Institute on Collaborative Language Research

Project planning workshop

Week 1: 4.00-5.30 pm

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DAY 3

Review goals, objectives and tasks

Identify the need for the project

Identify the target audience

Resources

Day 2 slides

Objectives vs tasks

Objectives

- focus on what you will do as steps towards achieving your goal
- are concrete / specific, narrow and measurable
- help you assess your progress towards your goal

Tasks, methods, strategies will help you achieve the objectives

It could help to think of goals, objectives and tasks from higher to lower levels that nest

Goal

- Objective – steps towards achieving the goal
  - Task / method / strategy – means of achieving the objectives

Objectives vs tasks

Tunica Phonetic Readers **Elisabeth Mora, Kira Dell, Jean-Luc Pierite**

Goal: *We propose to create and pilot a series of mini-books with an included smart pen for each age range of Tunica language learners which introduces and reinforces Tunica phonemes through methods tailored for the specific learning needs and interests for each learning level.*

1st draft of an objective: *Assess language learners to identify specific difficulties in pronunciation*

- the objective is "identify specific difficulties in pronunciation". This is a step towards achieving the goal of tailoring materials for specific learning needs
- "Assess language learners" is a method or task – a means of achieving the objective

Reframe: Foreground the objective and background the strategy or method

2nd draft of the objective: *Identify specific difficulties in pronunciation through assessing language learners*

Objectives vs tasks

Let's look at another objective

1st draft of the objective: *Develop a workplan in consultation with all team members in order to ensure a shared understanding of the project*

1. What is the objective?

2. What is the method or task?

3. How could the objective be rewritten?

E.g. 2nd draft of the objective: *Ensure a shared understanding of the project by developing a workplan in consultation with all team members*

Linking needs & goals

Why have you set this particular goal?

Have you established the need for this project?

What is the need that your project will meet?

Why is this need the priority over other needs?

Let's look at an example

DEL application
Susan Penfield 2008

The proposed project will produce video and audio documentation of two highly endangered indigenous languages, Mohave and Chemehuevi. Both languages are still used on the Colorado River Indian Tribes Reservation (CRIT) where a formal survey, conducted by the tribal library in 2002, revealed just 42 speakers of Mohave and 5-7 speakers of Chemehuevi, all over the age of 60. Work on the syntax of both languages was conducted in the 1970s; some work with phonology and electronic documentation of lexical items was begun in 2003. There has been no documentation of naturally occurring conversation and earlier audio recordings are technically inadequate for high fidelity archiving.

What are the keys points in the 100 word summary that identify the need for this project?

Need for your project

Write a few sentences outlining the need for the project you are proposing

Target audience

Who is your project for?

Does it aim to reach all <u>age groups</u>, or is it for a specific age group? For example:

- few books target all age groups. Most are designed to reach a specific age group
- although dictionaries can be designed to serve most age groups, some learner groups are better served by picture dictionaries, topical dictionaries etc.

Which <u>learner group</u> are you targeting?

- early learners in immersion programs (e.g. language nests)?
- L2 learners in school language programs?
- fluent speakers to extend language knowledge and support language maintenance?

Is your project <u>gender</u> specific or aimed at a group with specific <u>skill sets</u>? For example:

- carvers, hunters, singers or chanters, participants in specific ceremonial activities

Target audience

Write 1-2 sentences clearly identifying the target audience

Project check list

Check which sections you have completed:

1. Goal

2. Objectives

3. Outcome

4. Need

5. Target audience

100 words

Tomorrow you will put all these pieces together into a 100 word project summary

Here's one example

We'll look at more examples tomorrow

Example 1 from CoLang 2016

Project: Tunica Phonetic Readers

Elisabeth Mora, Kira Dell, Jean-Luc Pierite

100 word summary:

The Tunica language of Louisiana (ISO 639-3) is designated by ELCat as an awakening language with no living L1 speakers and a growing population of L2 learners. Tunica is well-documented in text format and audio recordings of the last fluent speaker have been digitized from wax cylinder recordings of the 1930s. Although knowledge of pronunciation has been preserved, there is a great need to produce new high quality audio recordings for use in learning pronunciation. We propose to develop a set of interactive phonics-controlled readers that will model Tunica pronunciation using text-matched audio feedback via a smart pen. [98 words]