

DIDIDE: a Digital Didactic Designing Tool for Language Learning with ICT

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Abstract

The strategy "Europe 2020" [1] has defined technological development as a major objective for the growth of European countries. Among the proposed initiatives, the European Commission presented the "Digital Agenda". The aim of this initiative is to use ICT to enhance the teaching-learning process such as the language learning.

In response to the Digital Agenda, with the addition of the indication of the Italian Guidelines for the curriculum of the school and the teachers need to find an effective way to introduce ICT in language learning, was developed *DiDiDe* (Digital Didactic Design). *DiDiDe* is a digital device that supports teachers in designing language learning, integrating ICT into the different phases of the learning units, within a cooperative learning contest. The use of *DiDiDe* allows teachers to design challenging and innovative language learning environments, which consider ICT as tools that allow students to pursue individualized and significant language learning achievements. The individual dimension is embedded into the work of small groups and couples, focusing on process rather than product.

DiDiDe has been experienced in some primary, middle and secondary school of the Autonomous Province of Trento (Italy). The experimental group has planned its lessons through *DiDiDe*, while the control group has led its lessons in a manner customarily used by teacher. The effects of *DiDiDe* were investigated on both sides: students and teachers.

The results of the statistical analysis of the data gathered through quantitative and qualitative measurements, revealed that students not only have improved, for example, their learning performance, motivation, meta-cognition and attention, but also teachers have increased their sense of self-efficacy and positive perception of the use of ICT in the teaching-learning process.

References

- [1] European Commission (2010) Communication from the Commission Europe 2020. A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.
<http://ec.europa.eu/eu2020/pdf/COMPLET%20EN%20BARROSO%20%20%20007%20-%20Europe%202020%20-%20EN%20version.pdf>