

# Web-based English learning and teaching in Taiwan: Possibilities and challenges

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## Abstract

In August 1991 Tim Berners-Lee publicized his new World Wide Web project and marked a milestone in the history of Internet. Since then the modern Internet has created a profound impact on almost every aspect of our life including, of course, English learning and teaching. Later, computer-assisted language learning (CALL) has rapidly shifted to network-based language learning. However, the tsunami of web-based language learning and teaching has come so fast and overwhelmingly that a large majority of English teachers in Taiwan have not technically or pedagogically prepared for this educational reform. This paper will first introduce theoretical framework of network-based language teaching. Next, it will present how Internet can be effectively used in language teaching and learning and also give some practical guidelines on preparation for web-based English learning and teaching. Then, it will also explore some challenges that most English educators may face when we would like to apply Internet to our teaching and how we can overcome those difficulties. Finally, the paper will conclude with the implications and future possibilities for using Internet in foreign language classrooms.

Keyword : CALL, web-based English learning