

Using the Moodle Glossary to create shared learning resources

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What can the Moodle Glossary do?

- the tool is easily set up on Moodle and requires little technical knowledge from all users
- it can be used to compile a shared lexical resource with examples provided by students
- entries can be edited by the lecturer and commented on to highlight problem areas
- it offers potential in different fields to enhance accurate use and contextualisation of terminology

Assessment ... or not?

✓ **Yes:** this provides extrinsic motivation and all students will contribute

v.s.

X **No:** students should use this opportunity for independent learning

How do we link the glossary to classroom activities?

- students receive induction in class
- some examples can be discussed in class and corrected together
- classroom quizzes on the new vocabulary have proved to be motivational for the students

How have we used the glossary in French and German?

English word

German/French translation

Relevant grammatical information

Example sentence(s)

afford

sich leisten, leistete, hat geleistet

transitive (+Akk), das reflexive Verb ist Dativ

Ich kann mir nicht das neue Auto leisten.



What did students think?

"I've learnt more vocabulary than I have for a long time."

"It's helpful to see a variety of example sentences."

"It built up knowledge and helped a lot."

"The glossary is easy to revise from."

"Noting down vocabulary is a bit old school. The glossary works well."

"I like to see what other students find."

Learning approaches – the glossary...

- is suitable for constructive learning where "learning is the process of creating knowledge" (Kolb 1993, p.153)
- is consistent to a deep approach to learning where students understand ideas for themselves (Entwistle 2005)
- fosters collaborative learning which is linked to enhanced engagement, motivation and enthusiasm (Bovill et al 2011)

Reflections for future development in languages

- glossary would be useful to build up vocabulary systematically across the four year course (enhanced programme focus)
- assessment could be used in some years whereas contributions would be voluntary in other years

Bibliography

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