Today’s society requires from its members high levels of knowledge, skills and competences to cope with the affordances of work and everyday life. Well educated employees are one of the cornerstones of successful companies. It is not enough to learn once in school and then apply the acquired skills and knowledge successfully for the rest of one’s life. On the contrary, the affordances of work and everyday life change quite rapidly and thus demand a steady accommodation, that is, lifelong learning. However, lifelong learning has to be rendered possible somehow. It requires time, effort and other resources, both for learning and teaching, for more or less every member of our society, in its specific situation, regarding its individual possibilities, goals and preferences. It is obvious that this will not be achievable without technological support. Therefore, Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL) is an area in which intense research and development takes place — within funded, national and international research projects, in companies and in concrete application areas that demand immediate solutions.

The aim of the present volume is to give an insight into the current trends in TEL, with a focus on language, namely language processing and language learning. All papers of this volume (they appear in alphabetical order according to the first author’s surname) are related to language — either via the application of natural language processing (NLP) techniques, or because they deal with computer-assisted language learning (CALL). (SDV 2/2010, S.5)

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