

MULTIMEDIA BASED EDUCATION TOOLS FOR STUDYING HIRAGANA AND KATAKANA LETTERS FOR BEGINERS USING MACROMEDIA FLASH

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ABSTRACT

The advancement of technology in education today indicate that the use of foreign language is inevitable in the globalisation era. One of the example is the use of Japanese language in the international education and trading. Thus, the demand to study Japanese letter is increasing. Nevertheless the education tools to study it is somehow still conventional ones, such as papers, cards, and books which are less interesting, and people usually get bored and get some difficulties. This study aims to develop multimedia based education tools which could be used to complement the education process for Hiragana and Katakana letters, and to find out the relevancy of this education tools.

This study uses Research and Development approach. It is conducted on May 2011 at Focus Group Discussion (FGD) in “Pusat Budaya Jepang” learning institution. The subject being studied are 15 students, and the object are multimedia based education tools for studying Hiragana and Katakana letters. Research is performed in several steps : competency standard, problem and potential solution, analisis of needs, designs and implementations, products, expert validation, product revisions, trial usage, product revision and mass production. Data collection method being used are observation and unstructured interview. Analyzing technique being used is descriptive qualitatif analysis.

Result of validation conducted by educational material expert stated that this educational tools are accordance with the competency standard and are fit for educational purpose. So as media experts state that this educational tools are good example and are fit for educational purpose. Based trial usage to the students this tools fit for the purpose and make the educational process easier.

Keyword : educational tools, multimedia, Hiaragana and Katakana letters, Macromedia Flash.