Top-tier journals supporting IRIS:


1) What is IRIS?

**Instruments for Research Into Second Languages**
- **A freely accessible** online database
- **Repository** of materials for collecting data
- **Download** files for research
- **Users can upload, search, download and request** instruments.
- **Search** by author, instrument type, research area, languages, date, etc.
- **Independent, sustainable and transparent**
- **NEW!** Information also held about materials not yet on IRIS

2) Why a digital repository?

- **Promotes transparency and sharing of data** collection tools:
  - Improving visibility and evaluation of data collection tools;
  - Facilitating replication;
  - Enhancing the quality of meta-analyses
- **Saves** time and money
- **Establishes** a collective memory
- **Gives teachers** and **students access** to primary research tools
- **Helps** Research Methods training

3) Scope of IRIS? - As wide as the field

Grows with suggestions from uploaders


4) Challenges & next steps

IRIS needs materials in under-represented areas:

- Some learning theories: processability theory, efficiency driven processor, attention blocking, socio-cultural perspectives
- Particular methodological approaches: qualitative ‘prompts’
- Certain research areas: CALL; teacher education; intervention materials & experimental teaching; task-based activities;figurative language
- More languages: Non-European

5) Statistics about IRIS:

- **Total downloads**: 4700
- **Total files**: 840
- **Total instruments**: 285
- **Hits on IRIS since Jan 2012**: 14000
- **Visitors from all over the world**: (UK, USA, Japan, Spain) and developing nations e.g. Sudan.
- **1/3** visitors return within a few months
- **Visitors** stay for approx. 4 minutes

6) Examples of instruments held in IRIS:

![Example of an instrument from IRIS](image)

**FAQs:**

- Quality of materials - Only materials from peer-reviewed publications or PhDs
- Intellectual Property - Creative commons licence. Full references required
- What about materials based on other materials? - Acknowledgements to earlier/other versions. IRIS team seek permission requests on behalf of uploaders
- Are there other resources like IRIS? - NO, but see: Experimental Linguistics in the Field; I & C Field Manuals and Stimulus Materials; The Language Attainment Website; Jognistics (tools for vocabulary research); The CNBC stimulus repository

... BUT uniqueness of IRIS: theoretical and methodological scope; independence; many searchable parameters.

"One of the most progressive projects in applied linguistics currently and probably ever... This will be the envy of other fields." *(Liske Plonsky)*

Read more


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