Section VI:

Glossary
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Acceptable Use Policy (AUP): Policies adopted by school districts to address Internet usage. Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) is an agreement between the user (students and/or teachers) and the school or school district requiring responsible use of Internet access. Typically AUP agreements are signed for students by their parent(s) or guardian. NC Computer/Technology Skills, 1998.

Authoring Program: A program which allows the teacher to create a limited set of computer-based activities without having to learn a formal programming language. Technology in the Curriculum, Foreign Language, p. 334.

CAI: Computer-Assisted Instruction.

CALL: Computer-Aided Language Learning.

CD-ROM: A data storage device that allows people to read and interact (with interactive CDs) with information stored on them.

CU SeeMe: Program which allows the transmission of live images via a server into a computer as people communicate. Can also be accompanied by sound.

Copyright Law: Law granting a legal right to a copyright holder which requires the permission of the copyright holder to make non-archival copies of the work in question. NC Computer/Technology Skills, 1998.

Database: An organized collection of information which can be manipulated by a computer to provide access for search and retrieval by the user. Technology in the Curriculum, Foreign Language, p. 335.


Disk Drive: A device which attaches to a computer and uses a diskette to provide storage of information. Technology in the Curriculum, Foreign Language, p. 335.

Diskette: The electromagnetic media used by microcomputers as storage devices. Technology in the Curriculum, Foreign Language, p. 335.
Download: To copy a file from a storage device, or another computer, into one’s own computer.

Drawing Tools: Tools found in a drawing or painting program, used to draw lines, rectangles, oval, arcs, and polygons. *NC Computer/Technology Skills*, 1998.

E-mail (Electronic mail): Sometimes contrasted with “snail mail” (regular mail). A “mail” program in a computer allows the user to write a note (e-mail) and send it to another user whose computer is linked, via a network, to the sender’s computer. To send the message, it is necessary to specify the other person’s e-mail address. The receiver does not have to be working on the computer when the message arrives. The message is stored in an electronic mailbox, and the receiver can choose when to read the e-mail. *Athelstan*, vol. 4 (4).

Emerging Technologies: Technologies that are in the developmental stages, not in widespread use, or that have not been invented yet. *NC Computer/Technology Skills*, 1998.

Field/category: An item of information. Fields are found in databases.

File: A set of data stored under a single heading, such as lesson materials and word lists.

HTML: The HyperText Mark-up Language is an invisible coding readable by any computer that helps standardize Web page formatting.

Hardware: The physical components of a computer or video system. Monitors, printers, televisions, and other devices are considered hardware. *Technology in the Curriculum, Foreign Language*, p. 336.

Homepage: The first or “front” page on a Web site that serves as starting point. *Netlingo*, 97.

Hotlink: See link.

Interactive: A reciprocal dialog between the user and a device. In this dialog the device must be capable of some adaptation to the user’s needs and wants. *Technology in the Curriculum, Foreign Language*, p. 335.

Internet: A global network of thousands of other computer networks that offers e-mail and information retrieval services to millions of people. *NC Computer/Technology Skills*, 1998.

LCD Panel: A device used to project a computer screen onto a larger wall screen.

Laserdisc: A disc that is recorded with sound and pictures and read on a laserdisc player by a laser beam.
Link: Or Hyperlink is text found on a web site which can be clicked on with a mouse and which sends you to another web page or a different area of the same web page. Netlingo, 1997.

List: A list enables people with common interests to communicate - without regards to actual location. To become a member of a list, it may be necessary to send a message to a listserv, asking to have your name added to the list. Once you are a subscriber, messages or digests of messages may be sent to you directly as e-mail. Athelstan, vol. 4 (4).

Listserv: An Internet discussion forum. See previous definition of list.

Load: To enter a program or file into a computer’s memory.


Monitor: The part of a computer setup that looks like a television screen.

Multimedia: The term multimedia “refers to the capacity to access and control via computer a full range of familiar media: text, motion video, photo images, sound, and graphics” (Pusack and Otto, p. 2).

Networks: Networks may be local or national. A local network involves connecting a group of computers, perhaps in a laboratory or office, using wires. Some network software controls the flow of information (such as e-mail) from one computer to another. National networks such as BITNET, Internet, and Compuserve link individuals in academic and commercial organizations around and outside the U.S. Athelstan, vol. 4 (4).

NTSC: The American television standard. American broadcast or recorded videos cannot be played on European televisions and VCRs unless they are especially equipped to handle this system.

PAL: The European television standard. Television broadcasts and video recordings originating in Europe cannot be played on the American televisions and VCRs unless they are especially equipped to handle this system.

Program: See Software.

Report: A collection or listing of related fields or categories.

Search engine: An on-line “private eye” that does detective work for the user. Search engines use keywords to find any site (documents, files, Web pages) that contain those words. Internet Technologies for Authentic Language Learning Experiences, 1997.
**Site:** Or Web site. A place on the Internet or WWW. A Web site refers to a body of information for a particular domain name. A place made up of Web pages. *Netlingo, 97.*

**Snail mail:** Regular mail as opposed to e-mail.

**Software:** The set of instructions which operates a microcomputer or VCR.

**Sort/arrange:** The process of organizing the records in a database in a specific order.

**Spreadsheet:** A software program that is used to process financial or mathematical information and which can organize information in rows and columns to form a table. *NC Computer/Technology Skills, 1998.*

**Storyboard:** A graphic organizer for planning a multimedia presentation. The contents, layout, and formatting of each card/page/slide and the linking together of the pages/cards/slides are determined prior to using the application software. *NC Computer/Technology Skills, 1998.*

**Telecommunication:** The transmission and reception of electronic and voice communications over long distances. *Technology in the Curriculum, Foreign Language,* p. 337.

**Threads:** New messages on lists are usually added to the end of previous messages so that the reader is presented with a list of messages in the order in which they are posted. Discussions on a particular topic are called threads. Within a board there will be several threads running at the same time. *Athelstan, vol. 4 (4).*

**URL:** Uniform Resource Locator. Name of addresses for a “homepage” on the Internet (e.g., http://www.dpi.state.nc.us).

**Video Conferencing:** Using camera and phone lines or the Internet to allow individuals at two or more sites to see and hear each other and to share and collaborate on graphical and text-based data. *NC Computer/Technology Skills, 1998.*

**Videodisc:** A 7-12 inch disc which contains very large amounts of video and audio information. When a videodisc is optically scanned by a laser-based videodisc player, it can display its information on a television screen. The laser technology on which this medium is based produces a very superior video image. *Technology in the Curriculum, Foreign Language,* p. 337.

**Whack:** To whack a website is to download the website from another server and to store it on local storage (hard drive or file server).

**Word Processor:** A software program used to create and edit text documents.