

Didattica della lingua inglese 1

Lesson 8

CALL – Computer Assisted language Learning
Storytelling

About lesson 7

- In today's lesson we are going to...
 - Look at different forms of CALL
 - Using computer-based exercises
 - Using blogs and wikis in your teaching
 - Creating exercises with templates
- We are also going to focus on storytelling activities
 - How to *read* a story to children of different ages
 - How to *tell* a story to children

Before we start...

- The next two slides list the adult “can-do” statements for level B1 (writing).
 - Which of these things can you already do?
 - Which are a priority for your language learning?.

Writing – B1

- I can write simple connected texts on a range of topics within my field of interest and can express personal views and opinions.
- I can write simple texts about experiences or events, for example about a trip, for a school newspaper or a club newsletter.
- I can write personal letters to friends or acquaintances asking for or giving them news and narrating events.
- I can describe in a personal letter the plot of a film or a book or give an account of a concert.
- In a letter I can express feelings such as grief, happiness, interest, regret and sympathy.
- I can reply in written form to advertisements and ask for more complete or more specific information about products (e.g. a car or an academic course).
- I can convey - via fax, e-mail or a circular - short simple factual information to friends or colleagues or ask for information in such a way.
- I can write my CV in summary form.

Part 1

CALL **Computer-assisted language learning**

CALL – an introduction

- CALL is
 - a *computer*-assisted language learning method
 - It can be contrasted with *book*-, *library*-, *pen*- or *cassette*-assisted methods.
 - a series of tools which *assist* language learning, especially in contexts where the teacher is not present
 - e.g. in *blended learning*, *self-access learning*, distance learning, and all forms of autonomous learning

CALL – an introduction

- How is CALL different from F2F (face to face) teaching?
 - Most CALL is done outside the classroom: learners are in control of the learning process
 - A computer can offer feedback and other help, but only when programmed to do so.
 - By contrast, a teacher can explain, re-cast, cross-reference and provide *ad hoc* examples of specific language points, gauging his/her output by the learners' specific requirements.
 - CALL is essentially quiz-based, so has a preference for test-centric teaching rather than inductive learning
 - CALL is typically designed for individual learning, so no pair-or group-work, and no class-based discussions.

CALL & the multimedia revolution

- The most important feature of CALL was, and still is, the way in which it can combine different channels of information.
 - This may not seem significant to you now, but even 10 years ago it was a major breakthrough for language pedagogy.
- In CALL exercises, you can read & listen, listen & write, watch & listen, watch & write, listen, watch & select...
 - ...and it is the learner who decides how fast the pace is
 - s/he can pause the audio, rewind it, fast-forward it
 - s/he can choose whether or not to listen to a written text
 - s/he can choose to follow up on links

CALL: some of the benefits

- CALL exercises are self-contained
 - Each exercise can be completed in isolation from the others, even if it forms part of a learning module
- CALL exercises are self-correcting
 - The answers are programmed into the exercises; sometimes feedback can also be provided
- CALL exercises are self-regulating
 - Learners have the freedom to choose the exercises that interest them
 - Learners can decide how much time to spend on each exercise / learning session

CALL: exercise types

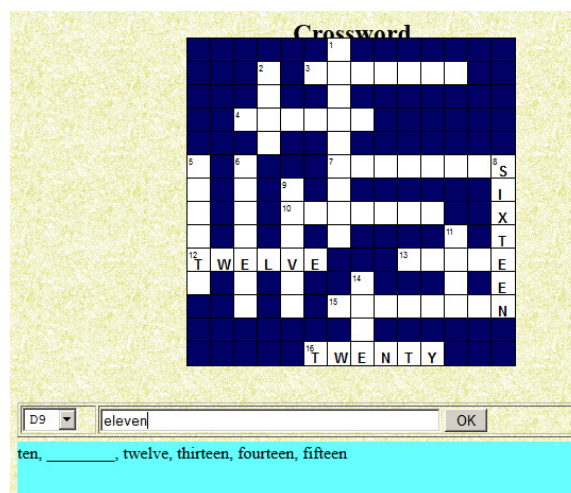
- Most CALL exercises use one of the following formats:
 - *Gap-fill (or insertion)*
 - The learner types words or phrases into a box, or drags words onto images or category markers
 - *Selection*
 - The learner chooses an answer from a menu.
 - *Reorder*
 - The learner changes the sequence of words or sentences using drag and drop
- None of these exercises are exclusive to CALL, but they are often more attractive on the computer than they are on paper

Gap-fill: read and write

The solar system is the Sun and all of the objects that travel around it. These objects include planets, natural satellites such as the Moon, the asteroid belt, comets, and meteoroids. Our solar system has an elliptical shape and is part of a galaxy known as the Milky Way. The Sun is the centre of the solar system. It contains 99.86% of all of the mass in our solar system. Consequently, it exerts a tremendous gravitational pull on planets, satellites, asteroids, comets, and meteoroids. Astronomers believe the solar system formed 4.5 billion years ago. However, they differ in their beliefs about how the system formed. Some believe the whole solar system formed out of a single flat cloud of gas, while others believe it formed when a huge object passed near the Sun, pulling a stream of gas off it. The planets may have been formed from this stream of gas.

1. The solar system is centered around the .
2. The is a natural satellite.
3. Our has an elliptical shape.
4. Our part of the galaxy is called the .
5. The contains nearly all our solar system's mass.
6. The formed 4.5 billion years ago.
7. The formed from gas.

Gap-fill: crossword



Gap-fill: listen and copy

First Avanzato/Progredu

file:///G:/DidLangMod/Reading/progettoFIRST/Materials/AvanzatoA/home.html

Help Feedback Audio

Saturn: exercise 2

Use the words below to fill the spaces in the text.



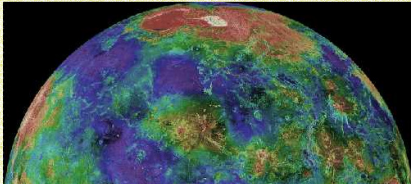
Saturn's rings remained unique in the solar system until 1977 when very faint rings were discovered around Uranus and, shortly after, around Jupiter and Neptune. Saturn's rings are very bright ; from Earth, two thin rings and one faint ring can be seen. Pictures taken by Voyager show another four faint rings. Although they look continuous from the Earth, the rings are actually composed of billions of small particles which are each in an independent orbit . They range from around a centimetre in size up to several metres. It is also possible that there are a few kilometre-sized objects . Saturn's rings are incredibly large ; they are 250,000 km or more in diameter but no more than 1.5 km thick . If the rings were compressed into a compact mass, it would be no more than 100 km across. The ring systems are not stable and are constantly being regenerated, probably by the break-up of larger satellites.

bright / continuous / faint / objects / orbit / prominent / single / size / solar system / thick / thin

Gap-fill: dictation

Venus: exercise 1

Dictation. Listen to the audio and write the text. You can listen as many times as you like.



The oldest land on Venus seems to be about

Send the text to your teacher

Selection: pull-down menu

The Universal Postcard Machine

You're on your summer holidays in Spain. You want to write a postcard home to your parents saying how much fun you're having, but you're feeling a bit too lazy to do it... Use the Universal Postcard Machine to help you! All you have to do is choose a word or phrase from the pull-down boxes, and write your name at the end.

Dear mum and dad,

I'm having a time here on the . The weather has been brilliant - and sunny. I've been most of the time, but tomorrow I'm going sightseeing. I'll you a present!

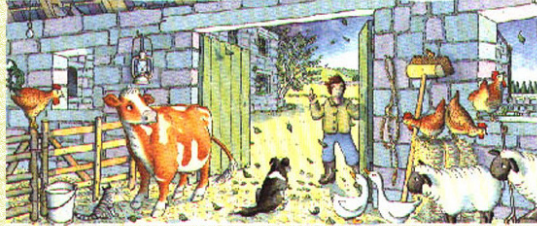
See you

Love,

Selection: radio buttons

On the Farm

Click on AUDIO. Listen and decide if the statements are true or false.



There's a cow in the picture.

☐ True
☐ False

There's a pig in the picture.

☐ True
☐ False

There are two sheep.

☐ True
☐ False

There isn't a dog in the picture.

Reorder exercise: word - sentence

Standing Stones: exercise 2

Change the order of these words to make real sentences.

	Selection of words	Correct order
1	on from Wales	The stones were transported rafts.
2	been important an extremely	Stonehenge must have place.
3	to little resemblance bear	'New-age' pagans the ancient pagans.

Reorder exercise: sentence - paragraph

Standing Stones: exercise 3

Rearrange the sentences to form a summary of the text.

Randomized Sentences

Stonehenge remains one of the most fascinating places in the country.
 This theory has never been proved.
 The midsummer solstice was one of the most important events of the year.
 It is now thought that Stonehenge and other circles were astronomical.
 At that time, the sun would have bathed the temple in a deep red light.
 We know that the pagans were sun worshippers.

Ordered Sentences

Stonehenge is probably the most famous stone circle in the world.
 It was built from enormous stones that were transported from Wales.
 It used to be believed that Stonehenge was a sacrificial temple.

Reorder exercise: category

Something to sound off (ough?) about: exercise 3

Put these words from the poem into 2 groups according to whether the vowel sound is long or short. If you don't know how to pronounce the words, listen to the poem again.

enough	rough
fought	brought
ought	thorough
tough	borough
slough	taught
caught	naughty
	daughters

Correct

Long



Short



Using CALL at primary school

- Many coursebooks have online exercises.
- Many teachers' books also have a CDROM with interactive exercises
 - You can do these with your pupils in class, if you have a computer and projector screen or an interactive whiteboard
 - You can do them in the school computer lab (but remember to book the space first)
 - You can ask your pupils to do them as homework

Using CALL at primary school

- You can look for exercises on the internet
 - Look at the **schools** section of <www.bbc.co.uk>
 - Look for exercises on the websites of the “big 4” EFL publishers:
 - Oxford University Press
 - Cambridge University Press
 - Macmillan
 - Pearson-Longman
 - Look for exercises that other teachers have prepared for their classes

Using CALL at primary school

- You can write your own exercises
 - If you collaborate with other teachers, you can create a pool of exercises which you can all use
 - If you want to make your exercises available outside the classroom, you can set up an internet site or an interactive internet site (a wiki)
- We are now going to look at some (free) applications that you can use to make your own materials

Set up a class website

- For this exercise, you can choose between creating a blog or a wiki.
 - You can set up a free blog
 - <http://www.google.it/> → “altro” → blogger
 - <http://wordpress.com/> → “get started here”
 - You can set up a free wiki
 - <http://pbworks.com>
 - → get started → “education user” → basic

Class website

Blog

- Author-generated content
 - Only the owner of the blog can add material
 - Users can comment, but they can’t add or change anything
- Chronological sequencing
 - The most recent information appears at the top of the page
 - You can add an index to facilitate navigation

Wiki

- Collaborative content
 - The owner (administrator) decides who can add content
 - Readers can only read
 - Writers can add pages
 - Editors can add pages and modify other peoples’ pages
 - The Administrator can add , modify and delete pages
- Web-page & folder format
 - Navigate between pages using links
 - Navigate between files using tabs

An educational blog



An educational wiki



Make an exercise

- This exercise is based on pp112-113 (Unit 9) in your course book
 - The exercise is a story generated from different possible phrases
 - In this exercise there are no right/wrong answers
 - I have copied the text into a **.txt** file
- We are going to use a free, online template
<http://www.members.thebigbus.com/resources/TestMaker>

Make an exercise

- Go to the site and choose template number 3
 - Write the title (e.g. "Our day out")
 - Write the instructions
 - Copy and paste each line of the text into the boxes
 - Paste the parts that stay the same in the long lines.
 - Paste the variations in the four short boxes.
 - To insert a new line, select the box at the end
 - Add final instructions, e.g. "Read your story to a friend"
- Click on "make html"
- Save the file:
 - Copy & paste the html code into a new text document.
 - Save as "day-out.html" in the top line and "tutti i files" in the bottom line

Make an exercise: advanced users

- Making your exercise perfect.
 - This exercise does not have any wrong answers, so we need to remove some of the html code
- Make a copy of your exercise.
 - Open **the copy** with “blocco note”
 - Scroll to the end of the file and remove this line
`<tr><td align="center"><input type="button" name="button" value="Finished" onclick="answer (this.form);">`
 - Remove `<input type='checkbox' name='a1' size='1' value='0'>` 10 times – a1, a2, a3, a4 etc.
 - Save the file, and close.
 - Double click and open it as a perfect html document

The strange zoo

Select a phrase from each pull-down box and make a story! There are no wrong answers

Last week-end my family and I went to the zoo.

Near the entrance, we saw a tiger reading a book. Further on, **there was a snake riding a bicycle.**

Then, there were some white deer dancing. **Near the exit,**
 a parrot was singing karaoke.

It was all very funny . We had a wonderful day. **We got home and told everyone all about it. But nobody believed us! Not even my** **We hope to go back again soon.**

When you have finished, take turns reading your stories.

Useful CALL links

- <http://www.members.thebigbus.com/resources/TestMaker>
 - Type 1: you have to choose the correct answer from a list
 - Type 2: you have to type in the answer
 - Types 3 & 4: as types 1 and 2 but in 'story' format
- <http://hotpot.uvic.ca/>
 - The Hot Potatoes suite includes six applications: multiple-choice, short-answer, jumbled-sentence, crossword, matching/ordering and gap-fill exercises. You can add feedback comments.
- <http://www.toolsforeducators.com/>
- <http://www.mes-english.com/worksheets/comicstripmaker.php>