

ALT への教師教育に関する一考察

—ALT 対象 Web サイトの現状分析—

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to investigate and analyze the present situation of Web sites for ALTs working in Japan who are expected to reach unprecedented numbers. In 2002 and 2003, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology announced its plan to recruit over 8,400 ALTs worldwide and have them participate actively in a wider variety of job responsibilities. To meet this demand, it is crucial to enhance the quality of training for ALTs. According to our survey (Kushima & Nishihori, 2005), ALTs have little job training on a practical level in the orientation sessions offered at present, and virtually no individual preparation occurs for the profession before coming to Japan. Taking the expansion of recruitment and dispatch into consideration, Web based training can complement the present training available and offer a good opportunity for future ALTs to undergo pre-training and join the teachers' community in advance. As such, it is essential to analyze present Web sites for ALTs in order to establish a proposal for suitable training. Two research questions arose: (1) What kind of information are these Web sites offering ALTs? and (2) How interactive are they for ALTs? Much focus is placed on interaction, particularly discussion forums, since they offer learners the opportunity to analyze information, explore ideas, and share feelings among learners and instructors in an e-learning course (Khan, 2005). The results demonstrate that most of the Web sites centered on offering information with regard to daily life such as living in Japan and promoting communication within the community. Only a small number of Web sites use discussion forums positively, but their usage is problematic. This study suggests effective ways to improve the function of Web sites by focusing on interaction and provides professional preparation for ALTs in their pre- and mid-training stages.