

language bytes



tips for accelerated language learning

Set your priorities

Are you taking language classes to fill a graduation requirement or because you would actually like to speak another language? Even if you must take languages classes, wouldn't you like to be able to speak the language after the countless hours you have spent in class?

The first step in working towards proficiency in a

language is deciding that it is a task worthy of your time and effort. The more effort you put into your language learning, the more you will get out of it.

Taking language classes is an important part of the process, but there are other tools that can help you succeed in retaining what you have learned. In this newsletter I have included some additional tools that can you can

use to take your language learning to the next level.

Kayla Price
Director, LAC

In this newsletter:

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Multilingual Apps | 2 |
| Multilingual Apps Chart | 3 |
| Language-specific Apps Chart | 4 |
| Mango Premiere Films | 5 |

Language Acquisition
Center



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Try Duolingo for Spanish,
French, Italian, German and
Portuguese

duolingo



Duolingo

With Duolingo, you learn a language completely free, without ads or hidden charges. You have fun while you learn, leveling up and competing with friends. You have the opportunity to translate real-world texts in the language you are learning, and in doing so, help translate the Web into other languages.

Pictolang for iOS

Pictolang© is the application side of the CAPL project, featuring language and cultural learning content through authentic imagery. The games in Pictolang© are generated dynamically, meaning the collections with more content will have more options. It has four different game options to choose from.

Mango Languages

Every lesson of Mango Passport® is taught through conversations, giving you an edge in understanding the discourse of your new language. Each chapter aligns your learning to a set of conversational and grammar goals. Features include: cultural insights, grammar insights, interactive audio, voice comparison, pronunciation helpers, literal meanings and semantic color mapping.

NEW! - Premiere language learning through film is discussed on Page 5.

Log on via UH libraries, using this link: <http://bit.ly/NUTEjk>

Or look for the link on our LAC homepage: www.uh.edu/class/lac



Collaboration Apps

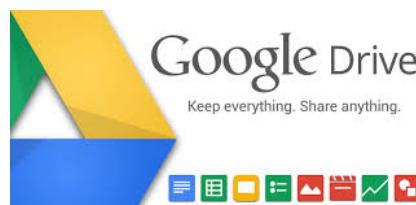
Glassboard is a private social network for groups. Share messages, photos, videos, files and even locations with different groups: family, friends, co-workers, classmates, volunteers, and more.



Wiggio is an easy and free way to stay on track with your group. You can host virtual meetings, create to-do lists, send messages, manage a shared calendar, create a poll, and upload and share files.



Google Drive, formerly known as Google Docs, has all of the word processing capabilities of MS Office, but without the software. Since all documents are created and stored online, you can easily share documents and collaborate with others in real time without passing around multiple drafts.



Mobile apps

Bored in your other classes? Download these apps!

1. Duolingo

Free game-based language learning that uses the responses it receives to translate documents across the web. www.duolingo.com

2. Mango Languages

(Free, iOS + Android)

Learn through conversation with interactive audio and voice comparison. Create your free logon by signing in via the UH libraries site using this link: <http://bit.ly/NUTEjk>

3. Pictolang

(Free, iOS) Language and cultural learning content through authentic imagery.

4. Quizlet

(Free, iOS + Android) Use existing vocabulary sets to test your knowledge or create your own!

5. Memrise

(Free, iOS + Android) Courses are available in many languages, for many languages and other subjects. Create your own mnemonic devices or use those that others have created.

Quizlet

Use existing vocabulary sets to test your knowledge or create your own!



| Multi-lingual Apps | Duolingo | Mango | Picto Lango | Quizlet | Pangaea |
|-------------------------|----------|-------|-------------|---------|------------|
| iOS/Android | Both | Both | iOS | Both | Both |
| Arabic | | + | + | + | Salaam |
| Mandarin Chinese | | + | + | + | |
| French | + | + | + | + | Très Bien |
| German | + | + | + | + | Wie Geht's |
| Hebrew (Jewish Studies) | | | | + | Ma Kore |
| Hindi | | + | | + | |
| Italian | + | + | + | + | Molto Bene |
| Japanese | | + | + | + | |
| Latin | | | | + | |
| Modern Greek | | + | | + | |
| Russian | | + | + | + | |
| Spanish | + | + | + | + | Qué Onda |
| Vietnamese | | + | | + | |

| iOS Apps | Dictionaries | | Verb Conjugators, etc. | | Writing , News, & more... | |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Arabic |  | Arabic (free/\$3) |  | TenguGo Arabic (free) |  | Al Jazeera (free) |
| Mandarin Chinese |  | Pleco (free/ \$40) |  | KTdict dictionary (free/\$4) |  | Chinagram (\$2) |
| French |  | Larousse (\$5) |  | French Verb Conjugator (\$1) |  | Actualité Française (free) |
| German |  | Langenscheidt German Learner's Dict. (\$22) |  | German Verb Conjugator (\$1) |  | Deutsche Welle (free) |
| Hebrew (Jewish Studies) |  | Hebrew English Dictionary (free/\$3) |  | Hebrew Verb tables (\$5) |  | Hebrew Israel News (\$1) |
| Hindi |  | Hinkhoj Hindi (free) |  | iStudy Hindi verbs (\$2) |  | Samachar (free) |
| Italian |  | Collins (\$25) |  | Conjugation Nation (\$3) |  | LiberoQuotidiano (free) |
| Japanese |  | Japanese (\$8) |  | imiwa? (free) |  | Human Japanese (free/\$10) |
| Latin |  | SPQR dictionary and reader (\$7) |  | Conjugate (\$20) |  | Liberation Philology (\$4) |
| Modern Greek |  | Collins (\$20) |  | Greek Verbs (\$20) |  | The Greek App (free) |
| Russian |  | Russian English (\$3) |  | Russian verbs HD (\$4) |  | BBC Russian (free) |
| Spanish |  | Spanish English dictionary (free) |  | Conjuverb (\$1, iOS) |  | Noticias Univision (free) |
| Vietnamese |  | Vietnamese Dict (free) |  | Nemo Tieng Viet (free) |  | Vietsnips (free) |

Mango Premiere offers guided film-based language learning. The following are the film selections currently available through our UH libraries subscription to Mango Languages. Create a logon, under

“learn” select “apps” and then select the language under “Premiere.”

To log on, use this link:

<http://bit.ly/NUTEjk>

Or look for the link on our LAC homepage: www.uh.edu/class/lac



7 Languages

20 Courses

Mango Premiere teach a new lang

- Chinese, Mandarin
- French
- German
- Inglés Para Hablantes De
- Español
- Italian
- Japanese
- Spanish, Latin America
- Choose a language...



Little Big Soldier
Mango Premiere



Ocean Heaven
Mango Premiere



Kung-Fu Dunk
Mango Premiere

Mandarin Chinese films



Hospitalité
Mango Premiere



Negative Happy Chainsaw Edge
Mango Premiere

Japanese films



Light of my Eyes
Mango Premiere



Corpo Celeste
Mango Premiere



Days and Clouds
Mango Premiere

Italian films

German films



La Moustache
Mango Premiere



Around a Small Mountain
Mango Premiere



Jerichow
Mango Premiere



Yella
Mango Premiere

French films



The Colors of the Mountain
Mango Premiere



The Window
Mango Premiere



Lake Tahoe
Mango Premiere



Gigante
Mango Premiere

Spanish films

Other resources online

Language Mixer

<http://www.language-exchanges.org>

The Mixer is a free educational site for language learners hosted by Dickinson College. The Mixer is designed to connect language learners around the world so that everyone is both student and teacher. Students can communicate with native speakers via written group posts or Skype. Register and find a conversation partner, then spend Skype with them in your target language for half of the time and in your native language for the other half.

Memrise (free, web + apps)



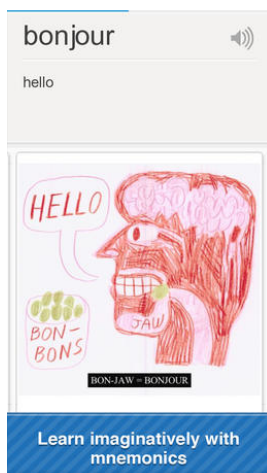
There are thousands of courses on Memrise - all free and all created by other members of the community. Courses are available in many languages, for many languages and other subjects. If we don't have what you want, join in and make your own!

Learn the course using our science-based learning techniques. Bring learning to life with mems - little snippets of imagination and humor that make things easy to remember. Earn points whilst you learn, and compete against friends. Thanks to our spaced repetition scheme you'll practice items you've learnt before again in the future - earn more points for remembering them for longer lengths of time.

Web-based version also available:
<http://www.memrise.com>

Dictionaries

Our paper-bound dictionaries are collecting dust in the Language Acquisition Center. If you haven't already done so, explore dictionary apps for your target language. There are many free versions available, and most of the paid versions are much



cheaper than printed dictionaries. See Page 4 for some suggestions. However, if you are going abroad, be sure to pick up an old-fashioned pocket dictionary for your trip.

Computer-based Translators

Even though computer translation and voice recognition have come very far, computer-based translators are still no match for the human computer. Steer clear of all online translators in your work and use them for entertainment purposes only. Your professors will know when google has done the work for you.

LAC

The Language Acquisition Center (LAC) is a resource center for the students and faculty in the Department of Hispanic Studies and the



Department of Modern and Classical Languages. We provide many tools for the study of world languages, literatures, and

cultures, including computer classrooms, audio and visual equipment, and an extensive collection of foreign films.

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I have been the director of the LAC since 2008. I have a background in linguistic anthropology and am interested in the intersection of technology and education. In addition to my native English, I speak Spanish, German and Kuna, an indigenous language in Panama. I also maintain a blog on the implementation of iPads in UH language classes:



www.ipadprofs.blogspot.com

Have you found a language app or website that you love? Please let me know via email!