Poster Title:	Using Podcasts for Authentic Listening and Pronunciation Practice

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Abstract

The poster will showcase the materials I have developed based on authentic travel podcasts. I originally created the materials for the Self Access Learning Centre (SALC) in my current institution. However, I have also used them in the classroom.

The aims of the materials include:
a. Becoming accustomed to listening and understanding some of the many features of spoken language, for example, repetitions, false starts, incomplete sentences, natural speed.
b. Recognising aspects of natural pronunciation and intonation.
c. Using the wealth of natural language to learn new words and phrases.

The structure of the lessons, and the exercises incorporated, aim to enable students to simultaneously improve their bottom-up and top-down listening processes. The idea behind this was to rely not just on a holistic approach to listening comprehension, but to provide a more analytical approach focusing on sub-skills of listening.

Each lesson also focuses on a specific pronunciation point in addition to the general opportunity of listening to the natural intonation and pronunciation of the native speakers.

Finally, the topic of travel is both interesting and motivational. Everyone loves travelling, and the podcasts offer a chance to study English whilst learning about other countries and cities around the world.