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Teachers and students using TOOLS outcomes across Europe

Languages:

Arabic
Basque
Danish
Dutch
English
French
Gaelic
German
Greek
Irish
Italian
Lithuanian
Maltese
Portuguese
Romanian
Spanish
Turkish



Hop on board and join the pools teams

Clilstore is steadily growing with more than 800 units available for language learners. In December the Slovenian units reached 65 ready to use units for learning Slovenian, many warm thanks to a Swedish colleague: Morgan Nilsson.

We hope in the near future to be able to offer a menu system where teachers can select units suitable for their students and present them in a shorter menu. Read the article on "Curation" in this newsletter.



A roundtable presentation of the TOOLS outcomes and project during EfVET 2012

TOOLS presentations during the EfVET 2012 conference in Palma

More VET teachers will use Clilstore after the Tools project was presented to delegates at the EfVET annual conference in Palma de Mallorca on the 24-27th of October, 2012. EfVET (www.efvet.org) is an NGO unifying about 300 VET providers' institutions across Europe and each October it holds its annual conference. The conference which is normally attended by over 220 delegates features special Round table sessions where coordinators of projects under various sections of the LLP programme can present their product to a large number of

VET providers across Europe. The Tools project this year received a lot of appraisals not only from European teachers, but from non-EU countries such as Azerbaijan, Hong Kong, Bahrain, Turkey, and Montenegro.



Tools was also presented as an example of good practice at schools, using ICT to deliver certain subjects in the classroom, making it one of the most popular presentations among the delegates.

We have prepared a guided tour of Clilstore where users can read how to prepare quick units in Clilstore and also read about the more advanced options. The guided tour is now available in six languages: Danish, English, Irish, Lithuanian, Portuguese, and Spanish, we have also placed them in Clilstore itself, download the manuals or try them from Clilstore: <http://alturl.com/2js28>

If you know of dictionaries that have not been included in Multidict, which is the dictionary interface linked to from Clilstore, then please mail us the address. There is especially a lack of good dictionaries for the less widely used and taught languages. But any address is appreciated:-)

Clilstore warmly received at the University of Évora

Curation in CLILstore

As the number of exercises in each language grows in CLILstore, it becomes harder for users to choose what units to work on: For how do you actually choose between the 250 possible exercises currently available in English or the 65 in Slovenian?

CLILstore allows the user to filter by topics and language level by filling in keywords in the *Text or summary* window and by choosing a *level* at the top of the CLILstore screen. These filters, however, cannot attest to the quality or scope of units - so it must be on open platforms - therefore users are still left with the challenge of how to select units that somehow fit together in terms of content and level, unless, of course, authors have given some hints in the titles of the units.

The solution to the challenges arising from a combination of an open platform with many different authors and users' understandable need for indicators of quality, relevance and coherence, is curation: Just as a good curator in a museum knows how to select the objects to be displayed at an exhibition based on quality and coherence, a CLILstore curator could help users by pre-selecting a number of units which fit together in level and content and thus represent a themed or structured learning scenario for users.

Therefore, CLIL partners plan to involve a number of curators for different languages, which can provide users with learning pathways based on selected materials from

CLILstore. Users can still select CLILstore units based on their own interests, levels and (probably) a certain amount of randomness. But for those users who are looking for quality and coherence without having to spend too much time looking through many units in CLILstore, using the curators' selection of units will allow them to save time and optimize their language acquisition.



A TOOLS course on Clilstore in Evora, Portugal

Portuguese as a Foreign Language is a very popular subject among Erasmus students, taking their degree in Évora, Portugal. During the first semester of 2012/2013 more than 40 students chose Portuguese as a foreign language. These were A2 level students and as a mother tongue, they had Spanish and Italian.

Last 12th of December some of them were invited to try Clilstore Units. They got acquainted with A2 level units on Portuguese:

Amor de estudante: <http://alturl.com/z9qx2>

O quarto de uma estudante universitária: <http://alturl.com/bcrk5>

They were very happy to try Clilstore! They were completely engaged in the units both during and after class.

At the **International Meeting on Languages, Applied Linguistics and Translation**, which took place at University of Évora, between the 6th and the 7th of December, the Portuguese team gave a small workshop to teachers interested in Clilstore ideas. Previous presentations had focused on the lack of materials that CLIL still endures. Teachers have to create their own material, and that is a hard and time-consuming task. When Clilstore was presented, reactions appeared. "That's a great tool!" Some suspicion was heard around the room: "Are you sure it's for free?" and "Can we really use those units that you are showing us?" The answer was YES for both questions. After demonstrating how easily anyone can create a unit, we finished our presentation challenging those teachers to try and use Clilstore in order to create their own materials. See for example: <http://alturl.com/p74yf>



Erasmus students in Evora working with Clilstore and Hot Potatoes units

We are still waiting for an answer from Google about the problem with using Google Translate as a word to word dictionary. We have mailed and faxed the head office without any response:-(

Latest news: Irish Folklore Resources now on Clilstore

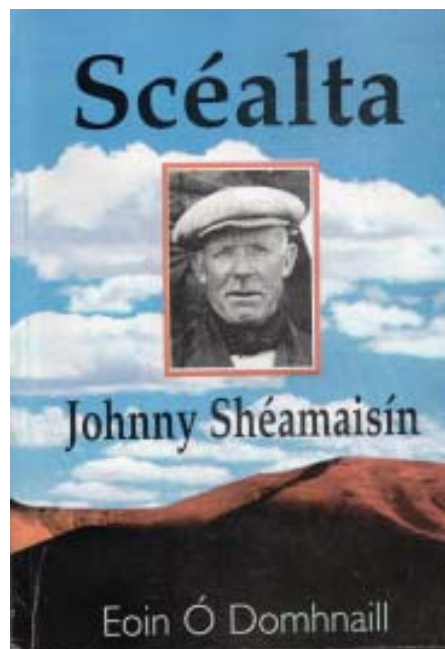


A warm embrace that saves lives:
<http://multidict.net/cs/811>

Fourteen nursing students in Evora tried using clilstore. Their reaction was very positive, they found the text faster and easier to read.

Thanks to its close ties with the community based Irish Language and cultural organisation Comhaltas Uladh, the Ulster Tools team has recently secured permission to base a special series of Clilstore units on previously published print and audio folklore collections. Irish folklore and storytelling is a living tradition which can be traced back well over a thousand years in Ireland and further beyond into the Indo-European roots of Celtic and Irish. The relationship between oral and written folklore has been a matter of much scholarly debate, however, since the invention of audio recording devices the dynamic has been overwhelmingly involved the capture and subsequent transcribing of oral performances. Since its foundation in 1926 Comhaltas Uladh has been very proactive and productive in this area as part of its drive to celebrate and promote Irish language and culture as a vibrant and living phenomenon. In addition to providing easy access to a key genre of the Irish literary tradition these textual resources are an invaluable source of rich and natural language for learners and the best possible way of enabling learners to engage

with the material and gain maximum benefit from it is to provide it simultaneously in audio and print format. Learners who access the Comhaltas Uladh folklore materials on Clilstore will not only enjoy the ease with which the text and audio formats can be consulted but they will also now be further supported in their learning by being able to look up any word they choose in Multidict, and engage in activities designed to deepen and extend their learning experience. Many of the audio recordings which accompany the texts feature native speakers of Irish who have themselves grown up with the Irish storytelling tradition. A sample unit may be viewed at <http://multidict.net/cs/879>.



Ipadio audio clips can be used very flexibly. As we know already, you can embed them in a Clilstore unit. Or you can post the links in your Facebook or Twitter accounts. You can also make podcasts of them, and even place them in iTunes!



Audio podcasts on
Island Voice

Although the core of the Island Voices materials archive remains the [YouTube video](#) collections, regular visitors will be aware that there is a large amount of audio material on the Island Voices [Ipadio channel](#) as well. And as more and more local participants start recording themselves there are more and more Ipadio channels starting up!

As of this month the original Island Voices audio channel has been linked into [iTunes](#). This means that you can download the latest audio clips on that channel as podcasts, for repeated listening on your iPad, iPhone, or other preferred device - with or without an Internet connection. If you search for "Island Voices" in iTunes podcasts you will find the channel in the Education category (subcategory "Language Courses"), or you can click on the graphic. You can also subscribe directly to the [podcast page](#).

Happy
listening!

In October I attended a POOLS-CX meeting in Romania in place of Gordon Wells.

www.poolscx.eu is a Romanian led spin-off from the POOLS family of projects, with partner colleges and universities in Romania, Turkey, Greece and Italy. They are making use of Clilstore, and I gave a talk to the meeting on recent developments in Clilstore and developments which are planned, and got some very useful feedback. The Turks recommended two good Turkish-English dictionaries and these turned out to be very easy to add to Multidict. On the other hand, the Greeks reported that a good Greek-English dictionary had gone pay-only and was not working so I deleted it. For language selection, they had good things to say about both alternatives (dropdown select box versus HTML5 datalist). They voted for the former, though, so I changed Clilstore to make this the default at least for now, especially since not all browsers implement datalist yet. There were some computer geeks present - Thanks to Nikos for the tip on using TinyMCE to provide a richer editing interface, and to Rado for the tip on using jQuery to resize iframes. Hopefully, we'll see the benefits in Clilstore in the future. Altogether it was a very useful and enjoyable trip. ... Caoimhín (SMO)



Loriana and her dog
It may feel presumptuous for a Gaelic learner to assume that they can just start up a conversation in the language with any local person they meet. In a bilingual community the patterns of language use and language choice can be complex between neighbours, friends, and relations. But once it becomes

known that a newcomer is eager to learn and speak Gaelic then many people may well wish to help in any way they can, for example by trying out some simple conversations with the learner.

[Loriana Pauli](#), originally from Switzerland but now settled in the Hebrides, has used Ipadio to try out some of her Gaelic, and hopes that will encourage others to speak to her in the language. It's becoming urgent - her new dog, Roy, has no English!



Go to <http://alturl.com/dfha8> where you can listen to Loriana - and her dog:-)



A Pools-cx teacher course in Larissa, Greece

Pools-cx partners from Greece, Italy, and Turkey make extensive use of the TOOLS outcomes especially Clilstore, which has been used for compiling 14 Greek units and 22 Italian units as well as a large number of units in English. The partners have run a sequence of teacher training courses and piloted the outcomes with language students.



The TOOLS partners are very grateful for the valuable feedback we have received from the pools-cx partnership countries



From a pools-cx course in Pistoia. Teachers preparing a unit for Clilstore



Clilstore in use in Pistoia during a course for Spanish teachers

Read about TOOLS in Danish. Two of the TOOLS members Helle Lykke Nielsen and Kent Andersen have submitted articles about TOOLS in the SPROGforum, a Danish professional magazine for language teachers. The two articles will be printed in the May 2013 issue: <http://alturl.com/mnrxx> which is issue 56

The next main conference where you can meet the TOOLS teams will be the Eurocall 2013 conference in Evora, Portugal, Meet us there:-)

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