

How do learners use an online multimedia language learning environment? An eye-tracking study



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Select translation of
la fille



Learn Spanish, French and
20+ languages



Videos Intermediate

DIFFICULTY

- All
- Newbie
- Elementary
- Intermediate
- Upper Intermediate
- Advanced
- Native

TOPICS AND FORMATS

- All
- Arts and Entertainment
- Business
- Culture
- Everyday Life
- Health and Lifestyle
- Politics and Society
- Science and Tech
- Clips
- Commercials
- Mini-Movies
- Movie Trailers

Videos 125

Newest Popular Longest

 The Verb "Etre" - To Be 0:52 Newbie	 Pauline 7:03 Upper Intermediate	 French Story Time African Edition-- 3:39 Intermediate	 Alphabet Riddles "R" 1:15 Elementary	 Can I Come In? 0:25 Newbie
 Dialogue with a Hotel Receptionist 0:31 Newbie	 Welcome to the Middle of Nowhere 2:06 Native	 A Hairy Situation 3:15 Upper Intermediate	 Back to School 1:02 Intermediate	 Fake Kinder Bueno Commercial "No I don't" 0:41 Elementary



CAN'T SPEAK NOW

CHECK

Introduction

- Different types of activities which may foster aspects of language learning such as:
 - Vocabulary and reading comprehension through reading in a multimedia environment supported by glossaries (e.g. Chun & Plass 1996; Chun & Payne 2004; Erçetin 2003)

Introduction

- However
 - Classroom/laboratory context
 - *Effects* of ... *on* language learning
- Little is known about the *learning process*

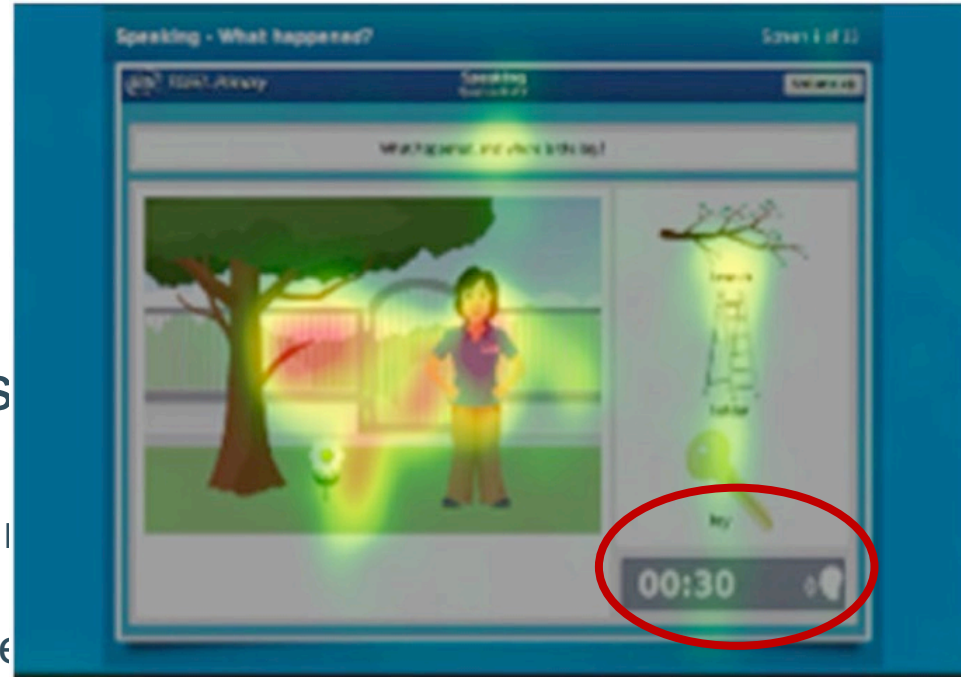
Background literature

- Studies on learners behaviour with CALL activities using tracking data which could determine
 - **Learners' profiles** \leftrightarrow **use of the platform** (Nelson, Bueno & Huffstutler, 1999)
 - **Learners' profiles** \leftrightarrow **use of help facilities** (Pujolà, 2002)
 - **Use of help facilities** \leftrightarrow **performance on the task** (Hegelheimer & Tower, 2004)

- Studies on learners

- E.g. Learners spend more time watching the video and an illustration

- E.g. Non native speakers are more hesitant (Lee & Winke)



re

the visual input in a subtitled

s and did it mostly when

Lee & Winke (2018)



Objectives

- Investigate
 - Learners' **use** of a language **platform** (i.e., NedBox) and its **help options**
 - Their **attention** to the **multimedia material** & **exercises** with **eye-tracking methodology**

Research questions

1. How do learners **divide** their **attention** on the **screen**?
 - 1.1 How does **proficiency influence** attention allocation?
 - 1.2 How is **performance** on the exercises **related** to attention allocation?

2. How do learners **use NedBox** and the different **help options** available?
 - 2.1 How is the use of help options **influenced** by **learners' proficiency**?
 - 2.2 How is **performance** on the exercises **related to the use of help options**?

Methodology

Methodology

- Participants
 - For the **pilot** study:
 - 5 Adult following Dutch classes in a jobcentre
 - L1 = French; L2 = Dutch
 - Proficiency +- A1/A2
 - For the **actual** study:
 - 21 adult following Dutch classes at different training/job- centre (FOREM, IFAPME, CVOMiras)
 - L1 = French; L2 = Dutch
 - Proficiency from A1+ to B2 (as assessed by teachers and by vocabulary placement test)



Wat is ploggen?



met ondertitels

Dit filmpje komt uit [Het journaal](#).



Kijk naar het filmpje.
Wat doen Bart en Dieter?
Klik alle juiste antwoorden aan.

Hint

- ☐ wandelen
- ☐ joggen
- ☐ afval oprapen
- ☐ winkelen

controle





Leer Nederlands met Vincent



Leer Nederlands met Vincent



campagne

Definitie:

een grote actie om reclame te maken voor iets of iemand of om te protesteren tegen iets of iemand

de campagne [campagnes]

van de campagne 'J'apprends le flamand avec Vincent'.

Met die campagne wil Company werkhoezoekenden uit Brussel stimuleren om Nederlands te leren. Zo kunnen ze gemakkelijker werk vinden.

Vanaf begin oktober kon je de filmpjes of foto's van Company zien in de Brusselse metro, op de radio en in de bioscoop. De campagne is een succes. 1.210 Brusselse werkhoezoekenden zijn naar de VDAB gegaan voor een sessie over Nederlands leren en werken in Vlaanderen. Dat zijn er vier keer meer dan vorig jaar.

Er zijn ook duidelijk meer Brusselse werkhoezoekenden die via de VDAB Nederlands leren. In januari 2018 organiseerde de VDAB dubbel zoveel Nederlandse opleidingen voor Brusselse werkhoezoekenden als een jaar eerder.

Wil je ook Nederlands leren, kijk dan eens op de website www.japprendsleflamandavecvincent

Lees de tekst.

Wie of wat is Vincent Company?

Klik alle juiste antwoorden aan.



Hint

- ☒ Een voetballer.
- ☐ Een Rode Duivel.
- ☒ Een werkhoezoekende.
- ☐ Een Belg.



Nee, Vincent Company zoekt geen werk.

Probeer het nog eens!

Ga met de over de voor feedback.

nog een keer

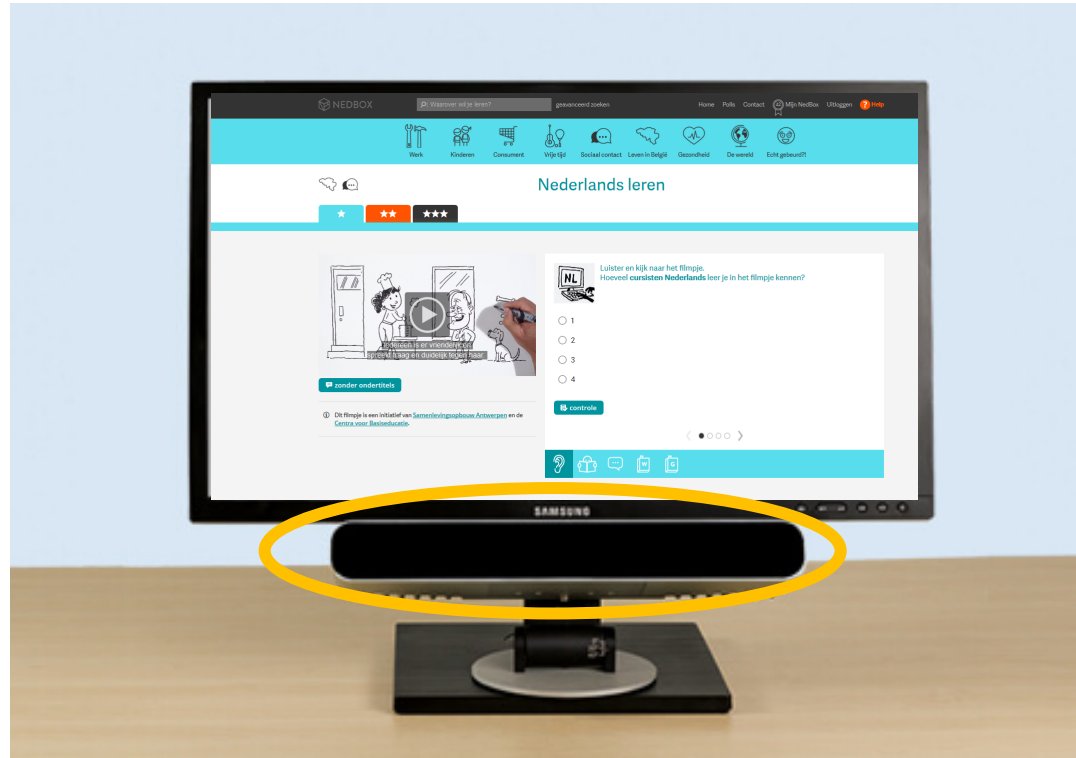
oplossing

FOTO ARTIKEL Vincent Company: Pierre-Yves Thienpont/LE SOIR



Methodology

- Instruments:
 - Eye-tracker SMI Red Mobile (250Hz)



Methodology

- Instruments:
 - Eye-tracker SMI Red Mobile (250Hz)
 - Vocabulary Knowledge Test

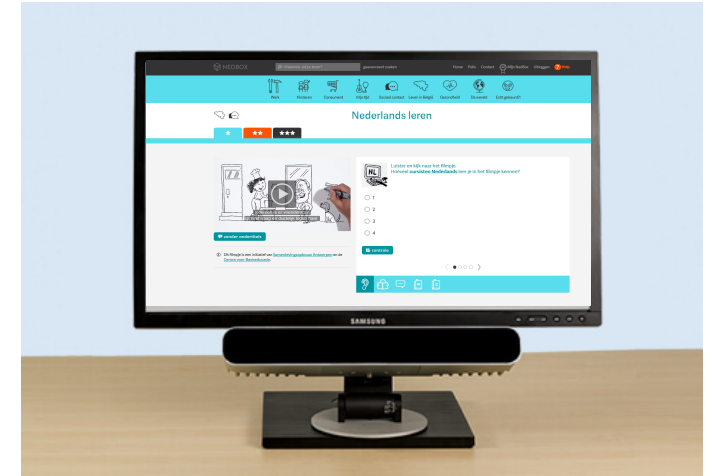
3. Hoofd

- ☐ Main
- ☐ Pied
- ☐ Tête
- ☐ Pouce
- ☐ Je ne sais pas

4. Sterven

- ☐ Oser
- ☐ Décevoir
- ☐ Interpréter
- ☐ Mourir
- ☐ Je ne sais pas

- Background questionnaire (language, education, use of NedBox, contact with Dutch...)



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Wat is ploggen?

Dit filmpje komt uit [Het Journaal](#).

Kijk naar het filmpje.
Wat doen Bart en Dieter?
Klik alle juiste antwoorden aan.

Mint

☐ wandelen
 ☒ joggen
 ☒ afval oprapen
 ☐ winkelen

OEFENING

controle

Vind je deze oefeningen leuk?

Methodology

- Measures:
 - **Eye metrics** for different **Areas of Interest**:
 - Total fixation time %
 - Fixation proportion
 - Average fixation duration



Lieve zoon, kom terug!



"Kom terug, van ons hoeft je niet meer te trouwen"



Als telefoons onbeantwoord blijven en mails worden genegeerd, moet een mens andere manieren vinden om een boodschap over te brengen. Een Chinese moeder maakte dit mee met haar zoon, die na een familietwist "gevlucht" is naar Australië. Hem bereiken deed ze als volgt: ze liet een open brief publiceren op de voorpagina van een lokale krant.

De jongeman verliet zijn

thuisland, omdat hij het beu was dat zijn ouders hem voortdurend verplichtten te trouwen. Hij vond er werk en hoefde zich geen zorgen meer te maken over de opmerkingen van zijn ouders. Die ouders hebben nu spijt, zo blijkt uit de open brief.

"Een brief aan mijn zoon", staat er te lezen op de voorpagina van de Chinese Melbourne Daily. "Misschien is dit de enige manier om je te bereiken. Mama en papa zullen je nooit meer onder druk zetten om te trouwen. Kom alstublieft terug naar huis om Nieuwjaar te komen vieren. Liefs, mam." Het is voorlopig nog onbekend of Peng de brief van zijn mama heeft gelezen. En als dit het geval is, dan nog blijft de vraag of hij zin heeft om naar huis te gaan.

157

Naar: deredactie.be

<http://www.deredactie.be>

Een Chinese moeder liet een brief voor haar zoon in een krant publiceren. In het krantenartikel kun je lezen waarom ze dat doet.

Reconstrueer de brief:

zet het einde van de zin (= de rechterkolom) bij het juiste begin (= de linkerkolom).

Brief aan mijn zoon

Peng, ik heb geprobeerd je te bellen

om te trouwen.

Misschien is dit de enige manier

Liefs, mam

Mama en papa zullen je nooit meer onder druk zetten

om je te bereiken.

Kom alstublieft terug naar huis

maar je neemt niet op.

om Nieuwjaar te komen vieren.

controle



SensoMotoric Instruments

ROELOVEN KUTUK

Methodology

- Measures:
 - **Eye metrics** for different **Areas of Interest**
 - Performance on each exercise on the platform
 - Use of help options (used or not for each exercise)

Methodology

- Procedure

Vocabulary
knowledge
test
(10-20min)

Use of
NedBox
(+-40min)

Results & discussion

Results: Attention allocation

1. How do learners divide their attention on the screen (e.g. between multimedia material and exercises)?

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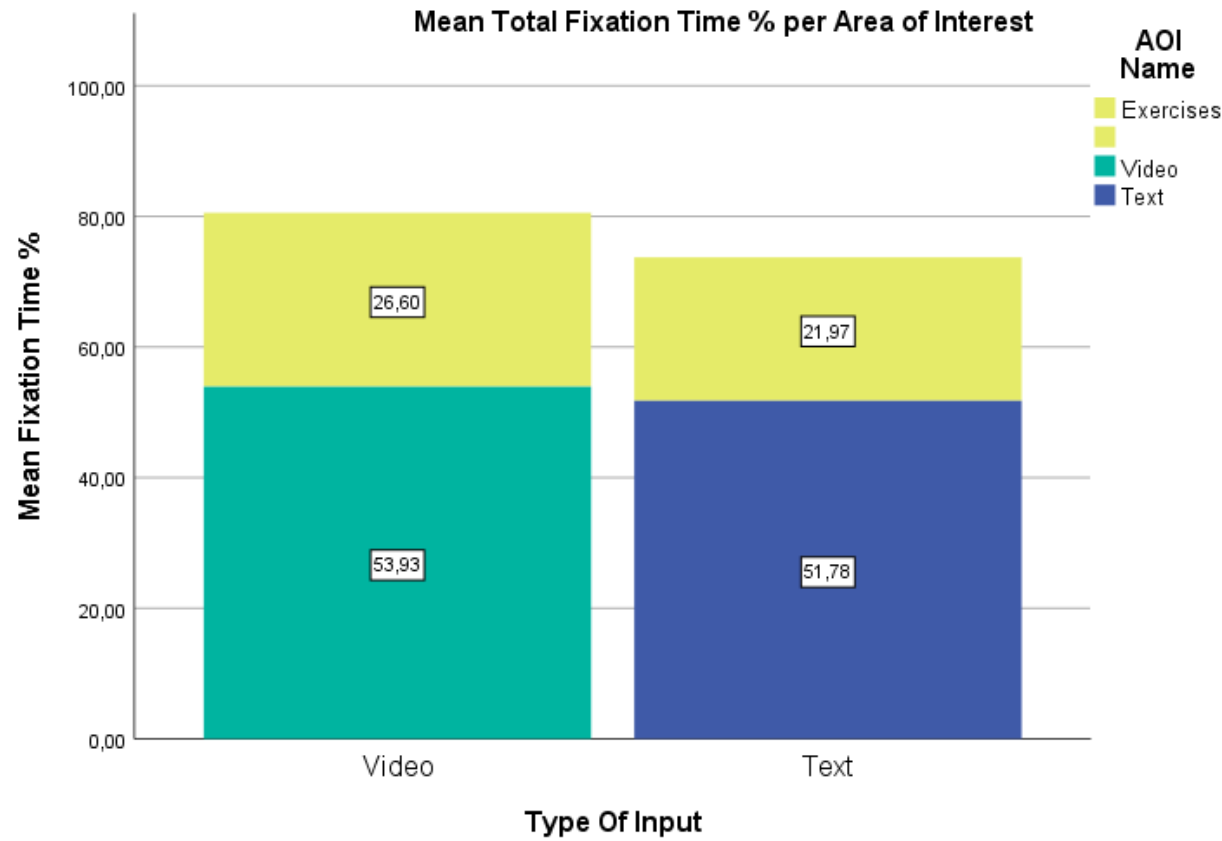
- **Total fixation time (%)***

$$\left(\frac{\textit{Fixation Time in AOI} [ms]}{\textit{Visible Time of AOI} [ms]} \right) * 100$$

* As in e.g., Tragant-Mestres & Pellicer-Sanchez (2019)

Results: Attention allocation

1. How do learners divide their attention on the screen (e.g. between multimedia material and exercises)?



Video > Exercises

$(t(138) = 13,85; p < .000, d = 2,341)$

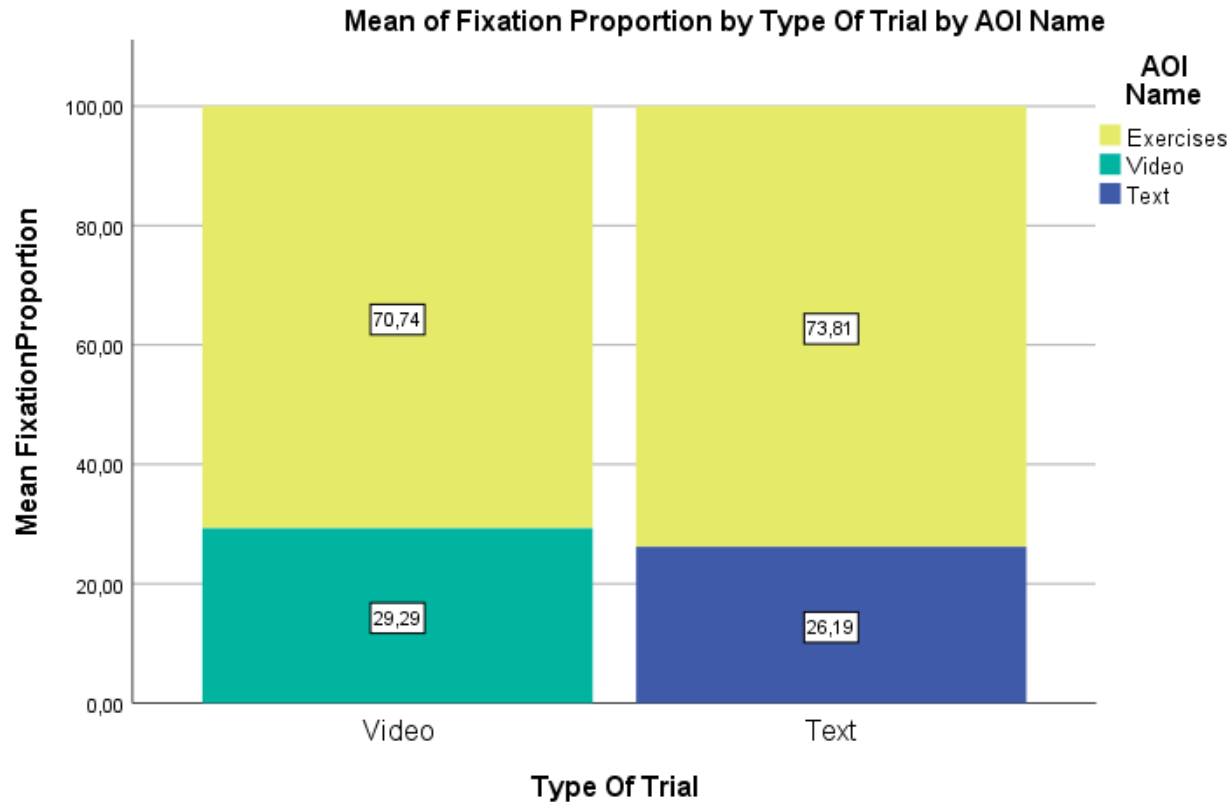
Text > Exercises

$(t(88,12) = 9,63; p < .000, d = 1,926)$

Results: Attention allocation

1. How do learners divide their attention on the screen (e.g. between multimedia material and exercises)?

- Total fixation
- Fixation



Exercises > Video

($t(138) = 22,93$; $p < .000$)

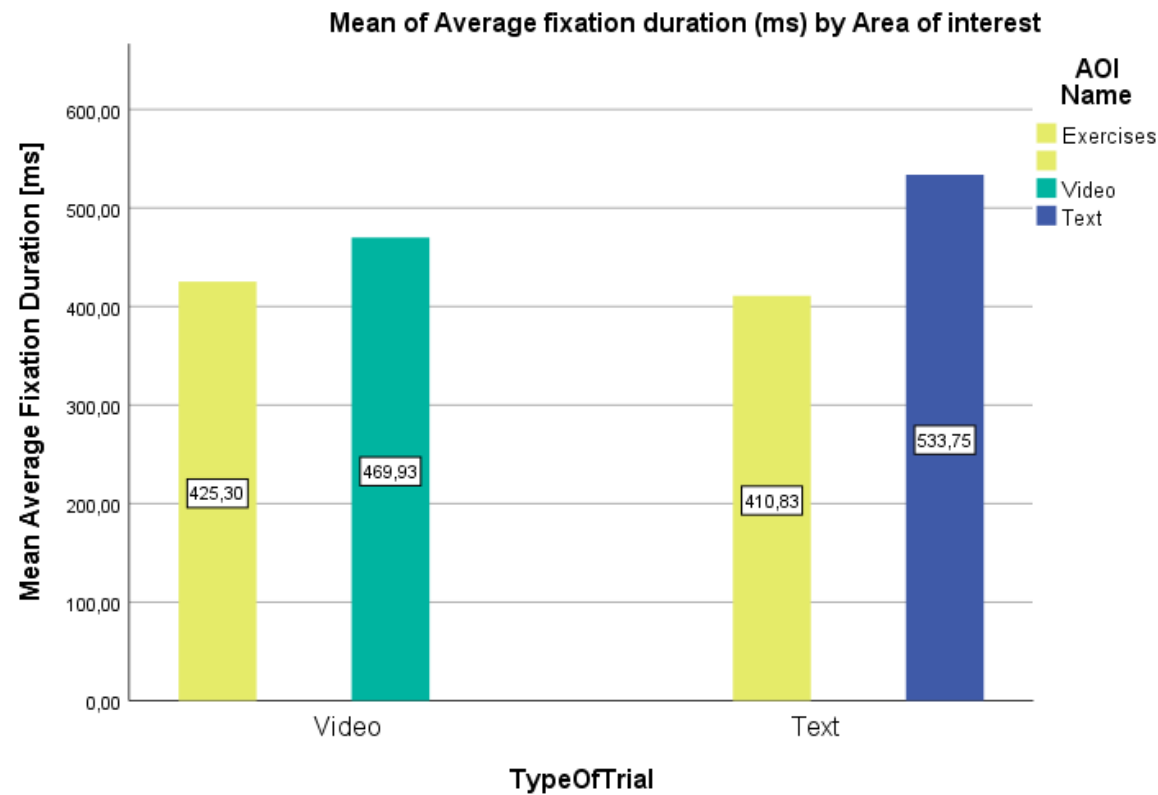
Exercises > Text

($t(98) = 18,99$; $p < .000$)

Results: Attention allocation

1. How do learners divide their attention on the screen (e.g. between multimedia material and exercises)?

- T
- F
- A



Video > Exercises

($t(118,05) = 2,30; p < .023$)

Text > Exercises

($t(73,03) = 3,12; p < .003$)

Results: Attention allocation

1. How do learners divide their **attention** on the **screen** (e.g. between multimedia material and exercises)?

- **Exercises** get the **most fixations**
- **Multimedia** input gets **attention for the longest total time**
- And **multimedia** input also gets **longer fixations** than exercises

→ When looking at input, there is a search for answers. The engagement seems higher than when completing exercises.

Results – Attention allocation, proficiency & performance

1.1 How does proficiency influence attention allocation?

1.2 How is performance on the exercises related to attention allocation?

Results – Attention allocation, proficiency & performance

1.1 How does proficiency influence attention allocation?

Descriptives statistics – Total Vocabulary Size Test	
	TOTAL
<i>Mean</i>	71,90
<i>Median</i>	62,00
<i>N</i>	21
<i>Std. Deviation</i>	26,540

- Median = threshold to distinguish more and less proficient learners
- To look for differences in use of help options, we calculated subtotals per participants

Results – Attention allocation, proficiency & performance

1.1 How does proficiency influence attention allocation?

1.2 How is performance on the exercises related to attention allocation?

	Media = VIDEO
	General proficiency
Total fixation time (%)	No difference between groups
Fixation proportion	No difference between groups
Average fixation duration	Group 2 had longer average fixation durations on videos and exercises ($t(40,51) = 4,80; p < .000$ & $t(53,40) = 2,32; p = .0024$)

Group 1 = above median VST
Group 2 = under median VST

Results – Attention allocation, proficiency & performance

1.1 How does proficiency influence attention allocation?

1.2 How is performance on the exercises related to attention allocation?

	Media = VIDEO	
	General proficiency	Performance on platform
Total fixation time (%)	No difference between groups	No influence
Fixation proportion	No difference between groups	More fixations on exercises → lower scores
Average fixation duration	Group 2 had longer average fixation durations on videos and exercises ($t(40,51) = 4,80$; $p < .000$ & $t(53,40) = 2,32$; $p = .0024$)	Longer average fixation durations on video → lower scores

Group 1 = above median VST

Group 2 = under median VST

Results – Attention allocation, proficiency & performance

1.1 How does proficiency influence attention allocation?

1.2 How is performance on the exercises related to attention allocation?

	Media = TEXT
	General proficiency
Total fixation time (%)	Group 1 had the longest total fixation time on text ($t(33,55) = 3,44$; $p = .002$)
Fixation proportion	Group 2 had more fixations on text ($t(32,23) = 3,77$; $p = .001$)
Average fixation duration	No difference between groups

Group 1 = above median VST
Group 2 = under median VST

Results – Attention allocation, proficiency & performance

1.1 How does proficiency influence attention allocation?

1.2 How is performance on the exercises related to attention allocation?

	Media = TEXT	
	General proficiency	Performance on platform
Total fixation time (%)	Group 1 had the longest total fixation time on text ($t(33,55) = 3,44; p = .002$)	Longer they fixate text → higher scores
Fixation proportion	Group 2 had more fixations on text ($t(32,23) = 3,77; p = .001$)	More fixations on text → lower scores
Average fixation duration	No difference between groups	No influence

Group 1 = above median VST

Group 2 = under median VST

Results – Attention allocation, proficiency & performance

1. How do learners divide their attention on the screen (e.g. between multimedia material and exercises)?

- In general, media gets the more attention (// total fixation time) → more engagement when reading/watching than when completing exercises

1.1 How does proficiency influence attention allocation?

- More differences when media is a text
- Group 1 seems to allocate their attention in a more logical way and seems more able to get the information more effectively (e.g. fewer fixations but a longer total fixation time)

1.2 How is performance on the exercises related to attention allocation?

- When media is a video, attention allocation does not seem to be related in a strong way to performance
- When media is a text, attention allocation seems to be an important factor to succeed in the exercises

Results: Use of help options

2. How do learners use NedBox and the different help options available?

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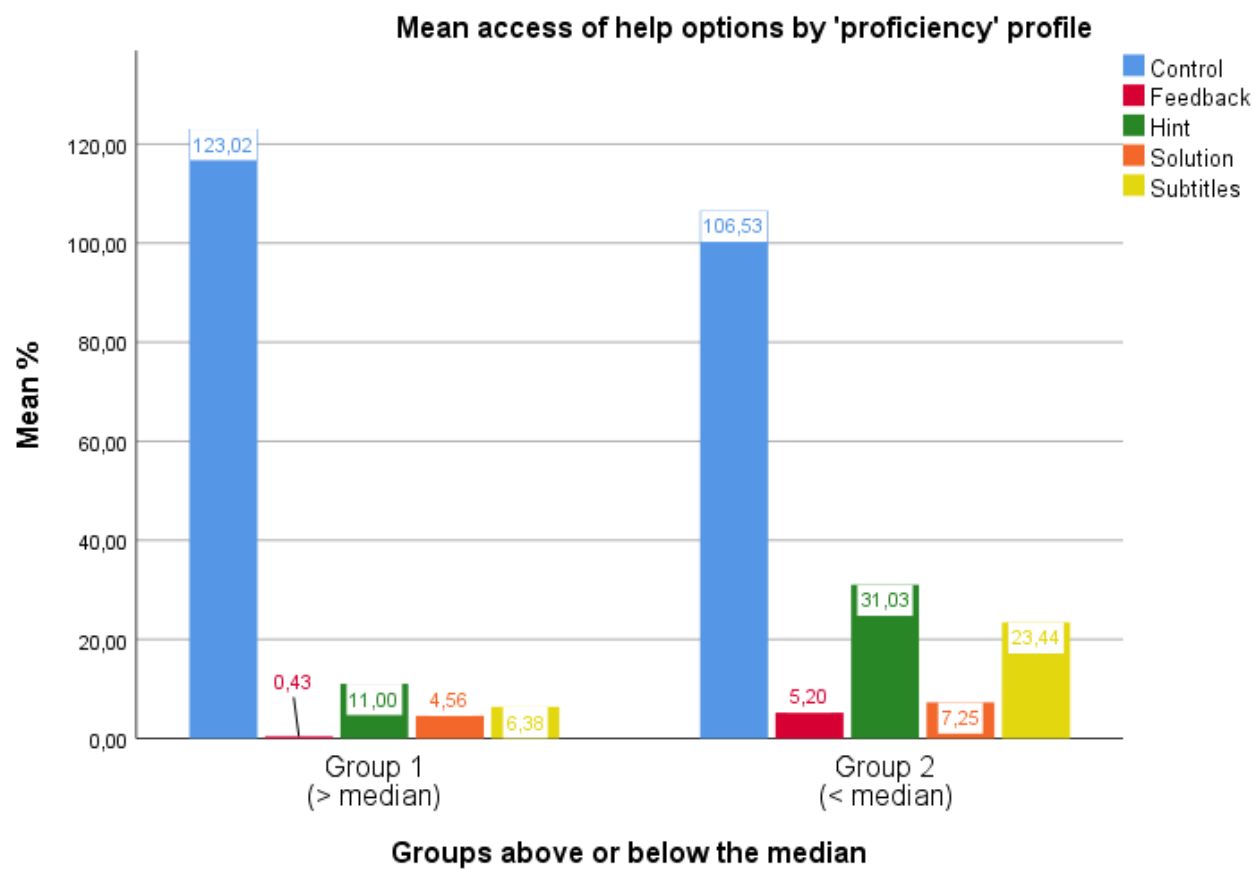
	CONTROL	SUBTITLES	HINT	SOLUTION	FEEDBACK	DEFINITIONS
Number of times help option was offered	883	592	273	883	883	291
Number of times help option was used (%)	1017	147	51	47	13	4
Average number of times help option was used	48,43	7	2,43	2,24	0,62	0,20

Results: Use of help options & proficiency

2.1 How is the use of help options influenced by learners' proficiency?

Results: Use of help options & proficiency

2.1 How is use of help options influenced by learners' proficiency?



- Group 2 made **more** use of:
 - Feedback** ($U= 13272$; $p = .004$)
 - Hint** ($U= 8560$; $p < .000$)
 - Subtitles/Definitions** ($U= 12380$; $p < .000$)
- Group 2 **needed** the **media** more **often** to **answer** the exercises ($U= 11434$; $p = .002$)
- Group 1 **watched/read** the **entire media** **more** than group 2 ($U= 11492$; $p < .000$)

Results: Use of help options & performance

2.2 How is performance on the exercises related to the use of help options?

Results: Use of help options & performance

2.2 How is **performance** on the exercises **related** to the use of help **options**?



		Control	Feedback	Hint	Solution	Subtitles Definitions	Entire Media
Performance on the exercises	Correlation	-,228**	-,168**	-,158**	-,301**	-,143**	,111*
	Coefficient						
	Sig. (2-tailed)	,000	,000	,000	,000	,002	,017
	N	312	312	292	312	312	312

Discussion

How do learners use NedBox and the different help options available? Is it related to their proficiency and performance on the platform?

- Big differences between use of help options
 - Feedback; solution; definitions → almost never used
 - Control → almost always used
- Clear distinct patterns of the use of help options and input between group 1 and 2:
 - **Group 1 seemed to know how to use input to perform better** on exercises
 - **Group 2 seemed to need more help** and did **not** seem to **find** the **answers** directly in **input**

Discussion

- Use of help options data corroborate attention measures:

Group **1** watched/read the **input** in its **entirety** more often



Group **1** have a **higher total** fixation **time** on **text** than group 2

Group **2** used the **input more often** to complete exercises



Group **2** have **more fixations** on **text** than group 1

Group **2** made **more** use of **subtitles** than group 1



Group **2** have **longer average** fixation **durations** on **video** than group 1 = maybe more engagement, but also reading of subtitles is less fluent

(// Tragant-Mestres & Pellicer-Sanchez, 2019)

Implications

- Material developments
 - **Feedback**
 - **Highlighted** words in texts
- Individual differences → **guidance** (e.g. Hubbard, 2018)

Thank you !