Mobile Language Learning

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Abstract

Students are “digital natives”. They grow up with technology and they use it in the everyday life. So why shouldn’t we use technology in all subjects at school? From our experiences and the results of former interviews with students we can say, that technology-supported learning seems to be more motivating and therefore more effective than traditional learning methods.

The paper focuses on using mobile devices and e-learning platforms in language learning and teaching. The authors present a survey done in an Austrian vocational school of commerce and tourism where students have the possibility to learn 5 foreign languages (English, French, Italian, Spanish and Russian). The questionnaire collects information about mobile device equipment of students from 14-19 years old and the use of it in learning.

In addition to the results of this survey the authors report on a workshop for the students about Mobile Language Learning and its evaluation. They present some examples of technology use in an Austrian secondary school showing aspects of Moodle, Smart Phones and Tablet PCs in Language Learning.