

**USING MULTIMEDIA E-LEARNING MATERIALS TO
SUPPLEMENT TEACHING AND LEARNING OF MANDARIN
CHINESE LANGUAGE**



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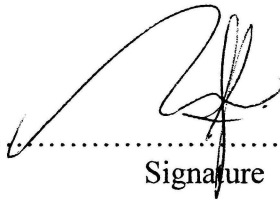
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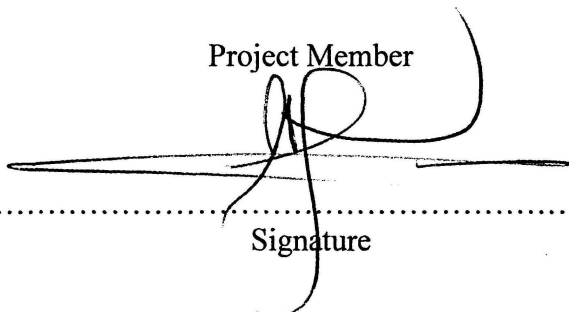
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ABSTRACT

The research sought to define the usability of *Conversational Mandarin Chinese 1* as an interactive multimedia e-learning supplementary instructional tool in the teaching and learning of Elementary Mandarin (I) in UiTM, Shah Alam. Discussions regarding the characteristics of *Conversational Mandarin Chinese 1* were derived from its contents, its relevance to the teaching and learning of language, its general design elements and students' motivation to learn, as well as the strengths and weakness of *Conversational Mandarin Chinese 1* and the suggestions of improving multimedia e-learning instructional materials. This multimedia e-learning materials *Conversational Mandarin Chinese 1* was a pilot prototype project and it was a self-developed product by the researchers of this project to supplement conventional teaching and learning method of the Elementary Mandarin learning program in UiTM. Besides, it was offered as a self-helped learning instruction for the students, in view of the limitation of contact hours for third language classes in the university.

A measurement was taken to achieve the objectives of the research. Among the others was to conduct survey questionnaires. The questionnaires were conducted among 219 students from seven (7) different faculties who learning the Elementary Mandarin (I) program in the Shah Alam campus of UiTM. The students selected were given opportunities to view and to use the multimedia e-learning materials via “i-learn” portal or <http://gohchinshuang.uitm.edu.my> for the duration of one semester. The results of this research were analyzed quantitatively, i.e. using the frequency (percentage) method.

In the research, the strength and weakness of *Conversational Mandarin Chinese 1* as well as additional inputs to enhance interactive multimedia e-learning materials were also identified. Over all, the general characteristics of *Conversational Mandarin Chinese 1* were defined to be very appropriate and usable for students sampled by this research. It was clear from the results of the research that interactive multimedia e-learning materials have the capacity to enhance the teaching and learning process of Elementary Mandarin. Interactive multimedia e-learning materials were also affirmed as being capable of offering attractive and stimulating learning environment besides providing support for learners. It meant that it really providing a truly interactive learning environment for students to explore and thus enabling them to become actively engaged in the learning process. Thus, e-learning based instructions, and in this case interactive multimedia Mandarin e-learning, should be implemented even widely within the campus as far as the teaching and learning of Elementary Mandarin is concerned.

It is the hope of the researchers that this research will present a clear scenario of the using interactive multimedia Mandarin e-learning instructions in UiTM, Shah Alam. The researchers also hopes that this research will be of benefit to all parties concerned, especially to the Mandarin Unit, Academy of Language Studies, Mandarin lecturers, the students and the stake of UiTM. Eventually, it should enhance the effort of all in improving and raising the standard of interactive multimedia Mandarin e-learning.