

'English ++' - ICT Language Project as an Example of Good Practice

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Abstract

"English++" - ICT language project was awarded European Language Label in 2008 in one of the three distinct categories as a winner of the competition for institutions of tertiary education in Poland. European Language Label (ELL) is a quality label for innovative initiatives in language learning and teaching awarded since 1998 in all countries participating in the Lifelong Learning Programme.

The main objective of the project is improving the quality of specialist glossary teaching and learning thanks to the development of a course book in a printed and electronic format, which features authentic ICT materials to be used during language courses staged at TE and attended by IT students at intermediate or advanced levels (B2+) and their teachers.

Project participants and beneficiaries have developed a bank of IT materials indispensable for the implementation of a teaching/learning programme including specialist glossary, which helps improving the knowledge of professional jargon (ESP), as well as the use of authentic communication situations for the development of effective communication skills (official and informal correspondence with text authors, project documentation and reporting). Audio, video materials and published texts may be used during any ICT language course at B2+ level. The project participants were stressing good practice during their activity, e.g. respecting copyright and created a model for similar initiatives to be taken by the Jagiellonian University Language Centre. The project identifies the fields of IT, to which the texts should pertain and the requirements for specific articles (word content, mathematical content, formulas, etc.) 'English ++' articles were acquired from researchers at the Institute of Information Technology at the Jagiellonian University, as well as from Google or other respective international IT companies or institutions.

The project is a venture of a non-for-profit character and available at the Jagiellonian University Language Centre web site: www.jcj.uj.edu.pl