高科大應用外語學報第五期 Journal of Applied Foreign Languages pp.35-53, Volume 5, June 2006 Using Computer-Mediated Communication Tools to Support Independent Learning

### 電腦輔助溝通媒體提升學生獨立學習之研究

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## 摘 要

此研究旨在探討學生對於使用電腦輔助溝通媒體運用於課堂外獨立學習之看法及其偏好。 參與此研究對象是以20位來自空軍官校三年級學生對於電腦輔助溝通媒體同步與非同步溝通之看法及偏好做一質性之研究, 本研究電腦輔助溝通媒體包括: 電子信件、MSN、Yahoo線上即時通與Skype通話軟體。 經由日誌、面談,並於學期結束前問卷調查收集到學生資料。 分析結果顯示:(1)大多數參與者偏愛於線上同步的電腦輔助溝通媒體。(2)學生大部份偏愛在線上尋求與國際筆友練習語言勝過與自己同學間。(3)雖然起初他們遭遇一些困境,但大部份參與者仍持正面態度對於運用電腦輔助溝通媒體於課堂外獨立學習,而能改進學習策略去克服困難, 增強其語言能力及與他人溝通技巧, 朝向獨立自主學習能力。希望本研究能對於改善外語教學法及學習過程有所貢獻。

**關鍵詞:**電腦輔助溝通媒體,獨立學習,同步與非同步溝通

# **Using Computer-Mediated Communication Tools**

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## to Support Independent Learning

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#### Abstract

This study explored students' perceptions and preferences towards the use of computer mediated communication (CMC) tools to improve independent learning outside of the classroom. Twenty students participated in the pilot study which focused on student perceptions and preferences of asynchronous or synchronous communication in CMC tools. A qualitative approach has been preferred to a quantitative approach in the research methodology of this study. The CMC tools examined in this study included E-mail, MSN, Yahoo Messenger and Skype. Data was obtained from students through keeping diaries, interviews and a questionnaire conducted at the end of the course. The results indicated: 1)the participants in this study overwhelmingly chose the synchronous communication as their preferred form of CMC; 2) they would rather initiate and carry on contact with their international key pals rather than with their classmates; and 3) in spite of some difficulties encountered initially, the majority of participants had an overall positive attitude toward independent learning by using CMC tools and developed effective learning strategies in overcoming their difficulties to improve their language skills and to communicate with others. From the findings in this study recommendations are made for the improvements to EFL pedagogy and learning processes in the Taiwanese context.

**Keywords:** Computer Mediated Communication, Independent Learning, Asynchronous or Synchronous Communication