

# Extensive listening and LMS-based report sharing in an online course: Using Mahara-platformed English podcasts

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## Introduction



- FLaRE has been delivering the Hiroshima University's English Podcast and English News Weekly.
- More than 1,000 episodes. Wow!
- FLaRE has started an online English extensive listening course that combines the podcasts with the Mahara course platform and its plugin developed for extensive listening.

## Practice



- The online course is offered as a selective course within a special study program, which targets highly motivated students.
- As the course is online, students meet teachers in person only in the orientation class and in some of the exams throughout the semester.

## Practice (cont.)



- Students are ...
  - instructed to listen to any of the 150 selected episodes available on Mahara.
  - must write a brief report on the episode in English and post the report using the university's LMS.
  - assessed based mainly on the number of report posts and on mid- and end-of-semester dictation tests. Sixteen a month is the quota for the highest possible grade.

## Student Engagement



- Student engagement was reasonably successful.
- The average number of monthly reports was 13, which largely corresponds to the second highest level based on a five-grade criteria.
- However, half of the students dropped their pace down in the latter half.

## Future Work

- We should look for ways to prevent a slowdown in the learning pace of students, even in the latter half of the course.

