Geography Education
for
Deaf People

by

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Project Report
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INFORMATIONAL AND PRACTICAL PACKAGE ON THE GEOGRAPHY OF CYPRUS FOR THE DEAF

INTRODUCTION

The informational and practical package on the geography of Cyprus was recommended by me to the Department of General Studies for the Computer Science diploma.

The idea initiated from the school for deaf people in Nicosia. Specifically last Autumn I worked there voluntarily and assisted in the computing classes. The computer teacher there informed me on the great needs of the school for computer packages to help in the education of the children. So I volunteered to help and a list of computer packages which were needed to be developed was given to me. After discussing the matter with two of my lecturers, Mr. Christos Schizas and Mrs. Maria Theodorou, I decided to choose the package for the Geography of Cyprus.

The main objective of the package is to act as a teaching tool for the subject of Geography of Cyprus. It presents charts, statistics and database information for the various districts and the whole of Cyprus. Also it offers exercises to the students to test their knowledge on the subject. Facilities for the teacher are also available such as exercise and student personal information maintenance.

The package can be used by deaf children in the 4th, 5th and 6th grade in the primary school and their Geography teachers. Generally it can be used by all the children (deaf or not) in those classes.

From discussions I had with Geography teachers I was told that their subject is difficult to teach because the child is always faced with new terms and unknown words. The teacher has to use very easy words to explain new terms so as not to confuse the children. The children learn only after repetitive efforts of the teacher. Especially deaf children who are very slow learners mostly at their young ages need a great deal of repetition.. From this I concluded that actual teaching of Geography or any subject is difficult to be succeeded solemnly via the computer. It is suggested for the children to use the package after they had several lessons in class.

This book was prepared in order to describe the different phases of developing the package. The phases are investigation, analysis and general design, implementation, installation and review. The objectives, activities and process of each phase are described in detail. Diagrams are used as an aid.

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