



# Integration of Computational Linguistics/Natural Language Processing Technology in Computer-Assisted Language Learning - 2002/2003

## - ICALL for German in the Primary School Environment

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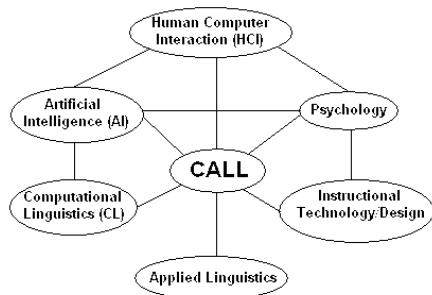


### What is Computer-Assisted Language Learning (CALL)?



Using a computer to learn a language. It can act as a **tool**, to help you learn a particular grammar feature in the target language for example, or as a complete **tutor**, to help you learn all aspects of the target language.

CALL incorporates a number of disciplines:

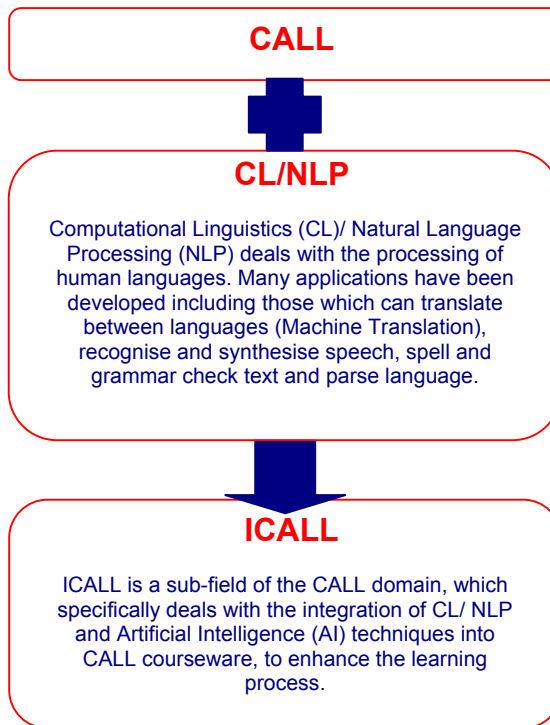


(Levy, 1997:72)

CALL has lots of potential but often lacks integration into a *Real Life Situation*.



### What is Intelligent CALL (ICALL)?



### Real Life Situation

Integration, integration, integration!!

- It's vital that an (I)CALL system is developed *for* and integrated *into* a real life situation.
- Development needs to be **learner centred**, so that the finished product caters for the target group's particular needs.

Department of Education and Science are running a **pilot project** to integrate foreign language into primary schools.

**Evaluation** – interesting points (Harris & Conway, 2002)

- Only those schools which had the resources to teach a foreign language were able to take part in the pilot project.
- Often the foreign language teacher was an external teacher.

**Development** of (I)CALL system –

- Facilitate foreign language learning in any primary school with computing facilities.
- Eliminate the need for an external teacher.
- In-house teachers could revise their foreign language with their version of the courseware; hence having the linguistic ability and confidence to teach their own class.



CALL courseware in use with a primary school class

### Bibliography

Harris, J. & Conway, M. (2002) *Modern Languages in Primary Schools: An Evaluation of the National Pilot Project* Research Report 27. Dublin: Institiúid Teangeolaíochta Éireann  
 Levy, M. (1997) *Computer-Assisted Language Learning: Context and Conceptualization* Oxford: Clarendon Press.

### Publications/Presentations

Keogh, K. & Greene, C. (May 2003) *Multi-layered Collaborative CALL* CALICO 2003, University of Ottawa, Canada  
 Keogh, K. (July 2003) *CALL for Disadvantaged Students* ELSNET 2003 Summer School, Lille, France