

English Class

P-CHAT

Practice and analyze beginner-level English conversations with a new activity plugin

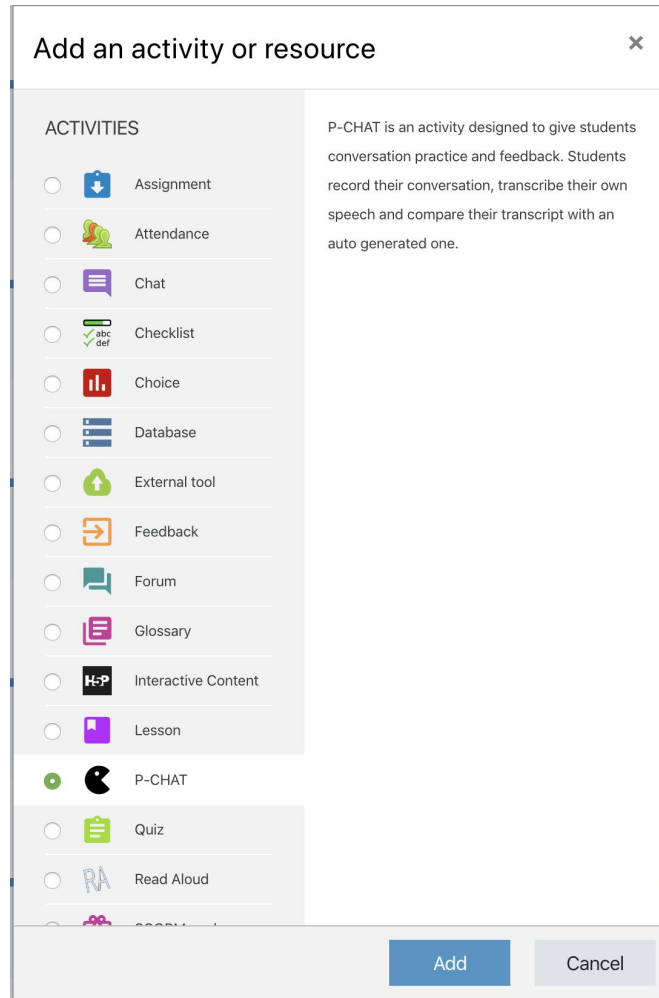
Justin Hunt & Branden Kirchmeyer

JALT 2021

科研費
KAKENHI

Supported with Kakenhi Grant #19K13309

What is the P-CHAT?

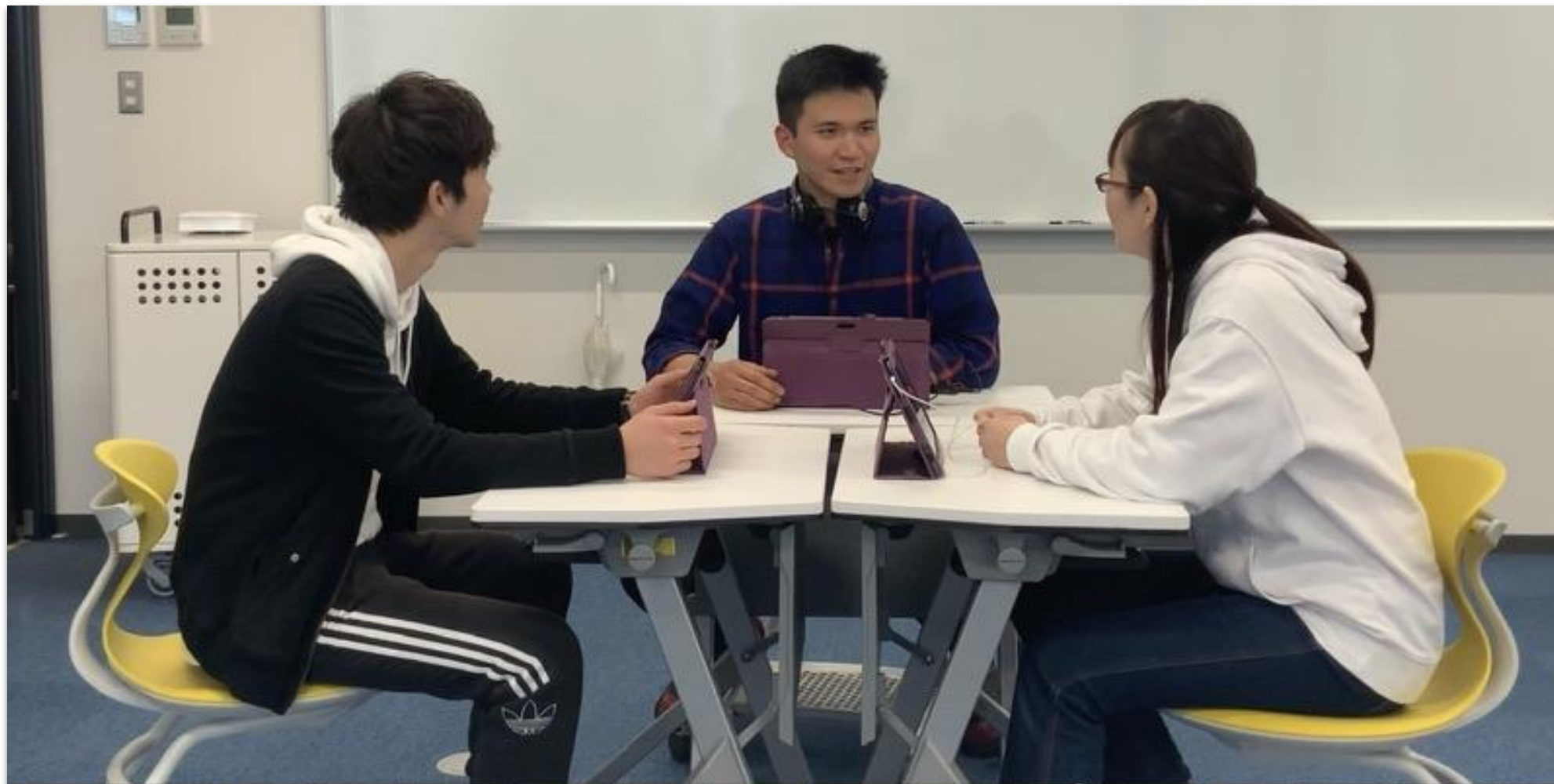


Basic Description

P-CHAT is an activity based on the **group oral test** designed to give students conversation practice and feedback. In the activity students:

1. record a conversation
2. transcribe their own speech
3. compare their transcript with an automatically generated one
4. answer reflective prompts

Actual Photo of P-CHAT Session



PCHAT: Try it on the demo site

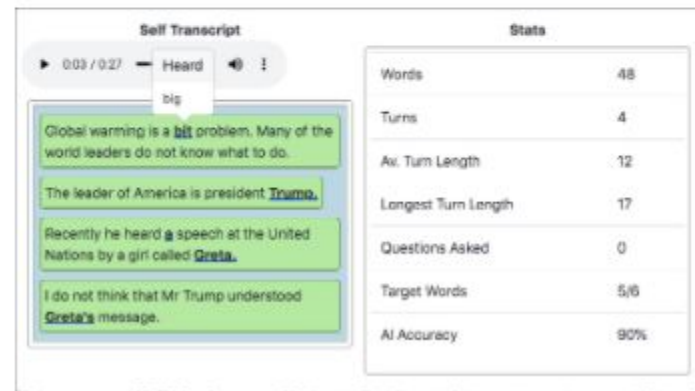
<https://demo.poodll.com/course/view.php?id=29>

P-CHAT Demo Course

[Home](#) / [Courses](#) / [P-Chat](#)

The **P-CHAT** (*Practice Conversations as Holistic Assessment Tools*) plugin is a for

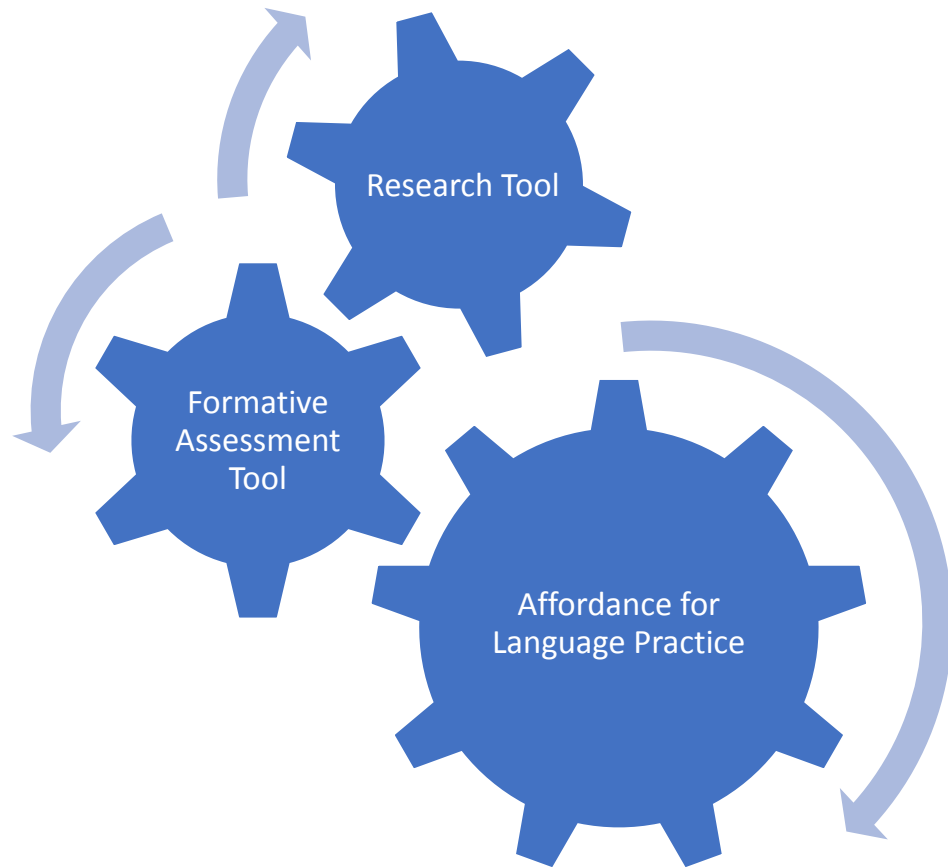
- An opportunity to practice conversational English
- Immediate feedback based on hard data of their contribution
- A timely opportunity to reflect on their performance with a view towards future i



The screenshot displays the P-CHAT interface. On the left, there is a 'Self Transcript' section with a play button, a progress indicator '0:03 / 0:27', and a 'Heard' button. Below this, a transcript is shown with four lines of text, each in a green box. The first line is 'Global warming is a **big** problem. Many of the world leaders do not know what to do.' The second line is 'The leader of America is president **Trump**.' The third line is 'Recently he heard a **g** speech at the United Nations by a girl called **Greta**.' The fourth line is 'I do not think that Mr Trump understood **Greta's** message.' On the right, there is a 'Stats' section with a table of performance metrics.

Stats	
Words	48
Turns	4
Avg. Turn Length	12
Longest Turn Length	17
Questions Asked	0
Target Words	5/6
AI Accuracy	90%

What is the P-CHAT, *really*?



Main Functions

1. Affordance for Language Practice
2. Formative Assessment Tool
3. Research Tool

Where is the P-CHAT being developed?

- Sojo University, Kumamoto, Japan
- First-year (mostly) science & technology students
- Enrolled in “English Communication”
- Main assessments: **group oral tests** (pretest, midterm, final)
 - three people
 - ten minutes
 - speak and record, then transcribe and evaluate
 - called CHATs: **Conversations as a Holistic Assessment Tool**
- Entire course is structured to facilitate progress between these CHATs

Pilot CHATs

CHAT Comparison Report

スピーキングテストの比較レポート

Student ID

Family Name

Given Name

Class

Redacted

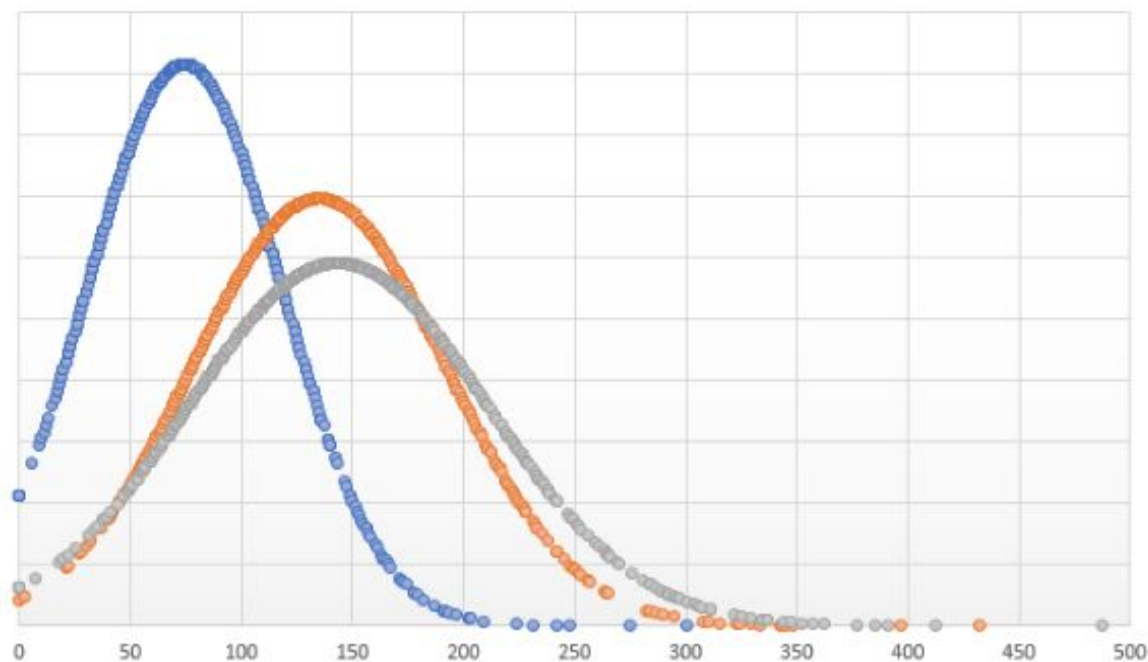
説明

- ① 「Total Words」とは、あなたが話した単語の数のことです。
- ② 「Total Turns」とは、あなたが話した回数のことです。
- ③ 「Average Turn Length」とは、あなたの番にあなたが発した言葉の平均数です。
- ④ 「Longest Turn Length」とは、一番長かった発言した時の単語数です。

	Pretest 予備テスト	Midterm 中間テスト	Final Exam 期末テスト
① Total Words	112	397	487
② Total Turns	16	54	42
③ Average Turn Length	7.0	7.4	11.6
④ Longest Turn Length		23	44

Total Words Spoken

● Pretest ● Midterm ● Final



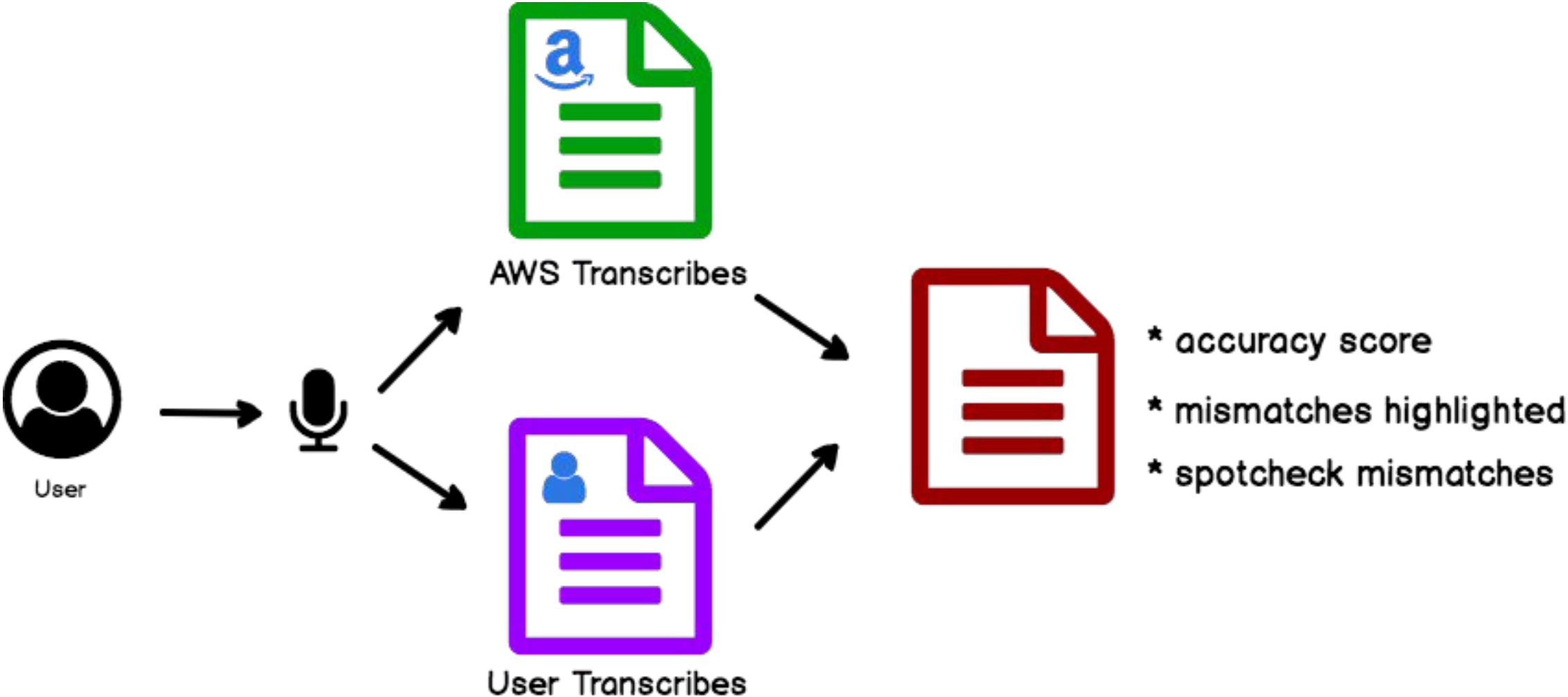
Why P-CHAT? (Benefits for students)

- The provision of **immediate and objective feedback** on spoken English may be beneficial to *student awareness of their actual L2 production* as well as their *ability to notice inconsistencies between their own input and conventional English*.
- This plugin provides the means for students to routinely engage in English conversations that can serve as both **speaking practice** and **formative assessment** (how can you improve next time?).
- **Visualizing progress over time** may have a positive impact on students' ability to perceive relationships between learning behaviors and competencies, and desire to continue or increase engagement

Why P-CHAT? (Benefits for teachers)

- **Save time** assessing students with an optional rubric-based 3-way **streamlined grading workflow**.
- Review **meaningful data** that can contribute to a holistic assessment of students and a more robust course evaluation
- Trust **transcripts** that are verifiable with accuracy score and actual audio.

PCHAT: Process



What technology is used?

Moodle

is used as the application platform

AWS Transcribe

is used to recognize student speech

Amazon S3

is used to store audio

Cloud Poodll

is used to record audio(HTML5)

Does it work on mobile devices?



technically
YES
it works fine

practically
NO
*because you need to listen
and type. So at least a
tablet device is required*

P-CHAT: Results

Topic	Target Words	Partners	Conversation Length
Organic Gardening	tree flower vegetable compost vegan meat	User 06 User 10	3:00 minutes

Self Transcript		Stats	
0:02	Heard gardening	Words	49
Organic gardening is very good.	gardening	Turns	5
And some people like to use compost.		Av. Turn Length	10
We should be careful to make sure there is no meat in the compost.		Longest Turn Length	14
And gardening is good for both trees and flowers and vegetables.		Questions Asked	0
And I haven't got time to talk anymore so lets stop.		Target Words	
		AI Accuracy	90%

Self Review		
Were you able to talk without pauses?	How would you rate your partners contribution (1- 10)?	What do you want to improve most?
yes I could do that	0	I want to speak more fluently.

spot check

accuracy score

highlight mismatches

Attempts View: Group

Student 12, User	Student 11, User	Student 16, User																								
<p>Transcript</p> <p>what is your favorite dish?</p> <p>What kind of sushi do you like?</p> <p>Why do you like squid?</p> <p>Yes I can. Pasta is easy to make for me. My recommended pasta is peperon.Because it is spicy and I like garlic.</p> <p>Do you like sweet food?</p> <p>Sweet chocolate or bitter chocolate?</p> <p>Do you like Ken-takki?</p> <p>I don't like chwyn candy because chwyn candy</p>	<p>Transcript</p> <p>My favorite dish is sushi.</p> <p>I like squid.</p> <p>squid is squid.</p> <p>Squid is very delicious and cheep.</p> <p>Squid is the best.</p> <p>No.</p> <p>I don't like salmon.</p> <p>Salmon is very fat.</p> <p>No healthy.</p>	<p>Transcript</p> <p>What is squid?</p> <p>Squid is the best?</p> <p>I like salmon is the best.</p> <p>No no no Why?</p> <p>Oil? No no no. Healthy. Fish is healthy.</p> <p>Yes, I like Chinese noodles. I eat I often eat so once a week. Next.</p> <p>Can you cook pasta?</p> <p>White chocolate?</p>																								
<p>0:00 / 4:59</p>	<p>0:00 / 4:59</p>	<p>0:00 / 5:00</p>																								
<table><tr><td>TW 67</td><td>TT 8</td></tr><tr><td>ATL 8</td><td>LTL 23</td></tr><tr><td>TV 0</td><td>TTV 2</td></tr><tr><td>QA 6</td><td>AIA 80</td></tr></table>	TW 67	TT 8	ATL 8	LTL 23	TV 0	TTV 2	QA 6	AIA 80	<table><tr><td>TW 74</td><td>TT 17</td></tr><tr><td>ATL 4</td><td>LTL 10</td></tr><tr><td>TV 0</td><td>TTV 5</td></tr><tr><td>QA 2</td><td>AIA 64</td></tr></table>	TW 74	TT 17	ATL 4	LTL 10	TV 0	TTV 5	QA 2	AIA 64	<table><tr><td>TW 67</td><td>TT 12</td></tr><tr><td>ATL 6</td><td>LTL 15</td></tr><tr><td>TV 0</td><td>TTV 2</td></tr><tr><td>QA 7</td><td>AIA 61</td></tr></table>	TW 67	TT 12	ATL 6	LTL 15	TV 0	TTV 2	QA 7	AIA 61
TW 67	TT 8																									
ATL 8	LTL 23																									
TV 0	TTV 2																									
QA 6	AIA 80																									
TW 74	TT 17																									
ATL 4	LTL 10																									
TV 0	TTV 5																									
QA 2	AIA 64																									
TW 67	TT 12																									
ATL 6	LTL 15																									
TV 0	TTV 2																									
QA 7	AIA 61																									
<p>Grade entry</p>	<p>Grade entry</p>	<p>Grade entry</p>																								
<p>Grade : 40 / 100</p> <p>Feedback :</p>	<p>Grade : 60 / 100</p> <p>Feedback :</p>	<p>Grade : 0 / 100</p> <p>Feedback :</p>																								

Attempts View: Individual

← (6) → (16)

Student 12, User

Self Review

In general, how did you do in today's P-CHAT? 今日のP-CHATは全体的にいかがでしたか? グループメンバーが話を盛り上げてくれたのでとても喋りやすかったです。	What was difficult about this P-CHAT? Be as specific as possible. このP-CHATで難しかったことは何ですか? なるべく具体的に書いてください。 Target wordsを使うことです。	Was there any communication breakdown during this P-CHAT? Explain what happened. 今回のP-CHATでは、コミュニケーションがうまくいかないことがありましたか? 何があったか説明してください。 問題ないです。
---	--	---

Transcript

what is your favorite dish?

What kind of sushi do you like?

Do you like Ken-takki?

I don't like chwyn candy because chwyn candy is too sweet to eat.

0:00 / 4:59

Total Words	Total Turns	Av. Turn Length	Longest Turn Length	Questions Asked	Target Words	AI Accuracy
67	8	8	23	6	0	80

Grade entry

Grade : 40 / 100
Feedback :

Grading:

Direct

Grade Attempt

Grade

- 16 / 20
- 15 / 20
- 14 / 20
- 13 / 20
- 12 / 20
- 11 / 20

Feedback

That was a very good attempt. Keep up the good work

Save changes Cancel

Rubric

Grade Attempt

Rubric

このルーブリックは、EC2の中間・期末グループオーラルテスト用に作成されたものです（2021年更新）。

このルーブリックは、EC1の中間・期末グループオーラルテスト用に作成されたものです（2021年更新）。	話の断片の間に長い休止がある；発音がコミュニケーションの妨げになっている	発音の間、または発言の中で頻繁に一時停止する；発音がコミュニケーションの妨げになることが多い	発音の間にも、若干の間がある；発音の伝達が遅い；発音がコミュニケーションの妨げになることがある	ほとんどの場合、発言の間を空けることが発生する；発音の伝達がやや遅い；発音がコミュニケーションの妨げになることがある	一連の会話の間に時々間を空けることがある；ほとんどの発話を適度なスピードで行うことができない；発音がコミュニケーションの妨げになることはほとんどない	間を英語のフィラーで埋める（aah, umm, well）；快適なスピードで一貫して発話ができる；発音がコミュニケーションの妨げにならない
0 points	1 points	2 points	3 points	4 points	5 points	

このルーブリックは、EC1の中間・期末グループオーラルテスト用に作成されたものです（2021年更新）。

関連性のない単語を使用する；挨拶や要求、個人情報などの基本的なフレーズを使うことができる；	短い基本的なフレーズや定型的な表現を使用する；限られた範囲の文法構造を使用する；使用方法に	定型的な表現に頼っているが、限られた範囲の言葉を使い始めることもある；使用によって	適切な言葉を幅広く使用している；時折、コミュニケーションに支障をきたす表現がある；	かなり広い範囲で適切な言葉を使用することができる；コミュニケーションに支障をきたさずほとん	より複雑な言葉を広範囲に使用する；コミュニケーションの妨げにならない使
---	---	---	---	---	-------------------------------------

PCHAT: Try it on the demo site

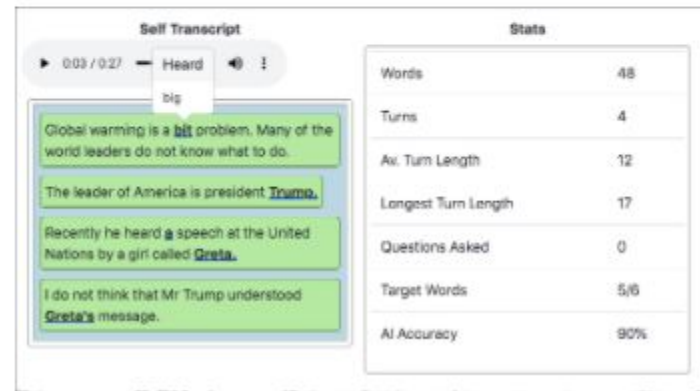
<https://demo.poodll.com/course/view.php?id=29>

P-CHAT Demo Course

[Home](#) / [Courses](#) / [P-Chat](#)

The **P-CHAT** (*Practice Conversations as Holistic Assessment Tools*) plugin is a for

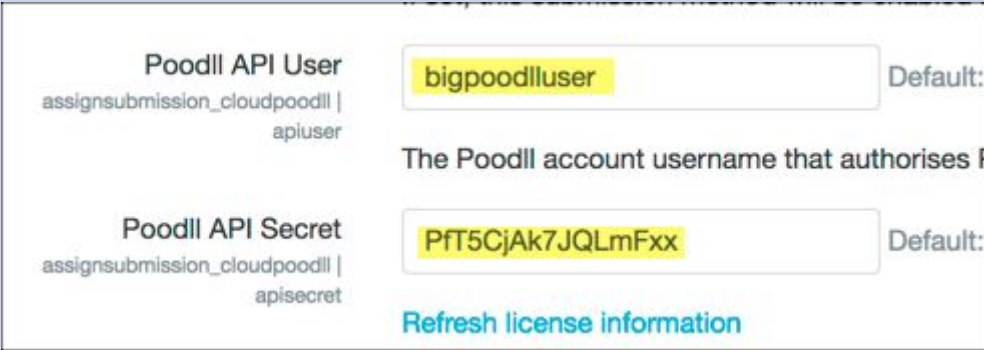
- An opportunity to practice conversational English
- Immediate feedback based on hard data of their contribution
- A timely opportunity to reflect on their performance with a view towards future i



The screenshot displays the P-CHAT interface. On the left, there is a 'Self Transcript' section with a play button, a progress indicator '0:03 / 0:27', and a 'Heard' button. Below this, a transcript of a conversation is shown with words highlighted in green. On the right, there is a 'Stats' table.

Stats	
Words	48
Turns	4
Avg. Turn Length	12
Longest Turn Length	17
Questions Asked	0
Target Words	5/6
AI Accuracy	90%

PCHAT: How do I get it? (It's free)

STEPS	
1. Register at Poodll.com	Go: https://poodll.com/get-pchat
2. Get API user and secret	Go: https://member.poodll.com Register Moodle URL Copy your Poodll API user and secret
2. Download plugin	From: https://github.com/justinhunt/moodle-mod_pchat
3. Install plugin	On your own Moodle site
4. Enter Poodll API user and secret	 <p>The screenshot shows a Moodle configuration page for the PCHAT plugin. It features two input fields: 'Poodll API User' with the value 'bigpoodlluser' and 'Poodll API Secret' with the value 'PFT5CjAk7JQLmFxx'. Both fields are marked as 'Default:'. Below the fields is a blue link that says 'Refresh license information'.</p>

PCHAT Research: How you can contribute

- Use PCHATs with your students on a dedicated site
- Customized P-CHAT activities for your teaching context
- Collect quantitative and qualitative data to investigate...
 - conversational output and change over time
 - *What can they say? Where can they focus efforts to improve?*
 - student and teacher perceptions of P-CHATs as formative assessment
 - *How useful is it? How does it affect perceptions of active learning?*

CONTACT: brandenk@m.sojo-u.ac.jp