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eLearning Courseware for Elementary Japanese Language Learning

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Grammar exercise/quiz, Self-learning**

1. Introduction

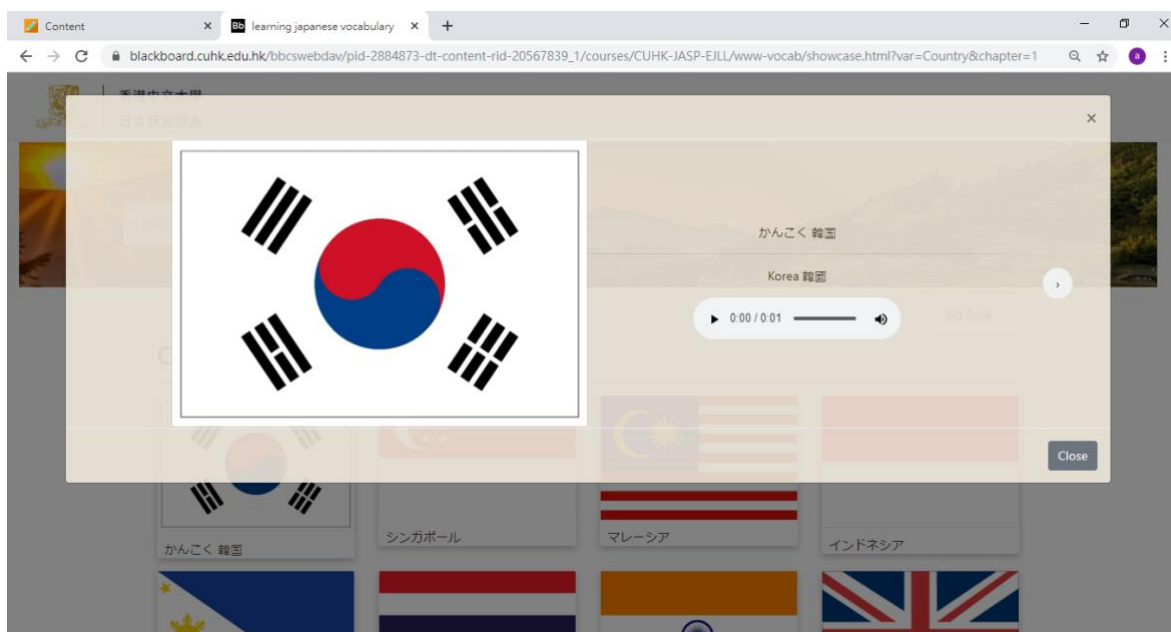
This project aims to create an eLearning platform for the elementary Japanese language learning Level 1 and 2 in the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). The set of original Japanese language textbooks published by Department of Japanese Studies, CUHK is the main teaching materials for all CUHK elementary Japanese courses. This set of textbooks was first published in 1992. Although it has been revised a few times in recent years but there is still no eLearning component included. Therefore students still cannot benefit from the rich resources of eLearning in this technology-driven era. In order to fill this gap, this project provides a series of learning materials based on the content of the textbooks. This eLearning project serves as a support to the current textbooks (Japanese Book 1 and 2, Chapter 1-24) and provides channels for further development of language skills and knowledge under relevant topics in each chapter. This project is focused on developing learning materials for students to access and supporting students' interactions by interactive activities including introduction of new vocabularies, online vocabulary game and grammar quiz. It is also focused on formative assessments through those exercises and quizzes. This project demonstrates originality in the enrichment of eLearning of Japanese language with the support of CUHK original teaching material which cannot be found elsewhere.

2. Structure of courseware

There are 3 sections in this project.

2.1 Learning Vocabulary

This section introduces new vocabularies which are related to the topics in textbooks but not included in the textbook. There are many new vocabularies which students may wish to know. For example, smartphone, apps, internet, It takes time for the editorial board members in the Department of Japanese Studies to revise the textbook by generating a new edition every year to absorb new vocabularies. However, it is relatively simple to revise the content of this courseware. Editorial board members in the Department of Japanese Studies can add/delete new vocabularies any time if necessary.



In this project, the amount of new vocabularies has been largely increased to over 500 and the vocabularies related to cultural topics are also included in the

courseware to provide better teaching quality.

Topic for each chapter

- E.g. Chapter 2: Stationary & IT Technology
Chapter 14: Transportation & Railway Station
Chapter 17: Illness & Medicine
Chapter 22: Prominent figure in Japan & Unusual place names

2.2 Vocabulary Game

This section checks the vocabulary knowledge in ‘Learning Vocabulary’. Hints are provided for students to select.

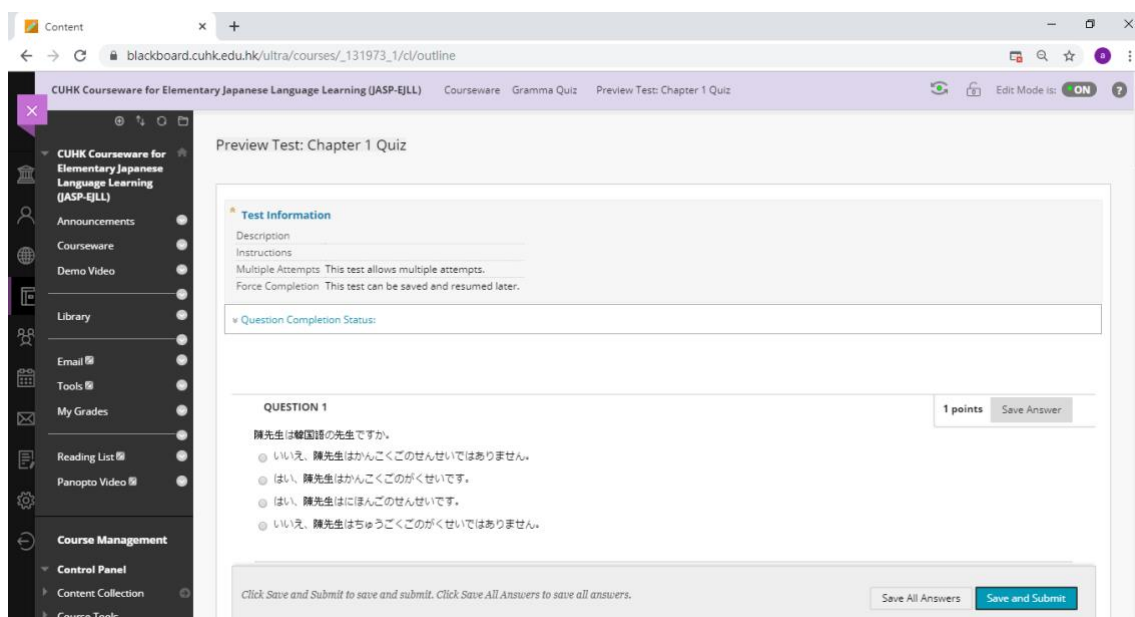


2.3 Grammar Quiz

This section is the exercise for grammar sentence patterns by applying the new vocabularies learnt in Section 2.1. The grammar sentence patterns will be the same as in the textbooks. This project applies the build-in functions in

CUHK Blackboard and the following types of questions are included.

- a. Multiple Choice
- b. Matching
- c. Building Sentence



3 Impact of this project

All students taking elementary Japanese language courses offered by Department of Japanese Studies (JAS) can be benefit from this project. These courses include:

- JASP1450 New Practical Japanese I (for non-JAS major students)
- JASP1460 New Practical Japanese II (for non-JAS major students)
- JASP1470 New Comprehensive Japanese I (for JAS major students)
- JASP1480 New Comprehensive Japanese II (for JAS major students)

Currently, more than 700 students are taking these courses every year. Department of Japanese Studies is now offering this courseware to all students taking the above courses. Students can login this courseware by using

CUHK Blackboard which is very simple and easy. There is a function in this courseware to record their performance too, where they can view their scores after the game. The courseware can provide not only extra learning support to CUHK students outside the textbook materials learning, but it will also serve as good example to other universities/tertiary institutions in Hong Kong offering Japanese language teaching.

4 Guest account for non-CUHK students

Besides the student's account, Department of Japanese Studies has a guest account for this courseware for our teachers and staff to use. In addition, after login, click '**Courseware for Elementary Japanese Language Learning**', then user will enter the main manual of the courseware. Click '**Demonstration Video.mp4**' and user will see a short demonstration of how to use this courseware.

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