Software Evaluation Guidelines

Software Program Title:
Publisher/Source:
Software Type (drill and practice, problem solving, courseware, simulation/games, etc:
System Requirements: **Price:**

Specific Questions:

- Is the program compatible with your computers and/or network?

- Is technical assistance readily available via phone or email?

- Is an informative and comprehensible guide provided with the software program?

- Does the program encourage communicative practice and cooperative learning?

- What skill areas does the software address: Listening, speaking, reading, writing, pronunciation?

- What kind of activity is the program presenting: Writing practice, reading comprehension, vocabulary development, pronunciation practice? Does the software offer a variety of activities?

- What levels of proficiency is the program designed for?

- Are the interface, navigation, and the directions clear and logical?

- Are the vocabulary and cultural assumptions--in the directions as well as the program--likely to be understood by English language learners?

- Does the software program assess learner progress in the skill the learner is working on? For example, if a pronunciation program only requires a learner to repeat a word or phrase and then compare with the program, there is no information about whether or not the learner is benefiting from the activity.

- Does the software program allow the teacher to author her own lessons tailored to the needs of the class or individual learners?

- Do the individual program lessons fit within the time constraints of class or lab sessions so that a learner can finish a lesson in one sitting?

- Are there supplementary materials included for class or homework follow-up?