty for effectiveness in promoting learning, or confuse the *interest* of learners for the real *effect* of learning. To avoid the common myth among enthusiasts that *the more newer the better*, we need to apply careful assessment of technological tools and practices using language learning standards that focus on teaching and learning experiences rather than the technologies themselves. We will discuss the standards and this process of assessing technologies in the next chapter.

Note

- 1 The Foreign Service Institute has created a list to rank languages based on their difficulty of learning to native English speakers. (www.state.gov/m/psi/sls/c78549.htm) Category IV languages include Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese), Japanese, and Korean. The estimated number of hours needed to reach professional proficiency in speaking is 2,200 hours for Category IV.

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2 The filters

Standards, principles, and considerations for selecting and using instructional technology

A shift in the field of education has occurred in the first decades of the twenty-first century in terms of how instructional technology is viewed and utilized. Such a shift may be well demonstrated by the change of tone from the U.S. National Education Technology Plan (NETP) 2010 to NETP 2016. In NETP 2010, technology was brought to the foreground as a “driver of change” that demanded our commitment to “enable transforming education” (U.S. Department of Education, 2010, p. 4). At the turn of the century, technology was assumed to be the leading force to empower learning and transform teaching. A major problem with this dominant discourse was that such over-enthusiasm may prevent the use of technology from being critically examined. Taking the use of technology as a sign of educational progress or superiority, school administrators and teachers adopted new tools and services, sometimes to the extent that it was done blindly and competitively. The most recent NETP 2016 addressed this potential pitfall and brought teaching and the learning experience back to the center of technology utilization. While recognizing that “*when carefully designed and thoughtfully applied*, technology can accelerate, amplify, and expand the impact of effective teaching practice” (U.S. Department of Education, 2016, p. 3, emphasis added), NETP 2016 reminded the users that “learning principles transcend specific technologies” (ibid, p. 10). Taking this reminder to heart, this chapter will discuss the “filters,” namely, the standards, principles, and considerations to help Chinese language teachers to *carefully design and thoughtfully apply* technology, and we will start with the overarching principles of learning and teaching.

Filter 1: The learner

Since our ultimate goal is for learners to learn the language, the *learner* should be at the center of our instructional design and be given the first and utmost consideration when we make decisions regarding technological implementation. Therefore, the first filter I recommend that teachers apply when planning for technological integration would be the learners’ language proficiency. There are two major frameworks of proficiency that are commonly referenced to guide the learning, teaching, and assessment of foreign languages, namely,

the Proficiency Guidelines developed by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL, 2012) and the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (Council of Europe, 2009). A companion volume was added to the latter in 2017 to elaborate the key notions and update illustrative descriptors of CEFR (Council of Europe, 2017).

While it is not the focus of this book to introduce in detail what each proficiency level looks like, it is important for language teachers to carefully examine where their learners' proficiency stands and what they are capable of learning next. An effective lesson should target solidifying the current proficiency level and scaffold the learners to progress into the next, for which you may choose to use technology to help access appropriate materials and create meaningful tasks. Both frameworks are free to download on their official websites. I recommend teachers read through the descriptions and exemplars in these documents to have a general idea about your own learners' current proficiency when thinking about integrating technology into your curriculum. If you are interested in assessing proficiency more precisely and accurately, there are also workshops available for training examiners.

In addition to the learners' language proficiency, their level of technology proficiency is an important factor to consider. Being called "digital natives" (Prensky, 2001), the millennial learners are described as living lives immersed in technology, surrounded by "toys and tools of the digital age" (ibid, p. 1). I have asked the question "What would you do if you encounter a problem with technology when you teach?" many times in the teacher training workshops I have led and "Ask students to help" is one response I receive almost every time. However, the general familiarity with technology among the current generation of learners does not mean that *every* student in your classroom knows how to operate the digital tools you choose or are able to "just figure it out" simply because they were born and raised in a technology-rich environment. As a matter of fact, many studies have pointed out that the use of computers and the Internet among school-aged children, teenagers, and young adults is unevenly spread based on their age, school and home environments, and social backgrounds (Downes, 2002; Lee, 2005; Koivusilta, Lintonen, & Rimpelä, 2007). They also tend to limit themselves to certain functions such as emailing, word processing, and surfing the Internet for pleasure, and only a minority of them publish their own content to the web or engage in exploring emerging technologies (Kvavik, Caruso, & Morgan, 2004; Oliver & Goerke, 2007; Kennedy et al., 2008; Lenhart, Purcell, Smith, & Zickuhr, 2010).

Assessing what our learners are capable of and providing them training in tools with which they are not yet familiar are thus necessary steps before assigning them to work with technology. The assessment of learners' level of competence and comfort in using certain technologies tends to be informal. Instead of running a test on students' actual skills, most teachers simply conduct a poll or use a self-report checklist to find out whether the learners are ready to use a specific technology. In terms of training, some teachers

choose to run general orientation sessions with the whole class, such as modeling and demonstration during class or having students do their first project in a teacher-supervised context, while others choose to do differentiated assistance, such as posting step-by-step screen-shot manuals on their course websites as a reference or offering need-based consultation to small groups or individual students outside of class hours. Many technological tools now have tutorial videos available online that can be referred to students who need more guidance as well. No matter whether you choose to do general or differentiated training, it should have a relatively low demand of time and effort for the students to learn to use the chosen technology. If you find it taking a long time or too much effort, it might be a sign of a mismatch between the technology and your students' proficiency. With the millions of tools available in the market, it is highly likely that you may find something that provides similar functions but is easier to operate. To make the process even easier, search or ask questions in language teachers' networks—someone may have found a great solution to your problem already.

Age is another factor to consider when choosing appropriate technologies for your learners. Learners of different ages have different cognitive abilities, different emotional, social, and developmental needs, and different areas of interest. Therefore, the same technology may be received differently by different age groups. For instance, the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) published on their website a document called *Selected Examples of Effective Classroom Practice Involving Technology Tools and Interactive Media*, which differentiated the appropriate use of technology and media into three major groups: infants and toddlers, preschoolers and kindergarteners, and school-age children. Curtain and Dahlberg (2010) collected detailed observations from language teachers describing the characteristics of learners in each grade. Although these observations were not made in light of technology integration per se, the association may be easily made to technology tools and tasks appropriate for each grade. For instance, a teacher mentioned their first-graders liked to “take things home, tell endlessly about themselves, move, make things (crafts), draw, and label” (p. 20). From this observation, we may infer that in using tools for digital storytelling, which we will discuss more in detail in Chapter 6, drawing and moving objects on a tablet or an interactive whiteboard would be appropriate. On the other hand, eighth-graders, which were described by another teacher as focusing on “school and peers” and wanting to “learn things and share with their peers in an ‘informal’ setting” (p. 28, emphasis in original), would probably be more interested in exploring the school life in the target language culture via the Internet, communicating with peers abroad via teleconferencing or social media, and working on collaborative projects such as a group presentation or skit using multimedia.

Learners are different not just as cohorts. There are also individual differences in play. Technology may make it easier to address such individual differences. First of all, technology allows us to present materials

to our learners through audio and visual input and interactive exercises to accommodate different learning styles. Similarly, technology enables choices from the learner's side to demonstrate learning evidence. As teachers, we need to make sure we allow for such choices by giving our students not only different tasks, but different *types* of tasks. Choices may even be embedded within one task, such as doing a project individually or with a partner, doing a live or recorded performance, or introducing one's family as a voiceover photo stream, an animated cartoon, or even as a song and musical video. The last example came from a personal experience with my students. When they were asked to introduce their family members and I was explaining to them what formats this project could take, "can I do it as a song?" a student asked. "Of course you can. How about making it a musical video?" I challenged him, and it turned out to be a very creative and fun project. One thing to keep in mind when allowing such flexibility is that all work should address the same learning objectives and can be evaluated by the same criteria.

Filter 2: The design

Placing the learner at the center of instruction, the role of the teacher has shifted from the lecturer of content to the *designer* of learning experiences. As a joint project of the Partnership for 21st Century Learning (P21) and ACTFL, *the 21st Century Skills Map* (Partnership for 21st Century Learning, 2011) compares what the language classroom was like in the past and today (see Table 2.1).

Backward design, as mentioned in Table 2.1, is a commonly used design for planning language curriculum and is adopted by both ACTFL and CEFR. Although the latter states that it is not associated with any specific methods or approaches, the standards-based teaching practice it describes is believed to reflect the principles of backward design (Richards, 2013). The concept of backward design was introduced to the field of curriculum design by Wiggins and McTighe (2005) and included three stages:

Stage 1: Identify desired learning results.

Stage 2: Determine acceptable evidence of learning.

Stage 3: Plan learning experiences and instruction.

It is "backward" because the process of design (outcome-assessment-activity) is in reverse order of its implementation. The main advantages of backward design are for us to stay focused on learning objectives when we design learning experience and to connect assessment directly to learning. Such design takes practice to master. If you are not familiar with backward design, there are abundant resources available. For instance, the National Capital Language Resource Center at the George Washington University offers an online manual: *Teaching World Languages: A Practical Guide* (Cockey, Johnson, &

Table 2.1 How language classrooms looked in the past compared to today

| <i>In the past</i> | <i>Today</i> |
|--|--|
| Students learned about the language (grammar) Teacher-centered class | Students learn to use the language Learner-centered with teacher as facilitator/collaborator |
| Focused on isolated skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) Coverage of a textbook Using the textbook as the curriculum | Focus on the three modes: interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational Backward design focusing on the end goal Use of thematic units and authentic resources |
| Emphasis on teacher as presenter/lecturer | Emphasis on the relationship among the perspectives, practices, and products of the culture |
| Use of technology as a “cool tool” | Integrating technology into instruction to enhance learning |
| Only teaching language | Using language as the vehicle to teach academic content |
| Same instruction for all students | Differentiating instruction to meet individual needs |
| Synthetic situations from textbook Confining language learning to the classroom | Personalized real-world tasks Seeking opportunities for learners to use language beyond the classroom |
| Testing to find out what students don’t know | Assessing to find out what students can do |
| Only the teacher knows criteria for grading | Students know and understand criteria on how they will be assessed by reviewing the task rubric |
| Students “turn in” work only for the teacher | Learners create to “share and publish” to audiences more than just the teacher |

Reproduced from *The 21st Century Skills Map* (Partnership for 21st Century Learning, 2011)

Keatley, 2014) for free, which includes detailed instruction and examples of backward design and has a Chinese edition available.

While backward design helps us to have an effective *process* for curriculum design, the foreign language standards help us to make sure the *content* we design is productive for improving learners’ proficiency. To be used in conjunction with the Proficiency Guidelines, ACTFL published the original version of *Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century* (National Standards in Foreign Language Education Project, 1999) and coined five standard areas that have been commonly referred to as the 5 Cs: Communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. The current edition: *World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages* (ACTFL, 2014) has maintained the 5 Cs and provides clarification and elaboration on 11 standards listed under the 5 Cs to promote foreign language learning.

Unlike the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines and Standards, CEFR does not have a list of standards to accompany the proficiency framework and guide instructional practice. However, it does offer a model of language use and learning that illustrates how multiple factors contribute to communication and should lead to a task-oriented approach in language instruction:

Language use, embracing language learning, comprises the actions performed by persons who as individuals and as social agents develop a range of **competences**, both **general** and in particular **communicative language competences**. They draw on the competences at their disposal in various contexts under various **conditions** and under various **constraints** to engage in **language activities** involving **language processes** to produce and/or receive **texts** in relation to **themes** in specific **domains**, activating those **strategies** which seem most appropriate for carrying out the **tasks** to be accomplished. The monitoring of these actions by the participants leads to the reinforcement or modification of their competences.

(Council of Europe, 2009, p. 9, emphases in original)

This task-oriented model of language use is represented in Figure 2.1, which shows that language activities are interactions between the user’s cognitive competences (strategies, processes, and knowledge) and the social context (domain of use):

Using these standards and models to guide the adoption of technology helps language teachers stay focused on the activities that promote communication and scaffold the development of linguistic and cultural competences. It also helps teachers avoid falling into the trap Wiggins and McTighe (2005) called a major “sin” of design: *hands-on without being minds-on* (p. 16), where the class activity appears engaging but leads to little meaningful learning. It is especially important when we evaluate technologies, because otherwise it is very easy to get lost in the fun and engaging activities made possible

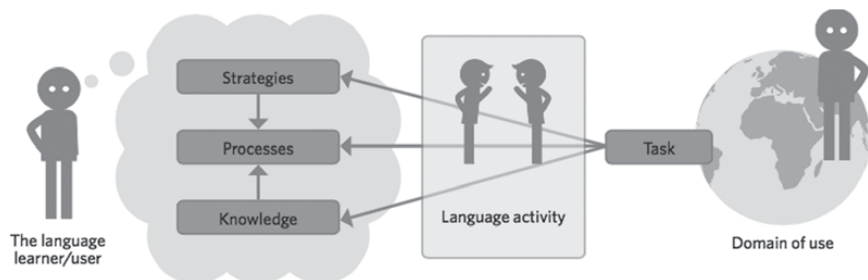


Figure 2.1 A representation of the CEFR’s model of language use and learning
 Reprinted from *Using the CEFR: Principles of good practice* (University of Cambridge, ESOL Examinations, 2011, p. 7)

by technology. For instance, I once observed a middle school Chinese class in which the teacher assigned her students the task of playing vocabulary games on the computer: shooting the meteors that carry the right words on the screen based on the given definition and flipping cards to match images with corresponding words. This activity lasted for about 15 minutes, which is one-third of her class time. While students were all *engaged* and excited about the games, the actual learning was very limited: memorization of vocabulary. If the teacher had designed her lesson from the standards/principles of language use and learning, she would have realized that such activity provided little opportunity for learners to actually communicate in the target language, make a connection to real-world language practice, or gain valuable linguistic/cultural insight. She would have designed her lesson very differently and used the precious contact hours more effectively.

Filter 3: The tool

The third and final filter to use when assessing and selecting technology is the properties of the actual tool and how well they fit with the designed learning experience. Many organizations have provided guidelines or checklists to help teachers choose. For instance, the International Society for Technology in Education has just released a new version of their Standards for Educators in 2017,¹ which detailed seven roles educators play in the practice of technology-enhanced instruction, namely the learner, the leader, the citizen, the collaborator, the designer, the facilitator, and the analyst. Detailed descriptions of objectives for each role may be found on their website: www.iste.org/standards/for-educators.

The Curriculum Leadership Institute proposed five points of consideration to help teachers reflect on their use of instructional technology (<http://cliweb.org/five-points-for-evaluating-use-of-technology-in-the-classroom/>):

1. Analyze and describe exactly what equipment you have available and when it is available.
2. Consider and rank the reasons to integrate technology into the classroom (a list of reasons is provided on their website).
3. Decide how available technology best enhances your curriculum.
4. Model productive use of technology.
5. Use technology to stay in touch with parents.

The Information and Communications Technology for Language Teachers Project (ICT4LT), sponsored by the Commission of the European Communities and European Association for Computer Assisted Language Learning (EUROCALL), provides a checklist and evaluation form for software and websites at www.ict4lt.org/en/index.htm.

Many national or state departments of education, schools, and universities may also have their own standards and/or guidelines for instructional

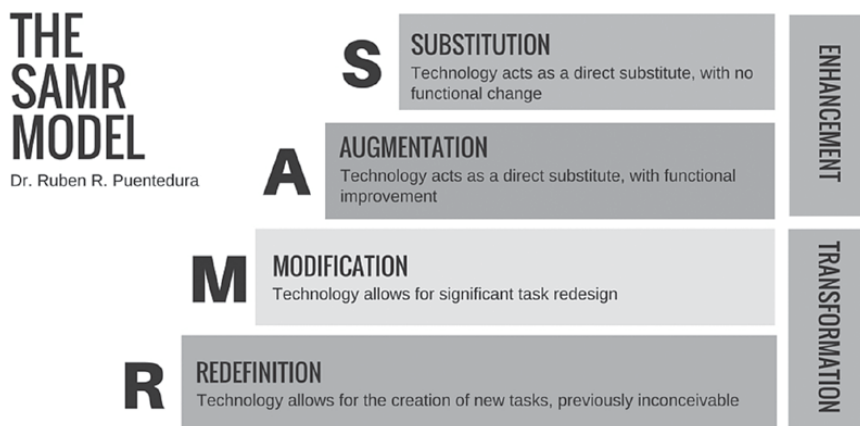


Figure 2.2 The SAMR model

This figure was created by Steve Garvie and was downloaded from Wikimedia commons at https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_SAMR_Model.jpg. License link: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/deed.en>

technology that teachers may refer to when they need to make decisions regarding incorporating technology in their educational practice.

One model that has been adopted by many teachers to evaluate technology is the SAMR model, which was popularized by Dr. Ruben R. Puentedura. As demonstrated in Figure 2.2, the SAMR model classified technologies into those that bring *substitution*, *augmentation*, *modification*, and *redefinition* to learning experiences, respectively.

In addition to being simple, straightforward, and easy to use, another important advantage of the SAMR model is that it does not only evaluate the technology in question, it evaluates how we use that technology to design learning experiences. A widespread YouTube video named “SAMR in 120 Seconds²” by Candace M used Google Docs as an example to demonstrate how you may use SAMR as a lens to evaluate the benefits a new technology brings to your classes: if you use Google Docs just as a text processor, then it is simply a *substitution* for other word-processing tools with no particular gains or functional changes; if you use it for accessing your document anywhere or sharing it with others, then it is *augmentation*, which has added or improved functions while the main task itself (i.e., word processing) remains unchanged; if Google Docs is used for learners to collaborate on one project, now this technology allows for significant task redesign and thus provides *modification* to the learning experience; finally, if you use Google Docs to connect and work with others across the world, a task that was previously inconceivable without incorporating this new technology, that enables a *redefinition* of the learning experience.

Using this model, we may weigh the benefits against the cost, including both the price of the tool and the effort put into learning and implementing it in your classes, and decide whether it is a preferable path to pursue. We may also use it to help us prioritize between several potential technologies we consider integrating into our teaching. As one may imagine, those technologies that bring modification and redefinition transform teaching and learning experiences and enable us to do more with our learners. However, it does not mean technologies that only offer substitution or augmentation should be completely dismissed. Sometimes a simple substitution is necessary, such as when one web-based tool ceases to provide a service and we need to find a replacement. Similarly, a tool that only provides some augmented functionality may also be worth consideration. For instance, if a new course management system allows you to communicate with parents more conveniently, you might still consider switching if that added function is valuable to you. The bottom line is that we need to be clear as to what the new technology brings us and whether it justifies the cost of its implementation.

In the next chapters many technologies will be mentioned that serve a wide range of purposes and it is simply impossible for anyone to integrate them all at the same time. I hope my readers will apply the filters mentioned in this chapter and evaluate and prioritize those technologies based on the knowledge of their learners, their instructional design, and a clear vision of the benefits each technology may bring to their classrooms.

Notes

- 1 The first version of the ISTE Standards for Teachers (renamed “Standards for Educators” in the latest 2017 version) was publicized in 2000 and then updated in 2008.
- 2 As of October, 8, 2017, this video at <https://youtu.be/us0w823KY0g> has accumulated 209,760 views.

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3 Language learning process and points of enhancement using technology

What actually occurs in the learner's mind while learning a (foreign) language has been intriguing to psycholinguists, applied linguists, and language teachers for decades. Although scholars differ considerably in its pedagogical implication, it is agreed that language acquisition occurs via interaction between language input from the environment and the internal processing of the learner, which is represented in Figure 3.1.

What insight could language teachers draw from this process? First of all, in a foreign language learning context, *input* is often moderated by the teacher. The language input we choose for our learners should solidify learners' current proficiency while presenting new but comprehensible knowledge for learners to process. Although we may not control the learner's *internal processing*, we may instead carefully design the context of learning to help orient the learner's attention to the targeted learning points. To ensure learning, we could assess the learner's *output* against the preferred learning outcome. After assessment, we may provide feedback or further input to be processed, until learners successfully perform the preferred outcome. As you may see, from the perspective of pedagogical design, the learning process is not linear but rather cyclical, as represented in Figure 3.2.

In this chapter, we are going to discuss how technology can help enhance learning at each stage of this process.

Input: Abundant, authentic and comprehensible input

In a language class, learners may receive input from the text (including both written and spoken materials), the teacher, and their peer learners. The former two are highly moderated by the teacher with the learning objectives



Figure 3.1 Model of language acquisition (input processing)

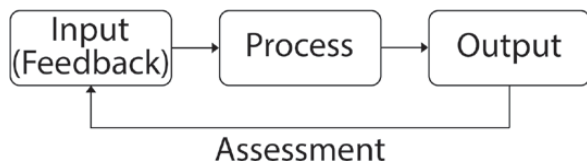


Figure 3.2 Cyclical model of language acquisition from the perspective of pedagogical design

in mind while the last type is generated naturally by learners themselves when performing communication tasks. In this section, I will limit our discussion to the former two input types, because the input from peers is in fact the language *output* they generate. The design of tasks to solicit such output will be discussed later in this chapter.

In terms of teacher-moderated input, Krashen's theory of *Comprehensible Input* (1982, 1985) has largely impacted the field of foreign language education in the past decades and guided many language teachers to select appropriate input for their learners. The basic concept of comprehensible input can be formulated as $i+1$, with the italic i representing the learner's current proficiency level or possessed knowledge and 1 representing the immediate next step above it. For instance, learners who have learned to introduce their own names with “我叫……” (“My name is...”) may be ready to process the input about introducing others' names with “他 / 她叫……” (“His/her name is...”).

By immersing learners in an environment where abundant input is provided at $i+1$ level, the input is comprehensible and the acquisition of the new knowledge (+1) will occur most naturally. To help teachers find the appropriate $i+1$ level for their learners, an indicator of this level is that learners are not yet able to produce the language but can already understand it in context.

When selecting text for comprehensible input, teachers should make sure the text is both abundant (quantity) and authentic (quality), and this is where technology may render its service. As mentioned in Chapter 1, one major advantage of using technology in language instruction is that technology, especially the Internet, grants learners access to authentic target language materials. For instance, video streaming services, including global ones (e.g., YouTube and Vimeo) and Chinese-specific ones, (e.g., 优酷/優酷, 腾讯视频/騰訊視頻, 哔哩哔哩/嗶哩嗶哩, and 爱奇艺/愛奇藝 [Youku, Tencent Video, Bilibili, and iQiyi]), provide myriad audiovisual sources of authentic input, such as movies, TV shows, commercials, news, pop songs, self-made videos, and screencasts. Nowadays, live webcasts (网络直播/網路直播) have been increasingly popular among Chinese celebrities or “web celebrities” (网红/網紅) and could provide rich data for linguistic and cultural discussion. Some popular platforms for such live webcasts include YY.com, 抖音 (Douyin.com) 火山小视频/火山小視頻 (Huoshan.com), and 美拍 Meipai.com. Many also use the live broadcast functions of social media such as Facebook, Instagram,

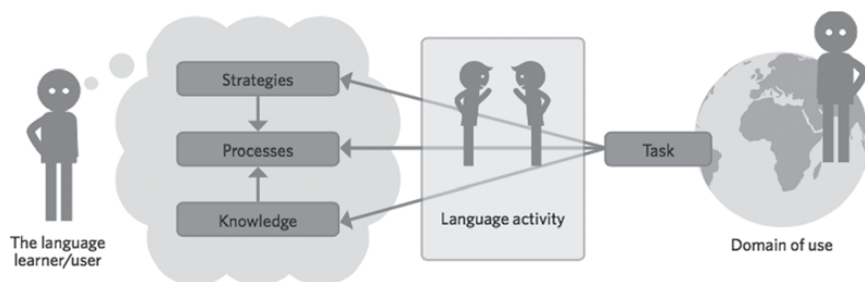
WeChat (微信), and Weibo (微博). When using such media, one important thing to keep in mind is content appropriateness, especially for younger learners. While there are many informative and culturally rich webcasts, some of them use extreme methods (e.g., revealing clothes; dangerous pranks) to attract an audience.

Similar to audiovisual materials, finding reading materials for learners of different levels has also been made easier thanks to the Internet. It is worth noting that such reading materials are not limited to texts in the form of articles, but may also include posts and comments, comic strips, memes, posters, email correspondence, instant messaging, etc. Even for novice learners whose text-types are limited to isolated words and formulaic sentences, there are ample selections of reading materials such as street names, bus schedules, banners, maps, store hours, or menus for them to decipher meanings and connect them to the written form of the language. Such materials may easily be found via a key word search of images on search engines such as Google, Yahoo, or 百度 (baidu.com). In 2016, a group of Chinese teachers also compiled a collection of such materials and published a free downloadable PDF: 真实语料学中文/ 真實語料學中文 *Authentic Materials for Chinese Teaching and Learning* (Liu, 2016. Downloadable at: www.teach-chinese.com/download/).

While it is a blessing for Chinese teachers to have access to such an abundance of Internet-accessible materials nowadays, the first challenge we are faced with is how to filter and select appropriate texts from the indefinite amount of raw materials. Keeping the principle of *i+1* in mind may help us choose materials that align with what our learners are ready to learn.

It is also worth mentioning that the *i+1* principle does not only apply to learners' *language* proficiency. In addition to the required proficiency level, knowledge of the certain *domain* of the text may also impact the learners' comprehension. Let's look at the CEFR's model of language use and learning once again:

As shown in this model, a task, which involves the use of text, does not happen in a vacuum. Instead, it occurs in a domain of use, which is defined



Reprint of Figure 2.1 A representation of the CEFR's model of language use and learning (University of Cambridge, ESOL Examinations, 2011, p. 7)

as “the broad sectors of social life in which social agents operate” (Council of Europe, 2009, p. 10). Lack of knowledge related to the domain would likely impede the learner’s processing of the language activity. For instance, even a learner with advanced proficiency might not be ready to comprehend a broadcast about new evidence of gravitational waves despite the fact that the language used in the article fits well with their proficiency level. Domain-specific knowledge here is broadly defined and includes cultural awareness. For instance, the comprehension of a conversation in a business context may require knowledge about appropriate etiquette of formal meetings and expectations between business partners. When choosing such texts, teachers should first check learners’ domain-specific knowledge and provide scaffolding accordingly, such as offering a glossary list, or explaining related cultural concepts.

Selection of texts is only the first step of input provision for our learners. To ensure comprehension and maximize learners’ intake of the targeted knowledge, teachers need to design *tasks* to check learners’ comprehension and promote meaningful communication on the basis of the text. We will discuss more about such interaction between texts and tasks and how technology may facilitate it in the next two chapters, focusing on developing learners’ oral proficiency and literacy, respectively.

In addition to the text, another important source of input is the teacher’s language use, which is partially why staying in the target language is highly encouraged if not mandated for language teachers. ACTFL, for instance, recommends that teachers remain in the target language as exclusively as possible (90% plus) at all levels of instruction (ACTFL, 2010). Use of technology may make it easier for the instruction to stay in the target language. As a teacher observed, “we’ve all found that there is very little that needs to be provided in English if you’re using visuals and technology” (Crouse, 2012). By using presentational technology (e.g., PowerPoint, Keynote, Prezi, or Google Present), teachers are able to explain concepts, set up scenarios, and make their instruction much more comprehensible via the use of projected images and embedded multimedia.

One teaching method that relies heavily on teachers as the main source of input is Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling (TPRS).¹ As suggested in the name, the teacher’s input takes a very specific and systemic form, that is, storytelling through three stages: 1) the teacher’s storytelling (modeling), 2) story “asking” (telling the story jointly with learners’ input), and 3) students’ reading stories independently that contain the same structures used in the stages of storytelling and asking. The strengths of TPRS lie in it providing ample *repeated* input, which is a key to retention of learned vocabulary in long-term memory (Ray & Seely, 1998), and its storytelling activities engage and motivate learners (Braunstein, 2006; Blanton, 2015). What TPRS is not particularly equipped for is real-life situated tasks and use of authentic input² (Alley & Overfield, 2008; Blanton, 2015), compared to communicative language teaching (CLT). While it is not the purpose of this book to compare

different teaching methods, I would like to remind my fellow language teachers to keep an open mind and see different methods as complementary to one another, rather than mutually exclusive. Movie Talk, a technique I am about to introduce in the next paragraph, is a great example that makes use of media materials and merges the advantages of both TPRS and CLT.

Developed by Dr. Ashley Hastings,³ Movie Talk uses authentic videos by first showing them to the students for general understanding of the cultural and contextual settings, despite the fact that the language content itself might be beyond the learners' proficiency level, and then showing it for the second time when the audio is muted and replaced by the teacher's description of the scene, using the target language that suits learners' *i+1* level. An example of Movie Talk looks like this (Contributor: Diane Neubauer, Valor Christian High School. The original teaching demo is available at: <https://youtu.be/h707dWqAGIc>):

1. The teacher shows the first two minutes of the movie 人在囧途 (Lost on Journey). The students only have very limited understanding of the language in it.
2. With a few target structures written on the board with English translation (e.g., 更好, 老板, 开玩笑/开玩笑, 回家过年/回家過年 [Better, boss, to joke, go home for the New Year]), the teacher plays the scene the second time, muted, and provides language input with repeated target structure:

(Simplified Chinese)

- T: 有三个人，他们是工人。他 (pointing at the boss on screen) 是他们的老板。他是不好的老板。他不喜欢他的工人。他跟他们说话的时候，他说很多不好听的话，因为他不喜欢他们。他说，“我是你们的老板，可是你们是不好的工人。怎么有那么不好的工人？我不知道。你们很笨，也很不好。”所以他说，“你给我这个东西很不好，不要！很多人不要买，所以你们都很笨。”他说，“你们今年更笨；去年很笨，今年更笨。”还有他说，“你的头发很长，这是什么意思呢？因为头发很长说你脑子里很笨。”他说得很不好听，对不对？很不喜欢他。他 (pointing at the scolded worker) 说，“我不要工作了。”他 (pointing at the boss) 说，“那，今天，你才聪明了。”懂了吗？差不多是这样的意思。
- S: 老师，我有一个问题。“笨”是什么？
- T: 哦，“笨”，Stupid. (Continue with the scene) 好吧，所以他的名字叫李成功。他的nickname叫灰太狼 – gray wolf，很不好的动物。还有，他的工作是什么？他是一个CEO。
- S: 啊，我有……
- T: 有个问题吗？
- S: 还有一个问题。为什么他有stuffed animals?
- T: 哦，对，因为他是老板，他是一个老板。他的工作是卖东西 (pointing to the stuffed animal as the product)。

(Traditional Chinese)

- T: 有三個人，他們是工人。他 (pointing at the boss on screen) 是他們的老闆。他是不好的老闆。他不喜歡他的工人。他跟他們說話的時候，他說很多不好聽的話，因為他不喜歡他們。他說，“我是你們的老闆，可是你們是不好的工人。怎麼有那麼不好的工人？我不知道。你們很笨，也很不好。” 所以他說，“你給我這個東西很不好，不要！很多人不要買，所以你們都很笨。” 他說，“你們今年更笨；去年很笨，今年更笨。” 還有他說，“你的頭髮很長，這是什麼意思呢？因為頭髮很長說你腦子裡很笨。” 他說得很不好聽，對不對？很不喜歡他。他 (pointing at the scolded worker) 說，“我不要工作了。” 他 (pointing at the boss) 說，“那，今天，你才聰明了。” 懂了嗎？差不多是這樣的意思。
- S: 老師，我有一個問題。“笨”是什麼？
- T: 哦，“笨”，Stupid. (Continue with the scene) 好吧，所以他的名字叫李成功。他的nickname叫灰太狼-gray wolf，很不好的動物。還有，他的工作是什麼？他是一個CEO。
- S: 啊，我有.....
- T: 有個問題嗎？
- S: 還有一個問題。為什麼他有stuffed animals?
- T: 哦，對，因為他是老闆，他是一個老闆。他的工作是賣東西 (pointing to the stuffed animal as the product)。

(English translation)

- T: There are three people, and they are the workers. He (pointing at the boss on screen) is their boss. He is a bad boss. He does not like his workers. When he talks to them, he says lots of harsh words, because he does not like them. He said, “I am your boss, but you are bad workers. How could there be such bad workers? I don’t understand. You are stupid, and bad.” So he said, “The thing you gave me was bad. I don’t want it. Many people don’t want to buy it, so you are all stupid.” He said, “You are even more stupid this year. Last year you were stupid, but this year even more stupid.” And he said, “You have long hair. What does that mean? Long hair means you have a stupid brain.” He said really harsh words, right? We don’t like him. He (pointing at the scolded worker) said, “I’m quitting.” He (pointing at the boss) said, “then you’re smart today.” Understand? That’s roughly what the scene is about.
- S: Teacher, I have a question, what is “ben” (Chinese)?
- T: Oh, “ben.” Stupid. (Continue with the scene) Ok, so his name is Li Chenggong. His nickname is Hui Tailang (Chinese) – gray wolf, a bad animal. And, what’s his job? He is a CEO.
- S: Ah, I have...
- T: Have a question?
- S: I have one more question. Why does he have stuffed animals?

- T: Oh, yes, because he is the boss. He is a boss and his job is to sell things (pointing to the stuffed animal as the product).
3. Move on to the next scene and repeat the procedure.

As shown in this example, Movie Talk not only makes the media material engaging and interactive, but also successfully produces comprehensible input for learners of lower proficiency level while using authentic cultural scenes. The negotiation of meaning between the teacher and the learners is also highly communicative. Movie Talk is one example of combining language input with meaningful tasks but it is not the only way to do so. More types of tasks will be discussed in the next two chapters.

Internal processing: Raise attention and create environments supporting processing

While scholars may differ in their views on what actually goes on in the learner's mind during the processing of input (e.g., whether it involves a linguistic-specific processor or simply uses a frequency-based mechanism the same way learners acquire other knowledge; whether the process is the same for the first and second languages; whether the learner has conscious control over what their mind chooses to process, etc.), the consensus among scholars is that not *all* input would be processed and acquired in the end. Instead, only certain selected input is *noticed*, enters the learner's mind to be processed (i.e., de-coding, forming and testing hypotheses, etc.), and after processing becomes the final *intake*, which is considered acquired knowledge and ready for language production (Corder, 1967; Chaudron, 1985; Smith, 1986; Schmidt, 1990; Gass, 1997).

Since the processing occurs in the learner's mind, there is little teachers may actively do once the processing begins. However, some actions may be taken while providing language input to increase the opportunity for certain parts of the input to be *noticed* and enter the processing facility, such as repeatedly using the same vocabulary or grammar to increase frequency, slowing down or being louder to raise attention to certain phrases, or using gestures for emphasis. For instance, some teachers try to bring learners' attention to tones by associating each tone with a specific gesture. When providing language input, they use the gestures to make learners notice the tone. Similarly, when tones are the focus, some teachers present the written text with color-coding to remind learners to pay attention to tones. Some online dictionaries such as *MDBG* and *Written Chinese* have adopted color-coding for its entries. There are also tools to help teachers generate color-coding texts without having to manually change the color of each single character, such as the color-code Chinese text converter developed by Purple Culture (www.purpleculture.net/color-code-chinese-by-tone/).

Color-coding is not the only way to point learners to certain linguistic features, and the tone is also not the only linguistic feature that can be

emphasized in a text. When presenting a written text, teachers may use emphatic styling such as underlines, shading, or text effects (e.g., italic or bold fonts, shadows or glows, etc.) to help learners notice certain parts of the text. One thing to remember when using such styling though is not to overuse it. Use the effects consistently (e.g., always use underlines for grammar structures, or always use red text for targeted vocabulary, etc.) and try to keep it simple. Remember, if we mark too many things with emphasis, we are actually distracting the learner's focus and it defeats the purpose of emphasizing. Similarly, although some fancy effects (e.g., flashing or bouncing characters) are exciting and do attract learner's attention, the attention itself may be paid primarily to the cool effect itself rather than the targeted learning point.

In addition to using these methods to direct learners' attention to specific parts of input, teachers may also attempt to lower learners' *affective filters*, the negative emotional responses to the learning environment (e.g., performance anxiety, peer pressure, or fear of being corrected/punished/ridiculed). Since affective filters may impact cognitive functionality, it is important that we as teachers maintain an environment of high self-esteem, high self-confidence, and low anxiety to prevent "mental blocks" and facilitate acquisition. To create such an environment does not necessarily require utilizing technology, but as mentioned in Chapter 1, studies have shown that learners may find learning in an e-environment less stressful and threatening, and thus a valid alternative to traditional classroom settings. For face-to-face classrooms, on the other hand, game-based learning is one way to help learners associate learning with positive emotions, which many technological tools could be of help with; this will be discussed in Chapter 7.

Another effective yet often neglected way to lower learners' affective filter is to simply give them enough time to complete their processing. That is, allow learners a *silence period*, in Krashen's words (1982). Tolerance of silence is one important ability I always try to remind new teachers in the field to hone. Most if not all teachers are naturally eager to help our learners and sometimes it misleads us to regard learners' silence as a lack of or struggle with comprehension and to jump in prematurely to supply more input, including that provided in the form of well-intended hints or words of encouragement. In many cases, what the learner needs is just time for them to complete the processing. At this point, attempting to intervene is at best unnecessary, and at worst distracting. In day-to-day classroom practice, even a wait of ten more seconds (believe me, it feels longer than that and you just have to power through it) before we jump in to "help" makes a huge difference.

Output: Pushed comprehensible output

While scholars tend to agree that ample comprehensible input is necessary for second language acquisition, their views of the roles output and feedback play in second language acquisition diverge considerably. According to Krashen's input hypothesis, ample comprehensible input is both *necessary* and *sufficient* for acquisition, and production of language will follow

naturally once the input is successfully processed internally. However, some studies have shown that comprehensible input alone might not necessarily lead to proficiency when it comes to language production, even after years of exposure (Swain 1985; Harley, 1988; Bley-Vroman, 1989). *Comprehensible output*, which encourages learners to speak and write in their second language and negotiate meaning through interaction, also plays a significant role in acquisition. Swain and colleagues (Swain & Lapkin, 1995; Swain, 2005) have identified five basic functions of comprehensible output:

- When learners attempt production, they may notice a gap of linguistic knowledge that they may be able to comprehend but not yet produce. The notice of such a gap triggers further processing and thus may lead to cognitive generation of new knowledge, or consolidation of previously possessed knowledge.
- Output functions as the main venue where learners test the hypotheses of the target language formed during processing. Through interaction with others, learners receive important feedback as to whether their language use successfully conveys the intended meaning, which may lead to confirmation or adjustment of their hypotheses formed during internal processing.
- When negotiating and resolving linguistic problems, learners develop *metalinguage*, which is the language used to talk *about* language. Being able to think, describe, and discuss their linguistic choices helps develop learners' association between form and meaning. When learners put their working hypotheses in language, it also makes their knowledge and learning strategies more observable and easier for the teacher to provide relevant and effective feedback.
- Production of output promotes automatization of language use. In particular, *fluency* is something that may not be developed without ample opportunity to actually speak the language. Learners may also gain self-confidence with frequent successful target language production.
- Output enables learners to move from a semantic to a syntactic use of language. When processing input, learners focus on comprehending the meaning (semantic knowledge). Only when they are asked to produce language do they need to organize their ideas into sentences and longer text, which leads them to pay attention to the syntactic standards of the target language, such as sentence structure, parts of speech, and word order, etc.

In order to harness these functions that benefit learning, *forcing* learners to produce language, namely by designing tasks that require production and interaction, is deemed necessary (Swain, 1985). There are many types of tasks that may push learners to produce language output. For instance, "information gap" is one such task that many teachers include in their lesson designs to have learners engage in meaningful communication. An information gap task gives each learner partial information and they must communicate with

one another to fill in the gaps in order to complete the task (Ellis, 2003). For instance, two students may each have a personal schedule for the next week (assigned or made by the students themselves), and their goal is to find some time to meet up. In order to achieve this goal, they will have to use the target language to ask and answer about their availability, give reasons, agree and disagree, and finally reach a solution that works for them. Such activities guarantee the production of the target language and negotiation in the process, and tend to be highly relevant to the theme of the current lesson unit. In addition to information gap, other commonly used task types for output production include: presentation (on personal or public topics: individual or collaborative), discussion, debate, and situated role play, and writing tasks for different purposes and in different genres.

How does technology assist in these tasks and enhance comprehensible output? Technology can help with the production of comprehensible output in the following ways:

- It helps to simulate real-life situations to contextualize the task. Such contextualization may involve the use of images, music/sound, videos, and props. For instance, in a “giving directions” task, learners may use Beijing Zoo’s online map (displayed on a projected screen, on learners’ mobile devices, or as printouts) to give directions and help others find the panda house. Google Maps is also a good tool for direction-related tasks. If we aim to encourage learners to perform the function of apology, we may have them watch a clip where one character offends another, and ask learners to do a role play that follows the scene, or assume the role of the offending character and write an email to apologize. Use of technology helps make the task more realistic and engaging.
- Technology provides alternative venues where comprehensible output may occur. This function is especially powerful when we consider the factor of time/exposure. Imagine we have our intermediate-level learners tell a story about a forgetful friend. In the setting of prepared speech, the presentation of the story may last 3–5 minutes for each student. That means, in an average language class that has 15 students (in many schools there are more), the total class time spent on the presentation would be 45–75 minutes in a traditional classroom setting. While such in-class presentation offers valuable practice for learners to develop the skills and confidence for public speech, we might only be able to accommodate such tasks once or twice per semester due to limited class hours. To increase learners’ opportunity for such practice, we may instead have students record their speech in the form of audio, videos, or narrated slideshow. Tools and techniques for such tasks will be introduced in the next chapter in the section on technologies for oral communication tasks.
- Technology expands the scope of output tasks. For instance, learners may send one another text messages, write and respond to posts on social

media, email a pen pal (or often called a “key pal”) in a sister program in China, make a comic strip or animated cartoon online, or have a live conference interviewing a native speaker. Some of these tasks may be done without the assistance of technology, such as interviewing a native speaker face to face, or writing a physical letter to a Chinese pen pal, but admittedly, technology has made such tasks easier to arrange and execute.

- Technology may help learners feel more comfortable using the language. As mentioned earlier, the e-environment is regarded as less threatening by many learners and thus they may be more willing to speak or write more in such communication venues. Many learners also enjoy creating avatar or cartoon characters to carry out a dialogue, or dubbing for a movie scene (more information about tools and techniques for such tasks can be found in the next chapter). Appealing to the fun factor of language learning in such activities may also contribute to lowering learners’ affective filters and facilitate learning.

Feedback: Consistent, focused, intense, and individualized feedback

Except for those who subscribe to nativist theory⁴ (e.g., Krashen, 1981, 1982; Schwartz, 1993; Truscott, 1999), most SLA scholars support the notion that teachers’ corrective feedback plays an important role in language acquisition (e.g., Carroll, Roberge, & Swain, 1992; Carroll & Swain, 1993; Long, Inagaki, & Ortega, 1998; Ellis, 2006; Ellis, Basturkmen, & Loewen, 2001; Oliver, 1995, 2000; Spada & Lightbown, 1993; Russell, 2009). In practice, provision of corrective feedback is also commonly observed in classrooms. I have personally yet to meet one teacher who claims that they do not provide corrective feedback at all to their students. However, less converging and sometimes directly oppositional views may be found both among scholars and among teachers as to the effectiveness of different types of feedback. This section will introduce these different types briefly and discuss how technology may assist their provision but will not engage in the debate about their effectiveness since certain types of feedback may benefit certain types of learners more than others (e.g., adults vs. younger learners; higher vs. lower proficiency levels; learners with different individual learning styles, etc.). It ultimately depends on the teacher in practice to observe their learners closely and choose the types of feedback that work the best for them.

Corrective feedback may be broadly divided into two categories: implicit and explicit correction, depending on whether the teacher tries to *overtly* point out the error they made and provide the corrected form. Lyster and colleagues (Lyster & Ranta, 1997; Panova & Lyster, 2002; Lyster & Mori, 2006) have identified several types of feedback in each category and I will provide examples of each type using a learner’s utterance with a common error: 我剛才看了一隻狗/我剛才看了一隻狗。(I just “watched” a dog, instead of “saw” a dog.)

Implicit feedback types

Repetition: 你刚才“看”了一只狗? (You just “watched” a dog?)

In this type of feedback, the teacher simply repeats the learner’s erroneous utterance but with paralinguistic clues such as change of intonation, pauses, facial expressions, or gestures to indicate some changes need to be made to reformulate the utterance.

Recast: 你刚才“看见”了一只狗。 / 你剛才“看見”了一隻狗。(You just “saw” a dog.) Or a two-stage recast in combination with repetition: 你刚才“看”了一只狗? 你刚才“看见”了一只狗。 / 你剛才“看”了一隻狗? 你剛才“看見”了一隻狗。(You just “watched” a dog? You just “saw” a dog.)

Defined as “teacher’s reformulation of all or part of a student’s utterance, minus the error” (Lyster & Ranta, 1997, p. 46), recast is done with the teacher providing the correct form, often accompanied by paralinguistic clues to direct the learner’s attention to the corrected part.

Clarification request: 你说什么? / 你說什麼? (What did you say?) This type of feedback takes the form of common clarification questions, and gives learners the opportunity to correct or clarify themselves without directly pointing out the type or location of the error.

Elicitation:

Form 1: 这句话应该怎么说? / 這句話應該怎麼說? (How should we say this sentence?) This form directly asks learners to reformulate the utterance.

Form 2: 你刚才“什么”了一只狗? / 你剛才“什麼”了一隻狗? (You just “what” a dog?) This form uses a question word in place of the error.

Form 3: 你刚才……? / 你剛才……? (You just…?) This form uses a strategic pause to invite learners to complete the utterance with a corrected form.

Elicitation also gives learners the opportunity for self-correction. The difference between clarification request and elicitation is that the latter makes learners aware of the existence/location of errors in their original utterance.

Translation: You just “watched” a dog?

Technically, translation may take the form of any of the types mentioned above. The difference is just the feedback is done in learners’ native language (L1) instead of the target language (L2).

Explicit feedback types

Explicit correction: 我们不说“看”了一只狗, 应该说“看见”了一只狗。 / 我們不說“看”了一隻狗, 應該說“看見”了一隻狗。(We don’t say “watched” a dog. We should say “saw” a dog.)

Explicit correction overtly contrasts erroneous with corrected utterances.

Metalinguistic feedback: Although in Chinese both 看 and 看见/看見 involve the use of one's vision, 看 refers to the intentional performance of the action such as 看电视/看电视 and 看书/看书 [Watch TV and read a book], while 看见/看見 emphasizes the spontaneous result of the action, the reception of the visual signal, when you actually “see” something.

Metalinguistic feedback provides information *about* the error and explain *why* the error is considered unacceptable in the target language. In lower-level classes, such feedback often involves the teacher's code-switching from the target language to learners' L1 because the required linguistic competence for processing such information is beyond the learners' current proficiency.

Table 3.1 compares the general pros and cons of explicit and implicit feedback.

In addition to the types of feedback, the manner in which a teacher gives feedback may also impact learners' uptake. The preferred feedback provision should reflect:

- Consistency, in terms of the format and the occurrence of feedback. For instance, Doughty (2001) observed a teacher who maintained consistency by always allowing learners to repair their own errors and giving the targeted reformulation only if the learners failed to do so. Using consistent paralinguistic cues may also help learners to notice when the

Table 3.1 Pros and cons of implicit and explicit feedback

| | <i>Pros</i> | <i>Cons</i> |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Implicit Feedback | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learners are given the opportunity to correct themselves. • Learners may be pushed to produce more comprehensible output. • The flow of communication is less interrupted than explicit feedback. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given its indirect nature, there is more ambiguity in implicit feedback and learners may get confused or not notice the error. • Learners may not necessarily be able to infer the underlying rules pertaining to the error. |
| Explicit Feedback | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It draws learners' attention to the error and reformulation more directly. • The feedback is clearer and thus requires less “guessing” from the learners. • It gives more information about the existence, location, and nature of the error. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It does not give room for learners to correct themselves. • It may cause learners to feel criticized and have negative affective impact on learners' confidence and motivation.⁷ • It takes the learners further out of the task context and causes more interruption of the communication flow. |

corrective feedback is happening and orient their attention to the contrastive reformulation (Chaudron, 1977; Lightbown & Spada, 1990). The occurrence of feedback should also be consistent (Han, 2002). When it is the same type of error, correcting some and leaving others uncorrected might cause confusion. However, it does not mean that we should correct every error the learners make, which brings us to the next principle: focus.

- Focus. The consistent correction should focus on certain systematic, *global* errors (Hendrickson, 1978) instead of trying to correct *all* errors. When a teacher targets too wide a range of errors, it may overwhelm learners, impede the development of fluency, and have a negative impact on learners' self-confidence and motivation (Ellis, 2009; Storch, 2010).
- Intensity. Intensity involves the frequency of correction. The frequency of correction of a repeated error leads to saliency, and subsequent retention. Han (2002) pointed out that intensity and focus should work together in order to ensure reliable uptake. If a type of error does not occur frequently, it would not be considered a "global" focus and simply will not provide enough incidences for intense correction.
- Individualization. When giving feedback, teachers should keep in mind that what we assume to be salient might not be recognized as salient to learners (Smith, 1991). Close observation and adaption to individual learners' processing preference and readiness is thus crucial to feedback provision (Han, 2002; Sheen, 2006). It is also worth pointing out that although there are indeed common errors in (given groups of) learners' L2 output, there might also be consistent errors shown in individual learners' output, which is another reason for individualized feedback. Learners tend to enjoy the personalized nature of such feedback and consider it beneficial for their learning (Hsu, Wang, & Comac, 2008).

Technology may provide means and tools for teachers to offer consistent, focused, intense, and individualized feedback, in the following ways:

- Technology may help us to collect and store learners' output as audio files, videos, or digital text documents. It enables the teachers to review learners' language use asynchronously and conduct more systematic analysis to identify frequent errors and choose their corrective foci accordingly. Accumulated output over time may also allow teachers to observe learners' uptake of correction and further adjust their feedback to follow up. Take the following course video-blog for example (Contributor: Amber Navarre, Boston University). The learners were asked to respond once a week to an episode of 《蜗居》 (*Dwelling Narrowness*), a Chinese TV series, in the format of a recorded speech video posted on the course blog. In this example, the teacher noticed a mix of registers (formal and informal) in a learner's output, which is very common when learners are transitioning from intermediate to advanced proficiency and from a personal communicative domain to a public/professional domain. Therefore, in her feedback to the learner's week 2 assignment, the teacher suggested:

(Simplified Chinese)

你可能要统一一下你说话的风格，比如，你说“在吃饭时”，这是比“(在)吃饭的时候”正式的说法，但是“我爸 / 我妈”是非常口语的说法，所以听起来就会一下子正式，一下子口语。下次可以试着统一你说话的风格。

(Traditional Chinese)

你可能要統一一下你說話的風格，比如，你說“在吃飯時”，這是比“(在)吃飯的時候”正式的说法，但是“我爸 / 我妈”是非常口語的說法，所以聽起來就會一下子正式，一下子口語。下次可以試著統一你說話的風格。

(English translation)

You probably want to unify the style of your speech. For instance, you said “when we ate” (more formal Chinese). It was a more formal expression than “when we ate” (less formal Chinese), but “my pop/mom” is on the other hand quite colloquial, so it sounds formal for one second and colloquial for the next. Next time, you can try to unify the style when you talk.

A few more corrections regarding the formal/informal registers occurred in week 3–5, and the learner made adjustments occurring to the teacher’s suggestions. Noticing the learner’s uptake, the teacher commented in her feedback to the learner’s assignment in week 6:

你现在说话比之前正式了，比较少过于口语的表达方式，这一点非常好。 / 你現在說話比以前正式了，比較少過於口語的表達方式，這一點非常好。(You now talk more formally than before, with less overly colloquial expressions. It is very good.)

Without the video-blog that stored learners’ speech data, the teacher might not have been able to identify learners’ global error and trace their uptake of earlier corrective feedback. The noticing and commenting on learners’ improvement also brings us to an important concept that teacher feedback does not necessarily have to be strictly “corrective” but can also recognize and reinforce the learners’ positive changes in their output that indicate learning. It is worth noting that studies have also cautioned teachers to be careful when giving praise for reinforcement. While it does have a positive affective impact on learners’ motivation and confidence, it should be *proportionate* to the actual language performance and accompanied by a clear indication as to why they are praised. Excessive and vague praise may be interpreted by the learners as indicating that the teacher has little confidence in them (Thompson, 1997).

- The availability of recorded output from learners also helps teachers to provide individualized feedback. The individualization may reify in two

ways: 1) by recognizing individual learners' language pattern and providing customized correction or reinforcement; 2) by incorporating a personalized tone to the feedback and showing genuine interest from the teacher in *what* the learner actually says (the content), not just *how* they say it (the form). For instance, the whole comment the teacher gave the aforementioned learner for his week 6 assignment reads:

(Simplified Chinese)

说得很好。“幸福的概念是要先有物质才能考虑的”的这个想法表达得很好。（但是你后来收回了……哈哈，我想你的意思是，我们需要基本的物质，不然不可能幸福，但是其他超过这些基本物质的东西就不一定有必要了。）你现在说话比之前正式了，比较少过于口语的表达方式，这一点非常好。

语言建议：

如果我没有好好律师的话》》如果我没有好“的”律师的话

我在这边的物质的价值会增加在那边》》（这句话我有一点不懂，你是说如果拿美国赚的钱去其他那些地方就能得到更多的物质享受，因为物价比较低，是这个意思吗？）

(Traditional Chinese)

說得很好。“幸福的概念是要先有物質才能考慮的”的這個想法表達得很好。（但是你後來收回了……哈哈，我想你的意思是，我們需要基本的物質，不然不可能幸福，但是其他超過這些基本物質的東西就不一定有必要了。）你現在說話比之前正式了，比較少過於口語的表達方式，這一點非常好。

語言建議：

如果我没有好好律師的話》》如果我没有好“的”律師的話

我在這邊的物質的價值會增加在那邊》》（這句話我有一點不懂，你是說如果拿美國賺的錢去其他那些地方就能得到更多的物質享受，因為物價比較低，是這個意思嗎？）

(English translation)

Well said. “The concept of spiritual happiness can only come into consideration after material fulfillment” was a well-expressed thought. (But you took it back later... haha. I think what you meant was that we need basic material, or otherwise we cannot really claim happiness, but it's not necessary to possess material beyond the basic needs.) You now talk more formally than before, with less overly colloquial expressions. It is very good.

Language suggestions:

If I don't have well lawyers》》If I don't have “good” lawyers, the value of my material here will increase there》》I am a little confused about this sentence. Do you mean if we take the money we make in the US to other places, we can then enjoy more material benefits, because the living standards are lower in the latter? Is that what you meant?

In this comment, the teacher provided her personal interpretation of the learner's talk (我想你的意思是...../ I think what you meant was...), expressed her amusement at seeing that the learner gave an argument and then second-guessed himself as the talk progressed (但是你后来收回了, 哈哈 / 但是你後來收回了, 哈哈 / you took it back later... haha) and her confusion about one specific sentence (这句话我有一点不懂, 你是说..... / 這句話我有一點不懂, 你是說...../ I am a little confused about this sentence. Do you mean...). The tone of these comments conveyed to the learner that what they said was important and was being treated with due attention. It is also worth pointing out that the manner of the teacher-provided feedback is consistent with all the video posts through the semester, with more content-oriented feedback first, followed by linguistic suggestions.

Although such individualized feedback can also be achieved in a traditional classroom setting, the frequency of its provision may be considerably increased with the utilization of technology. In this example, the learner's recorded speech was 6 minutes long. If it had occurred in a traditional classroom, the speech and the following feedback would have easily taken up multiple class periods for an average class of 15 students. It would not have been possible to conduct such activities with the same frequency, namely once a week in this case.

- Technology may make feedback less interruptive and favors intense and consistent feedback. Depending on the timing of provision, feedback can be immediate or delayed. Immediate feedback addresses the error when it occurs, while delayed feedback is given after the communication event is completed. Immediate feedback makes it easier for learners to match the correction with the targeted error. However, an unavoidable disadvantage is that it interrupts the communication flow, especially given that a certain wait-time needs to be allowed for learners to process the correction before they can go back to the communication task (James, 1998; Lyster, 1998). Delayed feedback, on the other hand, does not interrupt the communication flow, but may make it harder for learners to locate the errors, especially in a speaking task where learners may simply not remember exactly what they said even just minutes ago.

Technology may help us to an extent to combine the advantages of immediate feedback (clear mapping of correction to error) and delayed feedback (uninterrupted communication flow). With recording technology, for instance, the feedback is given after the communication task is completed and is delayed by default. However, when receiving feedback, learners may replay the video/audio to help them remember their own speech. Some tools may further enable teachers to insert their feedback into the original video/audio, to the exact point where the error occurred. This method in a sense reconstructs the “immediacy” of the feedback and maps the correction directly to the targeted error. For instance,

VideoNot.es allows users to make notes while watching a YouTube video and “timestamp” it with your notes. It generates a sharable Google doc with the notes, and when clicking on each note, it brings you back to the relevant part of video.

VideoNot.es is currently limited to text feedback. If a teacher would prefer to add a video/audio comment, they may do so by using video/audio editing tools (e.g., GarageBand or Audacity for audio; iMovie, Shotcut, Filmora, or Camtasia for videos⁵) to record their feedback into learners’ original files. Take GarageBand for example, as shown in Figure 3.3: the teacher may pause the learner’s audio when they hear a targeted error, split the original track, record their own feedback in a separate track, and export one audio file at the end.

Another option that works with videos is to use online interactive content-embedding tools, such as Edpuzzle and PlayPosit, to record and embed your voices into a self-uploaded video, or a streamed video (e.g., YouTube or Vimeo). Figure 3.4 is an example of embedding a voice recording to a YouTube video in Edpuzzle by using its “record audio notes” function. If you have learners upload their videos on streaming services, Edpuzzle and PlayPosit would be quite convenient and easy tools for giving audio feedback.

- As demonstrated in the case of inserted feedback above, technology allows the teacher to provide feedback in both oral and written modes. While oral feedback may include the reformulated speech input (i.e., the teacher says the utterance correctly) for the learners to model, written feedback may benefit learning when it comes to metalinguistic explanations (Bitchener,



Figure 3.3 Example of recorded in-speech feedback using GarageBand



Figure 3.4 Example of recorded in-speech feedback using Edpuzzle

2008; Ellis, Sheen, Murakami, & Takashima, 2008). Most blogging and services (e.g., Weebly, Blogger, and Wordpress) and learning management systems (e.g., Blackboard, Moodle, Canvas, and Google Classroom) allow teachers to leave both written feedback as typed comments and video/audio feedback either through file attachment or direct recording. In the next chapter, I will introduce several tools that are designed particularly to collect learners' speech output (e.g., FlipGrid, Voicethread, and Lingt), which also tend to provide an easy one-click comment recording option for teachers as well as typed comments.

It is worth pointing out that many of the tools mentioned above also allow peer commenting. Teachers may encourage learners to view each other's work and leave feedback. While peer feedback tends not to be corrective in nature and might not directly contribute to the development of oral proficiency, it does add value to two aspects of learning:

- It helps cultivate an interactive and collaborative learner community and develop learners' social identity in the target language (Conrad, 2005; Harrison & Thomas, 2009; Sung & Mayer, 2012).
- It gives learners' presentational work a wider audience⁶ and makes the communication more meaningful and purposeful compared to just submitting the work to the teacher for correction/grading. This sense of authorship and presence may contribute to learners' motivation to use the target language more frequently (Richardson, 2006; Sun, 2009).

In this chapter, we have discussed how technology may help facilitate the learning process in different stages. The next chapter will focus on technologies that enhance learners' development of oral proficiency.

Resources

1. Streaming video services:
 YouTube: www.youtube.com
 Vimeo: vimeo.com
 优酷 / 優酷: www.youku.com
 腾讯视频 / 騰訊視頻: <http://v.qq.com>
 哔哩哔哩 / 嗶哩嗶哩: www.bilibili.com
 爱奇艺 / 愛奇藝: www.iqiyi.com
2. Live webcast services:
 YY: www.yy.com
 火山小视频: www.huoshanzhibo.com
 美拍: www.meipai.com/live
 Facebook: www.facebook.com
 Instagram: www.instagram.com
 微信: www.wechat.com/en/
 微博 / 微博: <https://weibo.com>
3. Search engines:
 Google: www.google.com
 Yahoo: www.yahoo.com
 百度: www.baidu.com

Tools

1. Tools for inserting comments in learners' speech videos/audio:

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | VideoNot.es |
| Function | Insert timestamped text comments in YouTube videos |
| Difficulty Level | ★☆☆ |
| Product Website | www.videonot.es |
| Product Name | Camtasia |
| Function | Make video/audio comments to learners' video/audio |
| Difficulty Level | Basic recording: ★ Advanced editing: ★★★ |
| Product Website | www.techsmith.com/video-editor.html |
| Product Name | iMovie (Mac) |
| Function | Make video/audio comments to learners' video/audio |
| Difficulty Level | Basic recording: ★ Advanced editing: ★★☆☆ |
| Product Website | www.apple.com/imovie/ |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Shotcut |
| Function | Edit videos |
| Difficulty Level | ★☆☆ |
| Product Website | www.shotcut.org |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | Filmora |
| Function | Edit videos |
| Difficulty Level | ★☆☆ |
| Product Website | https://filmora.wondershare.net/filmora-video-editor.html |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | Edpuzzle |
| Function | Make audio comments to learners' video |
| Difficulty Level | ★☆☆ |
| Product Website | https://edpuzzle.com/ |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Playposit |
| Function | Embed interactive content into a video |
| Difficulty Level | ★☆☆ |
| Product Website | www.playposit.com |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | GarageBand (Mac only) |
| Function | Make audio comments to learners' audio |
| Difficulty Level | Simple recording: ★ Advanced editing: ★★ |
| Product Website | www.apple.com/mac/garageband/ |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Audacity |
| Function | Make audio comments to learners' audio |
| Difficulty Level | Simple recording: ★ Advanced editing: ★★ |
| Product Website | www.audacityteam.org |

2. Blogging tools:

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Weebly |
| Function | Create and maintain blogs |
| Difficulty Level | ★★ |
| Product Website | www.weebly.com |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Blogger |
| Function | Create and maintain blogs |
| Difficulty Level | ★★ |
| Product Website | www.blogger.com |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | Wordpress |
| Function | Create and maintain blogs |
| Difficulty Level | ★★★ |
| Product Website | https://wordpress.com |

3. Tools for collecting learners' speech output:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | Flipgrid |
| Function | Collect and organize learners' speech videos; teacher and peer feedback |
| Difficulty Level | ★ |
| Product Website | https://info.flipgrid.com |
| Product Name | Voicethread |
| Function | Collect learners' narration with images; teacher and peer feedback |
| Difficulty Level | ★☆☆ |
| Product Website | https://voicethread.com |
| Product Name | Lingt |
| Function | Collect individual learners' audio and text responses; teacher feedback |
| Difficulty Level | ★ |
| Product Website | www.lingt.com |

Notes

- 1 The TPRS method draws heavily on the theory of comprehensible input, and many teachers practicing it actually call the method "Comprehensible Input." However, since TPRS is not the only teaching method that applies the principle of comprehensible input, this book differentiates its use of TPRS (a teaching method) and comprehensible input (a language processing theory) to avoid confusion.
- 2 A common definition of "authentic" language use is that it is intended for native speakers with a real-life goal. In TPRS, the "stories" are created for the purpose of language learning and thus not intended for native speakers; they are not considered "authentic" language input.
- 3 An overview and examples of movie talk may be found on her website: <http://glesismore.com/movietalk/preview.html>
- 4 Nativist theory was coined by Chomsky, who argued for the innateness of language acquisition. This view has impacted Krashen's input theory that comprehension input is sufficient for internal processing and instruction/feedback is not only unnecessary but could even be distractive and harmful to learners' processing.
- 5 All of these video editing tools may also be used to edit audio-only files.
- 6 The audience may involve the general public in an open blog and social media setting, or be limited to the class and authorized users in a password-protected blog or private social media setting (e.g., a closed Facebook group page or an Edmodo site).
- 7 Negative affective impact might be provoked by either implicit and explicit feedback, but is more common with the latter because the "correction" is made more obvious.

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4 Learner-centered instruction, digital storytelling, and flipped learning

As early as the late 1970s and early 1980s, scholars in second language acquisition (SLA) started advocating for learner-centered instruction in foreign language education (e.g., Papalia, 1976; Altman & James, 1981). Despite the wide recognition and promotion among scholars with theoretical and empirical support, the majority of general practice in foreign language classes remained highly teacher-centered for the next two decades (Dupin-Bryant, 2004; Liu, Qiao, & Liu, 2006). Such a discrepancy between theory and practice may be attributed to the lack of proper professional training for teachers to obtain the *know-how* of learner-centered instruction (Altman, 1983; Liu, Qiao, & Liu, 2006). As Altman (1983) pointed out, the *transformation* of one's teaching to be learner-centered relies on the understanding of the *deep structure* (beliefs and attitudes) and *surface structure* (methods and technical skills) of such an educational orientation and that "learner-centered language teachers are trained most effectively in learner-centered teacher training programs" (p. 24). Fortunately, we have witnessed an increasing number of such training opportunities since the turn of the century. Many leading centers and organizations in the field of foreign language teacher training have incorporated learner-centered instruction as one of their core values. An obvious example is the 21st Century Skills Map published by ACTFL and P21 (Partnership for 21st Century Learning, 2011). In the chart that compares the past with today's "transformed" language classroom (p. 4), not only is "learner-centered with teacher as facilitator/collaborator" (vis-à-vis "teacher-centered class") listed as a feature of today's classroom, many other listed features also reflect the nature of learner-centered instruction, such as:

- Students learn to *use* the language [emphasis added]
- Emphasis on learner as "doer" and "creator"
- Differentiating instruction to meet individual needs
- Personalized real world tasks
- Seeking opportunities for learners to use language beyond the classroom
- Learners create to "share and publish" to audiences more than just the teacher

Digital storytelling and flipped learning

As a consequence, more and more books, conferences, workshops, and webinars are now available about learner-centered instruction, and teachers no longer lack training opportunities, as Altman (1983) observed in the last century.

The working definition of learner-centered instruction (LCI) in this chapter is, as Kain (2003) developed, the approaches in which the construction of knowledge is shared, and learning is achieved through learners' engagement with various activities. Wang, Jensen, and Yeh (2011) put together a list of common elements of an LCI foreign language class:

- Theme-based
- Cognitively engaging real-world tasks focus on end goal
- Final performance for an authentic audience
- Authentic resources
- Teacher as facilitator
- Learner as doers
- Personalized learning
- Target language used within *and* outside of class [emphasis in original]
- Focus on all modes of communication
- Connect language learning with cultural products, practices, perspectives
- Assess all modes of communication
- Language used as a tool to support learning in other content areas

It is worth noting that all of the technologies introduced in previous chapters are already compliant with or capable of learner-centered lesson design. In this chapter, I am going to introduce two specific technology-enhanced methods that accommodate LCI particularly well: digital storytelling and flipped learning.

Digital storytelling

Digital storytelling in the field of education generally refers to the production of short personal narratives in which learners construct meaning using multiple semiotic resources enabled by media technology. The product can be seen as a “hybrid text” (Yang, 2012, p. 221) that may include voiced narratives, written texts, images, sounds, music, videos, or even interactive digital games. Studies have shown that digital storytelling benefits learners in many aspects of language learning, such as:

- Development of oral proficiency (Castaneda, 2013; Yoon, 2013; Kim, 2014)
- Enhancement of reading and writing processes (Ohler, 2006; Yoon, 2013; Sarica & Usluel, 2016)
- Author identity construction (Nelson, 2006; Yang, 2012)
- Complex, creative, and critical thinking (Sadik, 2008; Vinogradova, Linville, & Bickel, 2011; Yoon, 2013)

- Exploration and practice of multiliteracy (Nelson & Hull, 2009; Vinogradova, Linville, & Bickel, 2011; Yang, 2012; Castaneda, 2013)
- Establishment of learner collaboration and community (Normann, 2011; Vinogradova, Linville, & Bickel, 2011; Yoon, 2013)

Learners have also responded positively to this learning experience and recognized it as engaging and motivating for self-learning as well as collaborative learning (Ware, 2008; Lotherington & Jenson, 2011; Normann, 2011; Kim, 2014; Aktas & Yurt, 2017). As Castaneda (2013, p. 55) pointed out, “students were able, willing, and proud to share personal stories in a foreign language.”

Digital storytelling is in essence learner-centered because:

- It is theme-based, which creates a sense of purpose and encourages deeper inquiry into a domain of knowledge of the learner’s own choice.
- The learning experience is personalized in every aspect, including choice of topic, content, narrating style, sound effects, and visual design.
- Learners are the doers while teachers are facilitators in the process of story creation.
- It is project based, with sequenced and integrated tasks that focus on the final construction of meaning.
- It connects the learning of language and other content areas.
- It may utilize authentic resources.
- It may be presented to an authentic audience.
- The process may involve all modes of communication.

Digital storytelling benefits learners the most when we see it as a long-term *process* rather than just focusing on the *product*. From brainstorming ideas to writing up initial drafts, to peer editing, to processing feedback from peers and the teacher, to revising based on these comments, and to making media-related decisions, there are ample learning opportunities for constant self-expression and meaning negotiation. Lambert’s (2013) framework clearly maps out this process with seven steps towards an impactful digital story:

1. **Owning your insights:** By asking questions such as “what story do I want to tell” and “what it means to me,” the author presents a particular lesson they learned through the story, which serves them “in negotiating their lives in the world” (p. 54).
2. **Owning your emotions:** The author identifies the emotions they go through in the story and conveys them to the audience with “emotional honesty” (p. 58) to help the audience understand the journey.
3. **Finding the moment:** It emphasizes the *moment* that things change, a dramatic highlight in the story that brings new insight or shifts in perspective.
4. **Seeing your story:** The author uses visuals to *bring things to life* for the audience.

Digital storytelling and flipped learning

5. Hearing your story: The author uses their own voice, which is the essential element that distinguishes a digital *story* from a music video or slideshow, and additional sounds and music to connect emotionally with the audience.
6. Assembling your story: This is the step where the author puts all of the visuals and audio into the story structure and make sure they work together.
7. Sharing your story: The author revisits the context of the story and verifies the match between the purpose, the content, and the intended audience, which also decides distribution scope (e.g., with a general audience online, or with a small closed group, etc.).

How do we translate such a framework into practice in a language classroom? What would we actually have learners do to incorporate these steps, leading towards the final production of a digital story? Let's look at two project timelines developed by language teachers in practice:

The first one is a 12-week project developed by Brenner (2014), in which she divided the process into three stages:

Stage 1: Pre-production

- Week 1 – Present digital storytelling project idea
- Week 2 – Introduce digital story background and show examples
- Week 3 – Software demonstration and mini-digital-story task
- Week 4 – Students begin writing narrative and selecting photos
- Week 5 – Students continue writing and selecting
- Week 6 – Students continue writing; peer editing
- Week 7 – Students complete storyboards; more peer editing

Stage 2: Production

- Week 8 – Students upload images and crop if necessary
- Weeks 9 and 10 – Students record narrative voiceovers
- Week 11 – Students fine-tune digital stories
- Week 12 – Students present digital stories

Stage 3: Postproduction

- Week 12 – Wrap-up and class feedback

The second example is a shorter, one-week project developed by Cao (2010), which involves more intensive work every day:

Monday:

1. Introduce digital storytelling
2. Research a topic

3. Write initial script (250–300 Chinese characters)

Tuesday:

1. Story circle; sharing stories
2. Create a storyboard
3. Rewrite (second draft)
4. Teacher corrects the second draft and sends it back to student

Wednesday:

1. Students practice the reading of the text
2. Record audio narration
3. Sequence images

Thursday:

1. Add music
2. Add transitions
3. Add subtitles
4. Add credits
5. Finish your final product

Friday:

1. Presentation: Students' digital stories
2. Invite your parents to come to enjoy your work

Both projects share some important components to ensure the success of the story making:

- Both teachers introduce the concept of digital storytelling at the beginning, by presenting examples and familiarizing learners with the software. Brenner's design also had learners do a mini storytelling project to practice with the software.
- Both projects involve peer feedback in the multi-drafting process (peer editing in the former and story circle¹ in the latter).
- Students present their digital stories to an audience. In Cao's design, parents are also invited to this premier screening, which makes it more meaningful to the learners.

Topics of digital storytelling usually involve a personally significant moment or anecdote, but it can also be expanded to include topics of personal interest such as a historical event or a fictional work. However, as Lambert's frameworks suggest, the important factor is that a digital story is not simply created to convey *facts*, but to present *perspectives* on something meaningful to the author. Take this student's story *Red Dragonfly* (红蜻蜓) as an example, presented in Table 6.1:

Table 6.1 Digital story 《红蜻蜓》 Red Dragonfly







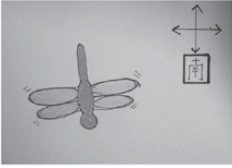
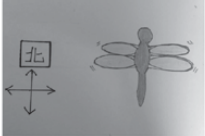

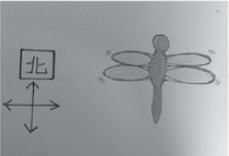
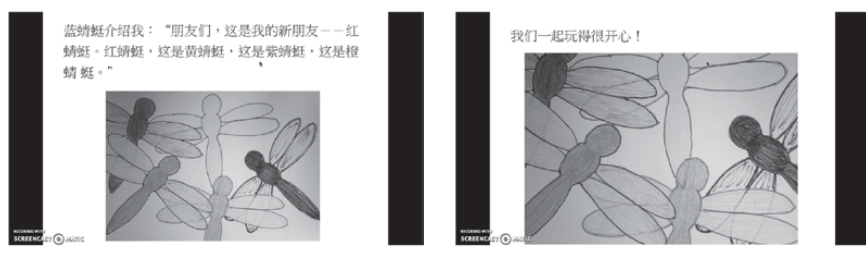
| | |
|---|---|
| <p>今天是星期一。</p> <p>我在大树的树叶下面出生了。</p>  | <p>今天是星期二。</p> <p>我听见一个蓝蜻蜓说：“你好，蜻蜓宝宝！我叫蓝蜻蜓，你有没有名字？”</p>  |
| <p>“我还没有名字。我的颜色是绿的，我的翅膀还不能飞！”</p> <p>蓝蜻蜓说：“你应该等两天，你比较大，就会变颜色，然后你也可以飞了。”</p>  | <p>今天是星期三。</p> <p>我的颜色还是绿的，我不比昨天大。我的翅膀还没有颜色，而且也太湿了，所以我还不能飞。</p>  |
| <p>今天是星期四。</p> <p>我的翅膀不但变成了红色，而且也没有昨天那么湿了。我试试翅膀，可是还不会动。</p>  | <p>今天是星期五。</p> <p>我又试试了，翅膀开始动了，我终于可以飞了。这是我第一次飞。</p>  |
| <p>我往森林的南边飞，一边飞一边找蓝蜻蜓。我什么地方都找了，可是没有看见我的朋友。</p>  | <p>今天是星期六。</p> <p>我比昨天飞得更快更好了。我往森林的北边飞，一边飞，一边找蓝蜻蜓。</p>  |
| <p>在一棵黄树的紫树叶上面我看到了蓝蜻蜓。蓝蜻蜓说：“你的颜色变了！你是红的！你比以前漂亮多了！”</p> <p>我很开心地说：“是的！我觉得我可以叫红蜻蜓！”</p>  | <p>今天是星期天。</p> <p>我飞回黄树找我的朋友。</p>  |

Table 6.1 (Cont.)



(Contributor: Julia Kim, University of Puget Sound. Instructor: Lo Sun Perry)

(Text in simplified Chinese)

今天是星期一。我在大树的树叶下面出生了。

今天是星期二。我听见一个蓝蜻蜓说：“你好，蜻蜓宝宝！我叫蓝蜻蜓，你有没有名字？”

“我还没有名字。我的颜色是绿的，我的翅膀还不可以飞。”

蓝蜻蜓说：“你应该等两天。你比较大，就会变颜色，然後你也可以飞了。”

今天是星期三。我的颜色还是绿的，我不比昨天大。我的翅膀还没有颜色，而且也太湿了，所以我还不可以飞。

今天是星期四。我的翅膀不但变成了红色，而且也没有昨天那麽湿了。我试试翅膀，可是还不会动。

今天是星期五。我又试了试，翅膀开始动了，我終於可以飞了。这是我第一次飞。

我往森林的南边飞，一边飞一边找蓝蜻蜓。我什麼地方都找了，可是没有看见我的朋友。

今天是星期六。我比昨天飞得更快更好了。我往森林的北边飞，一边飞，一边找蓝蜻蜓。

在一棵黄树的紫树叶上面我看到了蓝蜻蜓，蓝蜻蜓说：“你的颜色变了！你是红的！你比以前漂亮多了！”

我很开心地说：“是的！我觉得我可以叫红蜻蜓！”

今天是星期天。我飞回黄树找我的朋友。

蓝蜻蜓介绍我：“朋友们，这是我的新朋友--红蜻蜓。红蜻蜓，这是黄蜻蜓，这是紫蜻蜓，这是橙蜻蜓。”

我们一起玩得很开心！

(Text in traditional Chinese)

今天是星期一。我在大樹的樹葉下面出生了。

今天是星期二。我聽見一個藍蜻蜓說：“你好，蜻蜓寶寶！我叫藍蜻蜓，你有沒有名字？”

“我還沒有名字。我的顏色是綠的，我的翅膀還不可以飛。”

藍蜻蜓說：“你應該等兩天。你比較大，就會變顏色，然後你也可以飛了。”

Digital storytelling and flipped learning

今天是星期三。我的顏色還是綠的，我不比昨天大。我的翅膀還沒有顏色，而且也太濕了，所以我還不可以飛。

今天是星期四。我的翅膀不但變成了紅色，而且也沒有昨天那麼濕了。我試試翅膀，可是還不會動。

今天是星期五。我又試了試，翅膀開始動了，我終於可以飛了。這是我第一次飛。

我往森林的南邊飛，一邊飛一邊找藍蜻蜓。我什麼地方都找了，可是沒有看見我的朋友。

今天是星期六。我比昨天飛得更快更好了。我往森林的北邊飛，一邊飛，一邊找藍蜻蜓。

在一棵黃樹的紫樹葉上面我看到了藍蜻蜓，藍蜻蜓說：“你的顏色變了！你是紅的！你比以前漂亮多了！”

我很開心地說：“是的！我覺得我可以叫紅蜻蜓！”

今天是星期天。我飛回黃樹找我的朋友。

藍蜻蜓介紹我：“朋友們，這是我的新朋友——紅蜻蜓。紅蜻蜓，這是黃蜻蜓，這是紫蜻蜓，這是橙蜻蜓。”

我們一起玩得很開心！

(English translation)

Today was Monday. I was born under the leaves of a big tree.

Today was Tuesday. I heard a blue dragonfly say, “Hello, baby dragonfly! My name is Blue Dragonfly. Do you have a name?”

“I don’t have a name yet. My color is green. My wings are not capable of flying yet.” Blue Dragonfly said, “You should wait for a few days. When you get bigger, your color will change, and you can fly too.”

It was Wednesday. My color was still green and I was no bigger than yesterday. My wings still had no colors and were too wet, so I still couldn’t fly.

Today was Thursday. My wings not only turned red, but it was also less wet than yesterday. I tried with my wings, but could not move them yet.

Today was Friday. I tried again. My wings began to move. Finally I could fly. This was my very first time.

I flew to the south of the forest, while I was looking for Blue Dragonfly. I searched everywhere, but I could not see my friend.

Today was Saturday. I flew faster and better than yesterday. I flew to the north of the forest, looking for Blue Dragonfly.

On a purple leaf of a yellow tree I found Blue Dragonfly. Blue Dragonfly said, “Your color changed! You are red! You are much prettier than before!”

I said happily, “Yes! I think I can take Red Dragonfly as my name!”

Today was Sunday. I flew back to the yellow tree to visit my friend.

Blue Dragonfly introduced me to others, “Friends, this is my new friend—Red Dragonfly. Red Dragonfly, this is Yellow Dragonfly. This is Purple Dragonfly. This is Orange Dragonfly.”

We all played together and had a great time!

Although this story did not include any reference to the learner's personal life, her central idea was very clear through the symbolic representation of the dragonfly's life. It was a story about personal growth and friendship, two themes that were significant in her life as a young adult.

This example also demonstrates that digital storytelling promotes self-learning. As a first-year learner of Chinese, the author not only maximized her use of what she had learned at that point (e.g., weekdays, colors, and sentence structures, etc.), she also searched and learned new words, phrases, and grammar in order to express meaning. What's more important is that through creating this story, she managed to express more than the sum of the individual words and patterns she had acquired in the process, which is an outcome often observed among learners telling digital stories.

For learners of higher proficiency, the content of the story may take on a research component. Take this student's story about the Qing Dynasty for example, presented in Table 6.2:

As one may see, this story included many historic facts about the Qing Dynasty, which was a result of the learner's research on this topic. However, it was still organized to support the author's point of view (i.e., the Qing Dynasty made a great contribution to the development of China), and the whole "story" reflects the author's interest (history) and is related to his personal life (his communication with his Chinese friend).

The media/tools the first student (Julia) used were hand drawings (captured by a digital camera), PowerPoint slides, and Screencast-O-Matic, a web-based screen-capturing program that also recorded her voice. The second student (Kevin) used his own photos, images obtained from the Internet, and iMovie to record his narration to each image.

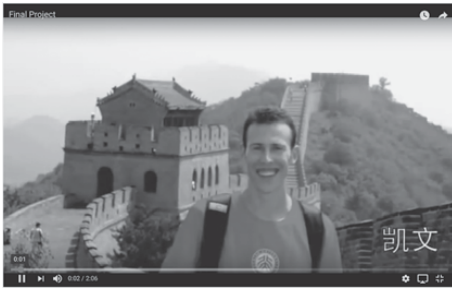
There are many different tools that can be used to record a digital story. One option is to simply record your narratives directly in PowerPoint (2007 version and after for PC; 2011 and after for Mac) through its "record slide show" option in the "slide show" menu, or in Keynote (Mac) via the "audio" option in the "document" menu. It's worth noting though that currently the recorded slideshow in PowerPoint only plays within the program. When exporting the file as a movie, it loses the recorded sound. If you would like to save the story as a movie file (.mov or .mp4), you can narrate through the slideshow while operating screen-capturing tools, such as Screencast-O-Matic (web-based), ShowMore (web-based), Screencastify (Chrome browser extension), or QuickTime (Mac). These tools simultaneously record what happens on the screen and one's audio input. There are also screen-capturing apps for mobile devices: iOS devices (starting with iOS 11) have a built-in screen recording option in its control center; if your device uses the Android system, you may download independent apps such as DU Recorder or Mobizen Screen Recorder.

If you prefer more effects and video editing options, you may import images² into video editing programs such as iMovie (Mac), Video Remix (Windows), or Adobe Spark. Apps for tablet devices (e.g., iPad or Chromebook) that feature "interactive whiteboards" such as Explain Everything, ShowMe, and

Table 6.2 Digital story 《清朝的故事》 *Story of Qing Dynasty*

Display on screen

Voice narratives⁹



The student talked about how he got interested in this topic: From his email correspondence with a Chinese friend he met earlier in Beijing. They share an interest in history and talk a lot about it in their emails.



The student introduced his specific view: Although many people consider Qin the greatest dynasty of China, he personally believes Qing made an even greater contribution to the development of China.



The student named the political, cultural, and economic contributions of the Qing Dynasty.



The student explained how the economic expansion also unfortunately led to the Opium War and the eventual collapse of the empire.

Table 6.2 (Cont.)

Display on screen

Voice narratives⁹

The student related the rise of the Qing Dynasty to that of current China and attributed both to their economic opening up to international trade.

(Contributor: Kevin Peters, University of Colorado at Boulder. Instructor: Fang Liang)

Educreations (iOS only) are convenient for learners to draw and doodle while recording the presentation.

Although digital storytelling is a powerful method that provides many educational benefits, there are challenges of which teachers should be aware when implementing it:

- Learners and even some teachers may be misled by the name “digital storytelling” and place too much emphasis on the technical components (Banaszewski, 2002; Kajder, 2004; Lambert, 2013). It is important that the teacher orients their learners at the beginning and continues reminding them that the focus of the project is to tell a good story rather than demonstrating mastery in the digital aspect.
- Not all learners are equally familiar with the concept of digital storytelling and the tools they may use to create their stories. As mentioned previously, teachers’ instruction and modeling is key for learners to clearly see the value as well as the operation of such projects. Vinogradova, Linville, and Bickel (2011) also suggest that the source of expertise in regard to technology may go beyond just the instructor and include the whole *community of practice* that includes instructors, classmates, and friends, etc.
- Assessment and grading is another challenge for teachers due to the highly creative and personal nature of the project. Some teachers choose to grade learners’ work based on their timely completion of each step; some place varied emphasis on language, content, and media delivery; some also look at the quality of peer editing and collaboration. Whatever your expectations are, it is important to clearly communicate them with the learners. Using a rubric to lay out expectations and revisiting it occasionally during the process could be helpful.

Flipped learning

Just as the concept of storytelling as a learning experience pre-dates digital media, flipped learning³ also does not necessarily require utilization of modern communication technology. As defined by Bergmann and Sams (2012), flipped learning simply means “that which is traditionally done in class is now done at home, and that which is traditionally done as homework is now completed in class” (p. 13). By this definition, some teachers might have already “flipped” their classes before the digital tools became available.

However, one cannot deny that the vastly increasing attention flipped learning has attracted among teachers in the past decade is owed largely to the availability and accessibility of media production and sharing technologies that provide unprecedented convenience and freedom for teachers to create content for learners to learn at home and save the face-to-face class time for hands-on tasks and individualized projects. Nowadays, it is extremely hard to find a teacher who flips classes without utilizing technology. It is at least fair to say that technology empowers and encourages more teachers to flip their instruction. Some researchers have thus integrated the utilization of technology into the definition of flipped learning, describing it as a model of instruction “in which digital technologies are used to shift direct instruction outside of the group learning space, usually via videos.” By doing so, teachers are able to “reconsider how to maximize individual face-to-face time with students” (Hamdan, McKnight, McKnight, & Arfstrom, 2013, p. 3).

A typical practice of flipped learning usually involves learners viewing a short video explaining a concept at home and then applying the concept to problem-solving tasks when they come to the next class. For instance, in a Chinese class, learners may learn expressions for comparison (e.g., 比 [more than]; 没有……那么/那麼…… [not so...as...]; 跟……(不)一样 / 一樣 [(not) same as]) via instructional videos and come to class the next day completing tasks such as comparing themselves and their peers or comparing two cities. If learners study phone manners via videos at home, they may role play different scenarios in the next class period.

Teachers who have documented the effects of flipped learning in their classes have reported predominantly positive results, including better learning outcomes, smaller gap of learners’ performance, increased motivation, reduced behavioral problems, and lower learning anxiety (Papadopoulos & Roman, 2010; Bergmann & Sams, 2012; Pearson, 2012; Davies, Dean, & Ball, 2013; Baeppler, Walker, & Driessen, 2014; Kim, Kim, Khera, & Getman, 2014; Yarbrow, Arfstrom, McKnight, & McKnight, 2014; Huang & Hong, 2016; Hung, 2015; Ekmekci, 2017).

Flipped learning is learner-centered in its entirety because:

- It converts the content that traditionally is delivered in the format of lectures into videos or similar materials, which allows learners to have more control over and take more responsibility of their own learning.

The content is learned at a pace and in an environment in which learners are most comfortable. The constant availability of learning materials also addresses individual learners' need to revisit certain content, or to advance to the next topic without waiting until the whole class is ready to move on. Teachers may find such differentiated learning particularly effective when they are faced with a group of learners with disparate language proficiency.

- The “freed-up” class time allows for more communicative activities, hands-on projects, and collaborative learning. When learners come to class well-equipped with the linguistic or cultural knowledge learned from the video, they are more able and ready to *own* their language use in class activities. In such classrooms, the learners' role shifts from *passive listeners* to *active doers*, and the teacher's role shifts from “sage on the stage” to “guide on the side” (King, 1993, p. 1), who only provides individualized guidance and assistance when needed. Such a maximized opportunity for interaction is crucial for Category IV languages, including Chinese, as they require an average of 2200 instructional hours for learners to reach general professional proficiency.⁴

An effective flipped classroom depends on both the successful production and delivery of the video or similar material, and the design of a relevant learning experience in the classroom. Although the focus of this chapter will be on the former due to the scope of inquiry of this book, namely the utilization of technology, I would like to join the argument made by previous studies that the production and consumption of instructional videos only constitutes part of flipped learning. What is at least equal, and arguably more important, element is how to best use the in-class time that follows (Başal, 2012; Bergmann & Sams, 2012; DeLozier & Rhodes, 2017; Ekmekci, 2017). Bloom's Taxonomy, as shown in Figure 6.1, is often referred to when scholars and experienced practitioners of flipped learning explain the relationship between the instructional videos and in-class activities.

In flipped learning the lower levels of cognitive domains in this taxonomy, namely remembering and understanding, are done through video viewing and other home assignments while the classroom activities should focus more on the higher levels of cognitive work and encourage learners to apply, analyze, evaluate, and create.

With this understanding in mind, let's steer our attention to the part that typically demands more consideration on the technological side: how to make an effective instructional video.

Bergmann and Sams (2012) laid out four steps to produce effective videos for flipped learning: planning the lesson, recording the video, editing the video, and publishing the video. Di Paolo, Wakefield, Mills, and Baker (2017) suggested a similar procedure: planning, development, delivery, and reflection. In the latter procedure, the development stage includes recording and editing, and the reflection stage is added to collect learners' feedback

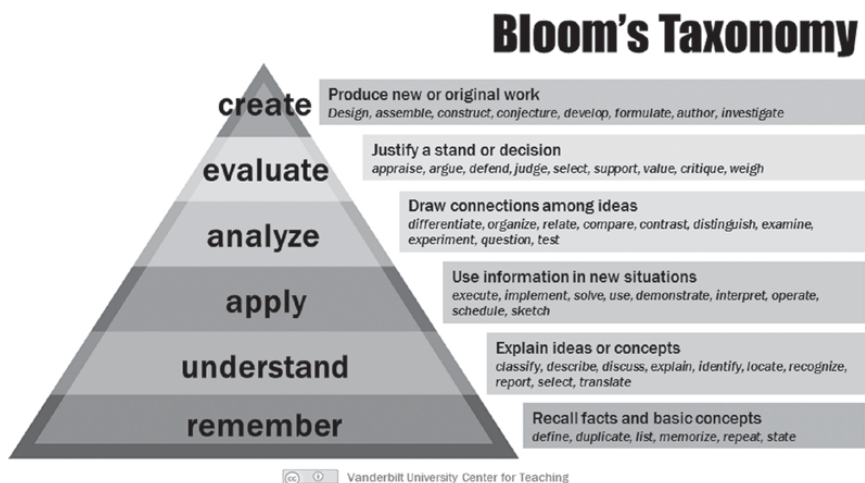


Figure 6.1 Bloom's taxonomy⁷

regarding the videos. I will combine both models and introduce the process as five stages (planning, recording, editing, delivery, and reflection) in this section. Considering teachers have widely varied skills and aptitudes for video production, I will provide separate tips for those who are considering flipped learning for the first time and have little experience with video production, and for those who have some experience flipping their classes and are ready to take on the complexity of making more sophisticated and professional instructional videos.

Table 6.3 contains four videos that can be used for flipped learning, each in different presentational styles, made with different recording/editing tools, and representing different pedagogical choices made by the teachers. I will refer to these videos as examples when discussing factors to consider and options available to teachers in each stage.

Stage 1: Planning

In this stage, teachers would first decide whether the learning content is suitable for video presentation. Given that the video assignment component of flipped learning focuses on remembering and understanding, the lower-level tasks in Bloom's Taxonomy (see Figure 6.1 above), teachers may consider the following types of content as more appropriate for video presentation:

- Content that can be made easier to understand with audiovisual demonstration

Table 6.3 Example videos for flipped learning



Topic: Introducing Others
 Contributor: Fang Liang, Lantern Institute
 Source: <https://youtu.be/YML1o8NPrZA>
 Style: Frame-in-frame lecture; acted-out scenes
 Tools: Keynote, Final Cut Pro, Studio equipment



Topic: Invitation & Responding to Invitation
 Contributor: Liling Huang, Boston University
 Source: <https://youtu.be/yp51KG2arq4>
 Style: Animation
 Tools: Animaker, built-in microphone



Topic: 最近好吗? / 最近好嗎? (How have you been lately?)
 Contributor: Luke Wander, the Peak School; Ye Ruan, York Prep School
 Source: <https://youtu.be/U5OHOQOTxsQ>
 Style: Narrated slideshow; acted-out scenes
 Tools: Photo Booth, iMovie, built-in webcam and microphone



Topic: 连 / 連 Structure
 Contributor: Amber Navarre, Boston University
 Source: <https://youtu.be/UI9y2bJKGQc>
 Style: Narrated slideshow; cartoon
 Tools: Keynote, iMovie, Bistraps cartoon, plug-in microphone

Digital storytelling and flipped learning

- More complex content that may need multiple views to be fully understood or remembered
- Content that requires lengthy explanation

Some topics Chinese teachers frequently choose to flip are pronunciation rules, character formation/writing principles, common phrases, grammar explanations, and cultural presentations (e.g., origins and customs of traditional holidays). These topics may be viewed repeatedly for the purposes of learning, retention, and review. Depending on learners' proficiency level, instruction in these videos may be (partially) given in learners' first language. An additional advantage of doing such instruction via video assignment is that it reduces the use of the first language in the classroom.

After deciding that the content is suitable for video, we then need to decide how we would like the content to be presented. As seen in the example videos in Table 6.3, some teachers choose to use slides and some choose to use animations; some choose for themselves to appear on the screen and some do not; some include acted-out conversations and some focus more on concept explanation; some choose to implement a more conversational style and some choose to deliver the information more directly. The most effective way to present content depends strongly on the topic, our understanding of our learners' preferences, and our own preferences and comfort levels with different formats and tools. However, some insight about instructional video production might be borrowed from the empirical study Guo, Kim, and Rubin (2014) conducted, in which they analyzed the reaction of 128,000 learners to 862 videos on edX, one of the largest hosting sites of instructional videos. The main recommendations they made based on the findings are listed and discussed below:

- Keep the video short: learners' engagement drops significantly after 6 minutes of watching. A solution I would recommend if your topic requires explanation longer than that is to make them a series of shorter videos rather than one long video. Another convenient option is that some streaming services such as YouTube now have an editing option to divide a video into parts, and you may have your learners watch one part at a time.
- Always plan for the video format even if the lecture is recorded live. Simply recording a classroom lecture is in general NOT the best practice for instructional video production due to concerns of length, interaction style, and environmental distraction. However, if it is the most plausible way for you to make the video, try to plan ahead and keep the video production in mind when giving the live lecture, such as segmenting the lecture into sections with pauses for easier conversion into shorter video clips, rotating eye contact between the camera (your virtual students) and the students in the classroom, and if possible, testing the recording quality (both sound and image) in advance and eliminating distractions.

- Display the instructor's talking head at opportune times in the video: seeing the face of the instructor every now and then is an effective way to implement social presence in the video and thus promote learners' positive attitude and increase engagement (Richardson & Swan, 2003; Di Paolo et al., 2017).
- Strive for a one-on-one personal feel instead of high-end studio production. While a certain level of production quality is needed for content clarity, it may be encouraging for teachers to know that big-budget production does not necessarily lead to better learner engagement. Use of informal, non-studio settings may help you relate to the learners on a more personal level.
- Introduce motion and continuous visual flow (e.g., recordings of drawing or doodling) into tutorials along with extemporaneous speaking⁵ for learners to follow along with the instructor's thought process. Bergmann and Sams (2012) and Di Paolo et al. (2017) disagreed on whether to use pre-written scripts during recording. I have personally tested both styles (spontaneous vs. scripted) in my own classes and found the key for success in either format depends on adapting the strengths of the alternate form. In other words, for extemporaneous instruction to succeed, the teacher must still have a coherent plan laid out despite not being completely scripted. On the other hand, for a scripted instruction to be more personal and engaging, the teacher's "performance" on the camera and/or microphone needs to appear as natural and unrehearsed as possible.

Tips for starters: It would be easier to start making your first video by modifying your existent lesson slides rather than creating something completely from scratch. When making modification to the slides, consider two things:

1. Adjust them to appropriate lengths. Remember the ideal length of the video is 6 minutes or shorter. If you are explaining something complicated, consider breaking it into a series of shorter videos.
2. Add highlights. In a face-to-face classroom, we may easily bring learners' attention to a specific part of the text or image on the screen by pointing at it, with our hand or a laser pointer, or even by simply looking at it while learners follow our gaze. In a recorded slideshow, however, highlights have to be added differently by using colors, shapes (e.g., circling the key words), lines, or effects (e.g., flashing). If you prefer a more controlled presentation, you may create the highlights in your slide creation program (e.g., PowerPoint, Keynote, or Google Slides); if you want it to be more spontaneous, several apps allow you to doodle while you record the screencast. Since this latter method happens during recording, the tools will be introduced in Stage 2: Recording.

Tips for mastery: Once you have gained initial experience, comfort, and confidence in making instructional videos, you might want to consider expanding your content presentation methods that make the learning experience even more effective and enjoyable but require more advanced recording/editing techniques. Such options may include but are not limited to: embedding the teacher’s talking head in your explanation slides, as in the first example listed above (Introducing Others), adding acted-out dialogues to demonstrate contextualized language use (e.g., Introducing Others; 最近好吗? /最近好嗎? [How have you been lately?]), using animation (e.g., Invitation & Responding to Invitation), and including self-assessment exercises in the video (e.g., 连/連 Structure). Tools for these purposes will be introduced in Stage 2: Recording.

Stage 2: Recording

As stressed earlier, teachers may plan to present the content in different ways in the videos they make depending on various factors. Some topics are better presented in certain ways. For instance, when teaching different ways to invite someone out, including acted-out scenes would be highly effective. On the other hand, a lesson on Chinese word order might be best presented in the form of a narrated slideshow while displaying the text in the slides with highlights. The teacher’s choice of presentation methods and styles may impact the tools they choose to use for recording and editing, which we will discuss in the current and the next sections.

In this section, I will introduce four types of recording that teachers may choose from: 1) narrated slideshow, 2) teacher’s talking head, 3) acted-out scenes, and 4) animation. Please note that although each recording method involves using a unique set of tools and techniques, the recorded content may be combined in the editing stage. An example is the video “Introducing Others” in Table 6.3, which joins a narrated slideshow with an embedded teacher’s talking head and inserted acted-out scenes.

1. Recording a narrated slideshow

The aforementioned recording tools for digital stories also work for teachers to record narrated slideshows, including direct recording in PowerPoint or Keynote (Mac) and using screen-capturing tools such as Screencast-O-Matic (web-based), Screencastify (Chrome browser extension), or QuickTime (Mac). Some teachers prefer to export slides as images and record their narration slide by slide in video editing programs such as iMovie (Mac), Video Remix (Windows), or Adobe Spark. An advantage of recording this way is that if you make a mistake in your speech, you do not need to redo the whole recording. You may just re-record the single slide where the mistake occurred. If you feel like changing some of the content in the video later, you may also do it easily

by recording the part you want to change, instead of re-recording the whole presentation. Some teachers also use a combination of screen-capturing and editing programs to harness the convenience of the former and the flexibility of the latter. If they make any mistake during their narration, they just say it again in the correct form without stopping the recording, and simply trim the mistake part out later using an editing program.

For universal viewing experience, I would recommend that the slideshow be saved or exported as .mov or .mp4 files, which can be played on most media players and accepted by most streaming services if you plan to share the video as a link rather than as a whole file—we will discuss more about sharing options in the “delivery” stage later.

Another element to consider when making a video in the format of narrated slideshow is whether to use doodling for highlights during recording. Basic doodling can be easily done in PowerPoint with its “pen” option during presentation (accessible through the menu on the bottom left corner on the slide, or by pressing ctrl+p), as shown in Figure 6.2. In Keynote this function is currently only available on an iPad, on which you can hold your finger on the screen to bring up a color pen menu. Screen-capturing tools also tend to have the option of using a “pointer” cursor that can be used to highlight a certain area on the screen, as shown in Figure 6.3.

If you are looking for more advanced drawing options, apps for tablet devices that feature “interactive whiteboards” such as Explain Everything, ShowMe, and Educreations (iOS only) allow you to draw easily with your fingers on the touchscreen while recording the presentation.



Figure 6.2 Example of doodling on a slide using PowerPoint

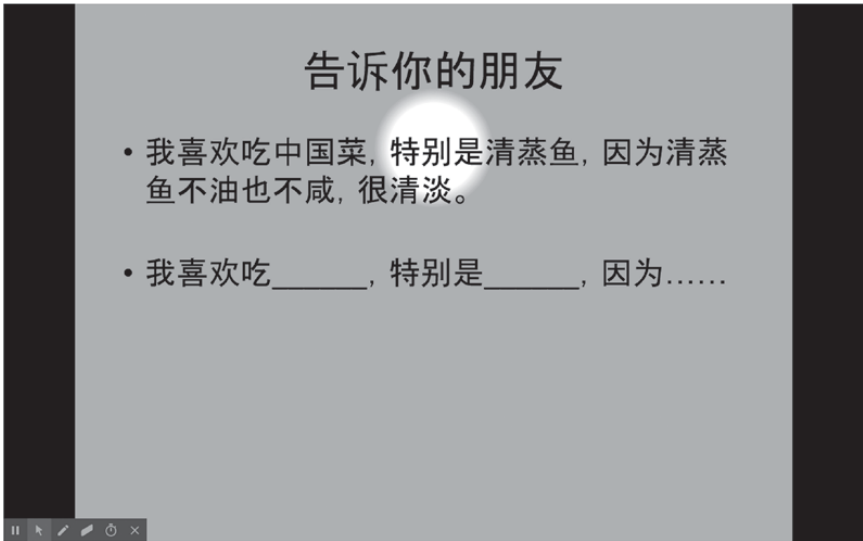


Figure 6.3 Example of using a pointer cursor during recording (Screencastify)

2. Recording the teacher's talking head

As discussed above, seeing the teacher's talking head at opportune times in the video may have a positive affective impact on learners and further motivate learning. If you choose to take advantage of this effect, there are two options: record it as an embedded window simultaneously with the screen presentation or record it as its own track and edit it into the video via post-production. The former is easy to set up and can conveniently have the whole video recorded in one sitting and the latter gives the teacher more control over when and how their talking head appears on the screen.

Tips for starters: Although showing the teacher's face has a positive affective impact on learners, it does not mean you must include it in your video. As mentioned in the previous stage, you may ease into flipped learning by simply converting your existing lesson slides into a narrated slideshow. When you feel more comfortable about recording yourself, I recommend you start with the method of recording your face and the presentation screen simultaneously because it is technically easier and requires less editing effort.

If you choose to record your talking head simultaneously with a slide presentation, the aforementioned screen-capturing tools (e.g., Screencast-O-Matic,



Figure 6.4 Recording embedded talking head during presentation (QuickTime)

ScreenCastify, and QuickTime) all have the option of recording the screen (your slides) and the webcam (your face) simultaneously. ScreenCast-O-Matic and ScreenCastify (Chrome only) have the option when you set up your preferences at the beginning of each recording. In QuickTime (Mac) you will have to do it as two steps: first start “new screen recording” in the “File” menu to record the screen, and then start “new movie recording” to record your face with the webcam. Since the second action brings up a camera display of your face on the screen (which you can enlarge or shrink to any size you like), the first screen recording will actually have both the slide presentation and the webcam recording on it, as shown in Figure 6.4.

Some teachers may feel like having more control over the display of their talking head in the video. For instance, even if you are comfortable with being on camera, you might not want to be on the screen *all the time* throughout the video. Or, for demonstrating the pronunciation of a specific word, you could enlarge your face display temporarily and then resume the normal side-screen setting. If you would like such flexibility, you may consider filming your talking head speech as separate tracks and then insert them into any part of the video, at any preferred size or position on the screen. “Introducing Others” in Table 6.3 is a great example of utilizing this method, rotating between displays of only the teacher’s talking head, only the slide show, and a combination of both on the screen. Please note that doing so does require more advanced editing techniques, which we will discuss in Stage 3: Editing.

You may use your webcam on the computer, camera on a mobile device, or a camcorder to record this part of your presentation. Mac users can use Photobooth, iMovie, or QuickTime to record webcam videos, and Windows

users can use the Camera app or Video Remix. Camtasia is another option for both Mac and Windows that can do both screen and webcam recording, as well as editing. Smart phones and tablet computers nowadays tend to have video recording options in their photo apps. Using these built-in functions generates no additional cost, but if you have a little money to invest in your video projects, I would recommend getting a plug-in microphone rather than using the built-in ones for better sound recording quality. If you plan to use mobile devices or a hand-held camcorder to record most of the time, also consider buying a tripod to hold the device to maximize visual stability.

Another factor to consider when filming human figures is lighting. Avoid excessive brightness as it is distracting. Conversely, too little lighting damages the visual clarity and impedes comprehension. For an easy and inexpensive arrangement of lighting, you may use several desk lamps and experiment with them to find the best layout.

Once you have your camera, microphone, and lighting equipment ready, remember to do several test recordings and make fine adjustments (e.g., how close you should be to the camera; where you should place the microphone; whether to add or lose some lighting, etc.) for best results.

Tips for mastery: If you are up for bringing your video production to a professional level, you may consider filming your videos in a studio setting, with a professional camera, lighting, and sound proofing. Recording in a studio maximizes visual and sound quality, but it could be very costly and requires a professional team to operate. I would recommend talking to the IT department or language centers of your school first to see what support you may acquire from them. You might be surprised to find out that such services are actually available in your work environment.

3. *Recording acted-out scenes*

As seen in the example videos “Introducing Others” and “最近好吗/最近好嗎?” (“How have you been lately?”), acted-out dialogues help demonstrate appropriate language use in context. Simply displaying text of the dialogue on the screen may be convenient as it does not require any extra recording effort, but it fails to immerse the learners in the situated interaction.

The tools mentioned above for filming the teacher’s talking head may also be used to record acted-out scenes. However, when recording scenes with multiple speakers, it is especially important to adjust the camera, lighting, and microphone(s) so that the images and voices of all actors are clear to the audience.

To situate a dialogue in context, you may either record the scene in a place where the dialogue may possibly occur, as in the example of “最近好吗/



Figure 6.5 Example of green-screen effect⁸

最近好嗎?” (“How have you been lately?”), or use a “green screen” effect, as in the example of “Introducing Others.” As shown in Figure 6.5, a green-screen effect typically involves using a solid-color screen, usually green or blue, as the background during recording and then key in a background image in its place during postproduction. This effect is particularly useful when the context of the dialogue is somewhere less accessible, such as an airport, or a historical site in China.

To take advantage of the green screen effect, one needs to invest in a solid-color screen and learn the required editing techniques to replace it with the preferred background during editing. I would suggest that you first consult the IT department or language center in your institution to see what support they may provide. If you are to do it on your own, see the discussion in Stage 3: Editing for more information.

4. Recording with animations

An alternative to using human actors for dialogues is to create the scene with animation, as seen in the example video “Invitation & Responding to Invitation.” While it does not completely simulate a real-life scene, it does provide a more contextualized learning experience than just text and the teacher’s

lecture. An advantage of using animation is that it requires fewer resources (e.g., time and space for scene shoots, available human actors, effort in editing, etc.). As mentioned in Chapter 4, animation tools may be web-based, such as Go!Animate, Powtoon, Nawmal, and Animaker, or mobile apps, such as Sock Puppets and Toontastic.

Stage 3: Editing

The amount and level of editing needed for your video varies depending on how you planned and recorded your video. For instance, narrated slideshows require a minimum amount of editing, while inserted scenes with green-screen effects require more editing. However, even for the most simplistic videos, aiming to do absolutely no editing may be very challenging, simply because it is natural to make mistakes when we talk, such as a false start to mispronunciations, or forgetting to click for a certain text/effect to show up on the slide as you go. Whereas in a live classroom self-correction seems normal and does not interrupt the flow of instruction, it is more salient and thus more distracting in a video context. Although a small number of errors and quick recoveries may make the lecture more conversational and relatable, having an excessive number would probably damage the quality of instruction. An easy way to reduce errors in the video without having to re-record the whole lecture from the start is to do some simple editing to take out the parts where errors occur. During recording, if you say something wrong in a sentence, simply repeat the sentence correctly and move on. Having some pause between the incorrect and correct sentences helps you to find where to trim more easily later. After you are done recording the whole presentation, you may trim the sentences that contain the errors.

Tips for starters: If you are new to video editing, I suggest you keep editing to a minimum: trimming out the unwanted parts. If you are comfortable with trying some basic techniques, you can consider joining multiple clips (useful when you want to insert acted-out scenes) and adding transitions between them.

If you choose to upload your videos to YouTube, it provides a very easy interface to trim your video (Edit > Enhancement > Trim). If you want to trim the video file on your local machine, trimming is one of the basic functions provided in all video editing programs, such as iMovie (Mac only), Filmora, Camtasia, Shotcut, and Adobe Premiere.⁶

Programs designed specifically for video editing work more or less similarly. They tend to have a “timeline” for you to add, trim, and join clips, a preview window for you to see your edits, and command menus for you to conduct editing of the video. Here are the basic functions you may want to explore in the program:

- Importing and adding clips
- Trimming
- Voice recording (if you choose to record to imported images directly in the program)
- Adding music and effects
- Adding transition
- Adding subtitles

While it is not possible to introduce in detail how to perform all these editing functions in every available editing program, I list below their official webpages that include step-by-step user guides and/or tutorial videos for your reference:

iMovie: <http://help.apple.com/imovie/mac>

Filmora: <https://filmora.wondershare.net/filmora-101/>

Camtasia: www.techsmith.com/tutorial-camtasia.html

Shotcut: <https://shotcut.org/tutorials/>

Adobe Premiere: <https://helpx.adobe.com/premiere-pro/tutorials.html>

Once you are familiar and comfortable with the editing process, you may consider exploring:

- Chroma keying, which is the function that replaces the green screen backdrop with your preferred background image.
- Picture-in-picture (PIP) video overlay, which can be used to merge two videos (or one video and one image) into one, as demonstrated in Figure 6.6.

PIP is the technique that allows us to embed the teacher's talking head during screen presentation (e.g., Screencast-O-Matic; Screencastify). But if you decide to record the teacher's speech separately and then merge it with other visual media (slides, images, or another video clip), PIP overlay is the effect you would look for in the editing program.

Although PIP videos often have one visual display as a smaller "window," as shown in Figure 6.6, it is not the only way to use this function. For instance, in the first example "Introducing Others," this function was used in combination with green screening to have the teacher talk in the front and the blackboard-style slideshow display in the back. The two displays were seamlessly merged into one rather than having distinct boundaries between them.

This function can also combine more than two displays, as shown in Figure 6.7, in which the instructor asks learners to compare the language use between two embedded scenes. Although this function may take extra time to learn through product or user tutorials, it could be a powerful tool for teachers who want to bring their videos up to another level of creativity.

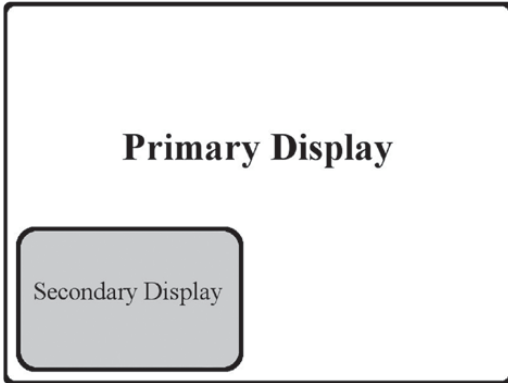


Figure 6.6 Illustration of frame-in-frame display



Figure 6.7 A PIP video with multiple embedded frames

Tips for mastery: Advanced editing options such as chroma keying and picture-in-picture video overlay tend not to be included in the basic “editing 101” style tutorials. In order to find useful guides you need to do a specific key word search to bring up relevant results. It could be done on the support forum of a specific product, or simply through

Google or YouTube searches. If you choose to do the latter, please make sure you include 1) the specific effect you are looking for, 2) name of the program, and 3) your operating system. Here is an example: “chroma keying Camtasia Mac,” which brings up several very detailed step-by-step video tutorials on a Google search. You may add the version of your program (e.g., Camtasia Studio 9) and/or the generation of your operation system (e.g., Windows 10) to further narrow it down if necessary.

Stage 4: Delivery

After the editing stage, the video is made and ready to be published. The next question to consider is then where and in what format we want it to be shared and accessed? Do we share it as a file for learners to download to their personal device, or do we share it on a video stream service, such as YouTube or Vimeo, that requires an Internet connection to view? Do we share it with the general public, or do we limit access to our own classes?

There is no right or wrong answer to those questions and we must choose based on what makes the most sense to us and to our learners. For instance, the advantage of sharing the video as a downloadable file is that learners do not need to have a constant Internet connection to view it, while the advantage of sharing it on a streaming service is that it can be accessed conveniently anywhere and on multiple devices as long as there is an Internet connection. Sometimes it is not even an either-or question, because many streaming services also provide the option to allow viewer downloads. On the other hand, if you choose to share your videos as downloadable files on a learning management system (LMS, e.g., Blackboard, Moodle, or Canvas), learners can still access the video anywhere there is an Internet connection. In fact, many LMS nowadays also have built-in media players that allow learners to watch the video without actually downloading it.

Another important factor to consider is the potential reach of your video. Streaming services usually allow users to choose to share their videos either to the public or as “unlisted” videos, which means the videos do not show on a public video list and cannot be found using the search function on the streaming site, or via a search engine. Instead, you have to share the link to the specific video with learners for them to view it. However, you must keep in mind that this method still allows *anyone* with the link access so if your learners share the link with other people, they will also be able to view your video. Theoretically, the only way to limit the access of a video to a designated group of people is to share it in a restricted-access environment, such as a Google folder shared with your students, a closed Facebook group, or on an LMS as a non-downloadable video. However, even in such environments the access is restricted only in a relative sense. If someone *really* wants to show your video to others, there are always means to do so, such as screen capturing, or even simply recording it using a camera outside of the display device.

I am stressing the point that there is no way to ensure that your videos will always only be accessible to a limited population because I want to bring your attention to the copyright issue. If you use any music, images, video clips, or any material that is not created by yourself, make sure you comply with copyright law by using it the way it is licensed or obtain permission from the original author. One convenient function to use when you search images on Google is to specify usage rights under “advanced search” in the “settings” menu. Set the filter to images that are free to use, share, or modify, depending on how you want to use it. Visit the page where the image is hosted (i.e., do not simply drag and download from the preview on Google) and download from there. Often times the webpage includes information about how to properly credit the work. An example is Figure 6.5, which I used above to demonstrate green-screen effect. I found it via an advanced search on Google Images, clicked on the image, and it took me to its original page on Flickr, where I found out about the author and license information that I then listed in the endnote.

Many video-making applications also have a collection of media materials you are licensed to use in your productions, as long as you own the program legally. For instance, iMovie (Mac) has a good number of sounds, including many jingles, available for use; Adobe Spark has a gallery of images and themes for users to choose from; Video Remix (Windows) have a collection of interactive 3D objects that users may customize and incorporate in their video stories.

You may also choose to publish your video with embedded exercises for learners to self-assess their learning. It can be done during recording, with questions asked in the video and answers revealed after a pause, as seen in the video example “*连连 Structure.*” It can be done during editing as well. Camtasia, for instance, has a built-in video quiz/survey function that allows the teacher to embed questions into the video. It can also be done after the video is uploaded to a streaming service. As mentioned in Chapter 4, there are applications (e.g., Edpuzzle and PlayPosit) that allow users to insert interactive content, including questions to be responded to, into a streamed video.

Stage 5: Reflection

Di Paolo et al. (2017) included this stage to make instructional video production a cycle rather than ending at the publication of an individual video. The insight collected from evaluating and reflecting on the effect of one video may be applied to the next to make improvements.

There are two main questions we can ask ourselves and our learners in this stage: 1) Does the video successfully perform the instructional purpose? 2) Does it have a positive affective impact on the learners and motivate them for further learning?

To gather insight for the first question, we may conduct a comprehension check when the class regroups after the video assignment, as Bergmann and Sams (2012) suggested. The goal of this comprehension check is to verify

learning and identify questions or gaps of knowledge that need further explanation, clarification, or modeling. In-class comprehension checks can be done via simple tasks (e.g., a short role-play conversation), Q&A between the teacher and students, interactive games or poll responses, etc. A controversial method to check comprehension after watching the video is quizzes. Although quizzes may help motivate learners to watch the videos (Enfield, 2013), the grading side of it might not be justifiable because as I stressed earlier, watching the instructional video as a home assignment is only half of the flipped learning experience. It is useful to conduct a formative assessment for the purpose of checking learners' progress at this point, yet doing the assessment for grading purposes might not be ideal because the learning experience is not complete until the in-class half is also practiced, which is designed for learners to reach true mastery of the learned concept through hands-on activities and projects.

There are other ways to motivate learners to watch the videos than giving a graded quiz. For instance, teachers may also have learners complete worksheets or take notes while watching the video and collect them in the next class meeting. The written record may provide us with more data about individual learners' intake of the content. In addition, having learners do some tasks while watching promotes active learning and helps learners to keep their minds, not just their eyes, on the video lesson. If you share a video with embedded questions made by interactive tools (e.g., Camtasia, Edpuzzle, or PlayPosit), they also allow you to track learners' progress based on their responses to the questions.

Although having learners complete tasks during or after viewing may encourage them to watch the assigned content, the most important factors for learners to watch instructional videos regularly might instead be affective, which include learners' mental readiness and perception of flipped learning (Hao, 2016) and whether they consider the videos attractive (Enfield, 2013). Therefore, it is important to find out how learners *feel* about the videos after watching them.

Teachers may already incorporate elements that make their videos more relatable and enjoyable to the learners, such as bringing in drama (e.g., Examples "Introducing Others," "Invitation & Responding to Invitation," and "最近好吗/最近好嗎?" ["How have you been lately?"]) or using humor (e.g., "最近好吗/最近好嗎?" ["How have you been lately?"] and "连/連 Structure"), but whether learners actually like to watch the videos and respond positively to this method of learning may not be revealed until you actually collect feedback from them.

A questionnaire survey may be very helpful to get to know what learners like or dislike about your videos in general. If teachers intend to solicit more specific feedback about individual videos, they may include a comment section on the worksheet they give learners to complete at home.

Making one's own flipped videos may be very challenging at the beginning until you get used to the practice, and even after that, making high-quality videos is always time-consuming and effort-intensive. One suggestion I would

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like to make, which hopefully would be encouraging to teachers who are considering flipping their classes, is that you do not have to make every video on your own. When I started flipping my classes in 2010, there were not many good instructional videos available in Chinese so I ended up making hundreds of videos on my own. Since more and more Chinese teachers have flipped their classes and made videos for this purpose, we can now first search the Internet to see if someone has already shared videos of the topics we would like to flip.

If you do not find a video that works for you and decide to make one for your learners, you still do not need to do it completely on your own. You can collaborate and divide work with your colleagues, or even reach out to teachers outside of your school and work with them. Workshops on flipped learning are a good place to meet teachers who have shared interests. Online networks and forums on this topic might also land you a potential collaboration.

One more thing to keep in mind is that you do not have to flip all of your class content, and for the content you do choose to flip, it does not always need to be in the form of videos. Videos are powerful media and all of the flipped classroom teachers I have worked with and interviewed use videos, but we do not have to use videos *all the time*. For instance, I flip my classes both with videos and with reading materials that prepare them for in-class activities. The latter is done through digital social reading, which we discussed in Chapter 5.

Tools

1. Slideshow technologies:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | PowerPoint |
| Function | Create and present slides with option of recorded narration |
| Difficulty Level | ★★ |
| Product Website | https://products.office.com/powerpoint |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Keynote |
| Function | Create and present slides with option of recorded narration |
| Difficulty Level | ★★ |
| Product Website | www.apple.com/keynote/ |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Google Slides |
| Function | Create and present slides with option of recorded narration |
| Difficulty Level | ★★ |
| Product Website | www.google.com/slides/about/ |

2. Screen-capturing tools:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | Screencast-O-Matic |
| Function | Capture screen activities and audio input on the computer |
| Difficulty Level | ☆ |
| Product Website | https://screencast-o-matic.com |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Screencastify |
| Function | Capture screen activities and audio input on the computer |
| Difficulty Level | ☆ |
| Product Website | www.screencastify.com |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | ShowMore |
| Function | Capture screen activities and audio input on the computer |
| Difficulty Level | ★ |
| Product Website | https://showmore.com |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | QuickTime (Mac) |
| Function | Capture screen activities and audio input on the computer |
| Difficulty Level | ★ |
| Product Website | https://support.apple.com/downloads/quicktime |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Screen Recording (iOS) |
| Function | Capture screen activities and audio input on a mobile device |
| Difficulty Level | ☆ |
| Product Website | Accessible from iOS device's Control Center |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | DU Recorder (Android) |
| Function | Capture screen activities and audio input on a mobile device |
| Difficulty Level | ☆ |
| Product Website | https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.duapps.recorder |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | Mobizen Screen Recorder |
| Function | Capture screen activities and audio input on a mobile device |
| Difficulty Level | ☆ |
| Product Website | https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.rsupport.mvagent |

3. Video recording and editing tools:

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | iMovie (Mac) |
| Function | Record and edit videos |
| Difficulty Level | Basic recording: ★ Advanced editing: ★★☆ |
| Product Website | www.apple.com/imovie/ |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Camtasia |
| Function | Record and edit videos |
| Difficulty Level | Basic recording: ★ Advanced editing: ★★★ |
| Product Website | www.techsmith.com/video-editor.html |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Shotcut |
| Function | Edit videos |
| Difficulty Level | ★☆ |
| Product Website | www.shotcut.org |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | Filmora |
| Function | Edit videos |
| Difficulty Level | ★☆☆ |
| Product Website | https://filmora.wondershare.net/filmora-video-editor.html |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Adobe Premiere |
| Function | Record and edit videos |
| Difficulty Level | Basic recording: ★ Advanced editing: ★★★ |
| Product Website | www.adobe.com/products/premiere.html |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Video Remix (Windows) |
| Function | Record and edit videos, photos, and 3-D animations |
| Difficulty Level | ★☆☆ |
| Product Website | Accessible via Microsoft “Photos” app https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/17205/windows-10-create-videos |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | Adobe Spark |
| Function | Record and edit videos, photos, and webpages |
| Difficulty Level | ★☆☆ |
| Product Website | https://spark.adobe.com/ |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | Photobooth (Mac) |
| Function | Take photos and videos with computer camera |
| Difficulty Level | ☆☆ |
| Product Website | https://support.apple.com/guide/photo-booth/ |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Camera (Windows) |
| Function | Take photos and videos with computer camera |
| Difficulty Level | ☆☆ |
| Product Website | www.microsoft.com/en-us/store/p/windows-camera/9wzdncrfjbbg |

4. Interactive whiteboard apps with recording function:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | Explain Everything |
| Function | Create multimedia narratives with interactive whiteboard |
| Difficulty Level | ★ |
| Product Website | https://explaineverything.com |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | ShowMe |
| Function | Create multimedia narratives with interactive whiteboard |
| Difficulty Level | ★ |
| Product Website | www.showme.com |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Educreations (iOS) |
| Function | Create multimedia narratives with interactive whiteboard |
| Difficulty Level | ★ |
| Product Website | www.educreations.com |

5. Animation tools:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | GoAnimate |
| Function | Make animated videos with cartoon characters |
| Difficulty Level | ★★ |
| Product Website | https://goanimate.com/ |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Powtoon |
| Function | Make animated videos with cartoon characters |
| Difficulty Level | ★★ |
| Product Website | www.powtoon.com/ |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Nawmal |
| Function | Make animated videos with cartoon characters |
| Difficulty Level | ★★ |
| Product Website | www.nawmal.com |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Animaker |
| Function | Make animated videos with cartoon characters |
| Difficulty Level | ★★ |
| Product Website | www.animaker.com |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | Sock Puppets (iOS mobile app) |
| Function | Make animated videos with sock puppet characters |
| Difficulty Level | ☆ |
| Product Website | https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/sock-puppets/id394504903?mt=8 |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | Toontastic (iOS and Android mobile app) |
| Function | Make animated videos with cartoon characters |
| Difficulty Level | ★ |
| Product Website | https://toontastic.withgoogle.com |

6. Tools for embedding interactive content in videos

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Product Name | Edpuzzle |
| Function | Embed interactive content into a video |
| Difficulty Level | ★ |
| Product Website | https://edpuzzle.com/ |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Playposit |
| Function | Embed interactive content into a video |
| Difficulty Level | ★ |
| Product Website | www.playposit.com |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Product Name | Camtasia |
| Function | Edit videos (including embedding interactive content) |
| Difficulty Level | Basic recording: ★ Advanced editing: ★★★ |
| Product Website | www.techsmith.com/video-editor.html |

Notes

- 1 A story circle is where storytellers presents their developing story ideas in a small group and receive feedback from each other.
- 2 If you would prefer to import slides created in PowerPoint or Keynote into video editing programs, you need to first export the slides “as images” and then import them.
- 3 “Flipped learning” has also been called “flipped class(room)”, “flipped teaching”, or “inverted/reverse instruction.”
- 4 The full list of languages in each category and their required contact hours for professional mastery are available at: www.state.gov/m/fsi/sls/c78549.htm.
- 5 The authors referred to such a style of presentation as Khan-style tutorials, as it is commonly used in the instructional videos of the Khan Academy, one of the earliest non-profit online services featuring tutorial videos for educational purposes.
- 6 Movie Maker (Windows) used to be a popular video editing program as well. It was discontinued by Microsoft in 2017 and the company has yet to release a successor to it. They released Video Remix (within the Photo app) in 2017 as one video editing option. However, it does not provide the full features a typical video editing program does (e.g., picture-in-picture frames).
- 7 This graphic was created by the Center for Teaching, Vanderbilt University and was downloaded from www.flickr.com/photos/vandycft/29428436431. License link: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/legalcode>
- 8 This graphic was created by Category5 TV and was downloaded from www.flickr.com/photos/category5tv/6508366751. License link: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>
- 9 Since this is a much longer video, I summarized the student’s narrative (originally in Chinese) to highlight his organization and the progression of ideas.

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