

Talking Chart project

Student: Azadeh Abdolrazaghi

Supervisor: Dr. Marina Blekher

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Outcomes

1. Talking Chart

I had to change my developing platform from the original one, Meteor to basic Javascript and using React library due to limitations of our webspace.

I have created two phonetic charts for Canadian English consonant and vowel sounds. Students can choose among 3 categories of sounds to be played after clicking on one phonetic symbol. The three categories are 'sound in isolation', 'sound in context of one or several word(s)' and 'articulatory description of the sound'. They can also listen to any of those categories in both male and female voices.

We did not implement the transcribing feature, because we decided that for the sake of time, it is better to focus on the talking chart and quizzes, and transcribing functionality could be a completely separate project by itself.

The link for the final product is <https://sites.ualberta.ca/~ling101/>.

The future improvements could be focused on a more responsive design for mobile devices.

2. eClass quizzes

I migrated all the quizzes from the old linguistic learning tool to eClass. The old learning tool was implemented in Macromedia Flash which is a fairly obsolete technology and it had some limitations such as not being able to return to the previous page or saving progress results and accessing it at a later time.

In this process, I learned a lot about eClass features and limitations. eClass support team was very helpful in answering my questions. The challenging part was including multiple types of questions in one question and inserting special phonetic symbols.

I highly appreciate Dr. Blekher for her kind supervision and Dr. Timothy Mills for providing the sound files of the Canadian English Phonetic Alphabet. I would also like to thank CTL for granting this award to me and giving me the opportunity to implement this project and to learn more about linguistics, web development and eClass tool.