

Creating Adaptive e-learning Materials with Hot Potatoes 6.0 and Moodle



Name	HERBERT, John C.	E-mail	herbert@akashi.ac.jp
Status	Professor		
Affiliations	MAJ (Moodle Association of Japan) and JALTCALL (Japan Association for Language Teaching – Computer Assisted Language Learning)		
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Research Contents Creating Adaptive e-learning Materials with Hot Potatoes 6.0 and Moodle

Since 2004, three open source Moodle modules (HotPot, QuizPort, and TaskChain) have been created for the purpose of linking and converting multiple Hot Potatoes 6.0 quiz files into adaptive e-learning materials. These modules also allow precise and efficient mechanisms to specify settings on multiple activities, to output a single activity in a number of different output formats, and to specify pre- and post-conditions and scoring schemes. The first module, the HotPot Module, was introduced by Professor Thomas Robb from Kyoto Sangyo University, then later passed on to Professor Gordon Bateson at Kanazawa Gakuin University for further development. Over the past several years, Professor Bateson has programmed many remarkable and advanced features into the HotPot Module and its successors QuizPort and TaskChain. Two of these advanced features include the ANCT-Scan and ANCT-Scan Auto-Advance output formats for Hot Potatoes JCloze quizzes, which were co-developed and funded by Akashi National College of Technology (ANCT) upon my request. Hence the name, ANCT-Scan.

The unique functionality of ANCT-Scan is that, rather than boxes or buttons, it requires users to select text in single word, phrase, sentence, or paragraph length answer choices, and more than one answer choice can be selected at a time. This saves screen space and is ideal for word recognition drills and audio-driven text scanning activities online. It is also capable of facilitating multiple choice quizzes with embedded audio and visuals.

The three modules mentioned above and all of their available output formats have been used extensively at ANCT. The two ANCT-Scan output formats have been particularly useful in conducting research on skimming, scanning, and visual syntactic text formatting. And, the modules have been used at ANCT in EFL classes for intensive reading, TOEIC preparation (via iPod Touch), and speech preparation.

Individuals or groups who are interested in creating adaptive e-learning materials with Hot Potatoes 6.0 and Moodle are encouraged to contact me via e-mail.

Available Facilities and Equipment

Moodle 1.X ~ 2.X (downloadable, open source LMS)	
Hot Potatoes 6.0 (downloadable, quiz authoring freeware)	
TaskChain (downloadable open source module for Moodle 2)	
HotPot (downloadable open source module for Moodle 2)	
QuizPort (downloadable open source module for Moodle 1)	