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Perspectives on Language Learning Materials Development


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Edited by Arnd Witte and Theo Harden

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Book synopsis

Language learning materials development remains a surprisingly under-supported aspect of language teaching. This book constitutes a much-needed resource in the area, aiming to support and advance the craft of materials design. The volume offers a snapshot of the contemporary influences on language learning materials development from diverse perspectives around the globe. These influences include the demands of teaching ESOL in Britain and Ireland, the impact of Corpus Linguistics, the needs of young learners and of diverse worldwide audiences, the development of intercultural competence, as well as the integration of L2 acquisition research. Contributors to the volume are drawn from a broad range of teaching, research and materials development backgrounds. The book includes some chapters based on papers given at the MATSDA (Materials Development Association) 2008 conference.

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About the author(s)/editor(s)

The Editors: Freda Mishan is a lecturer on the M.A. course in English Language Teaching at the University of Limerick, Ireland. Her research and publications include a book, book chapters and articles in the areas of language learning materials development and the use of ICT for language learning. She has over 30 years’ language teaching and training experience worldwide. Angela Chambers is professor of applied languages and director of the Centre for Applied Language Studies, University of Limerick, Ireland. She has co-edited a number of books and published several articles on aspects of language learning. Her current research focuses on the use of corpus data by language learners.

Reviews

«(...) this is a very useful book, with something for everyone, and where every chapter is thought-provoking and encouraging. Language teachers worldwide will be able to confirm the initial postulate, that we are all potential contributors to the field of materials development.» (Carmela Chateau, TEFL.net)
«(...) a useful and stimulating read for people already working with language learning, be they teachers, researchers or materials developers.» (Guilliana Dettori, British Journal of Education Technology)