

To the Problem of Creating Software to Determine the Level of Fluency of German

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Abstract. The paper presents an analysis of the problem of creating software for determining the fluency of the German language: the relevance of the research topic is substantiated, the existing approaches, tools and tools for determining the level of fluency of the German language are analyzed, their advantages and disadvantages are determined, the direction of further software implementation is selected

Keywords: foreign language fluency, foreign language proficiency test, international exams to determine German language fluency, software to determine the German language fluency

The vector of modern policy and strategy of Ukraine is aimed at further development of the national education system, its adaptation to the conditions of socially oriented economy, transformation and integration into the European and world community. This applies to both education in general and language education in particular. The ideas of the Council of Europe's language policy are becoming more widely implemented in Ukraine: the number of languages being studied is increasing; several foreign languages have been started in secondary schools; the attitude towards studying foreign languages in higher educational establishments of non-philological profile is radically changing. Under these conditions, it is obvious that the number of people of different ages who speak one or more foreign languages will increase steadily. But those who want to study or work abroad or in companies that need staff with a foreign language skills just do not have a good quality of a foreign language need documents that confirm that knowledge. The best way to obtain such a document is to take international exams that differ in scope and levels. You can take these exams by contacting the appropriate organizations, but you will have to wait for a specific date, go to the appropriate center, and then wait for the answers, as it is impossible to take them online. Therefore, it is obvious that this process requires automation, namely the development of appropriate software products that can be used by different categories of users (teachers, exam developers, foreign language learners) to achieve their own goals (training, self-control, passing and passing the

exam etc.). The main advantage of the automated determination of the level of foreign language fluency is that the user can get the result and its detailed analysis at once, or with minimal time delay.

Due to the relevance of the chosen topic, the purpose of our work was to develop software to determine the level of the German language. In our study, under the level of language fluency we understand a certain set of competencies that provide a solution to problems in different conditions, taking into account different constraints and are implemented in types of activities and processes (actions) aimed at generating and / or perceiving texts in connection with certain topics and areas of communication and using appropriate strategies [1]. In order to achieve this goal, more than 30 international German language exams were analyzed in detail, such as certificates of completion being recognized worldwide, such as TestDAF, TELC Deutsch from level A1 to C1, Goethe-Zertifikat from level B2 to C2, Certificate Deutsch für den Beruf (ZDfB), Österreichisches Sprachdiplom Deutsch (ÖSD) and others. The developers of these exams are world-renowned German language education organizations: the Goethe Institute, the TELC Association and the TestDaF Institute. The analysis showed that all these exams test four aspects of the German language abilities: Leseverstehen, Hörverstehen, Schriftlicher Ausdruck, Mündlicher Ausdruck. In addition, it was determined what types of tasks were used to check the level of fluency in the German language, in what quantity, what level of complexity, how they were given to the user, etc.

The next task was to analyze the existing testing tools available on the official websites of the organizations mentioned above, as well as sites obtained by Google's search engine query "determine German online level". For organizations' websites, they provide mostly pdf versions of task-and-answer notebooks, sometimes audio and video files. This implies that the user should download the appropriate notebook, provide answers, compare them with the correct ones, and evaluate his level of language proficiency by himself. Only at the Goethe-Institute website we found a short 30-question test to determine your language proficiency online. The task of the test is to test how the user understands German texts of different genres and degrees of difficulty, as well as how he or she perceives German by ear. Relevant texts are provided for reading and listening, followed by a few questions about the content of the reading or the listening. Also, some tasks are related to determining the level of knowledge of German grammar. After passing the test, the user is informed of the level of language, as well as a detailed analysis of his answers: which questions he answered incorrectly, which questions he did not answer, he also can see correct answers. For the second group of sites that can be tested online, they are characterized by a small base and number of questions, uniformity of user activity, lack of some detailed analysis of answers, repetition of questions on different sites, etc.

Thus, the results of a detailed analysis of the subject area allowed us to choose a further direction of work to create our own software to determine the German language fluency.

References

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