The growing body of online educational resources is helping to create universal access to language education. This is a good thing.

Educators often supplement foreign language textbooks. Perhaps your students need more grammar, authentic L2 materials, or listening practice exercises.

Let the Search Begin

1. Go to an open content search page. For example, Creative Commons offers a system of open licensing which enables resource sharing. Their CC search page is a great place to start.

2. Enter your keyword or phrase.

3. Best at the top of the page are the parameters of your search for resources with the most open licenses.

4. After doing so as a match, look for the license agreement.

5. Note that you have found your resource. Determine what kind of content you are looking for (video, audio, text). Choose a source below by clicking a button. If you are not sure, simply choose “Google/Web” to look at all possible formats.

6. Evaluate the resource and try it out with your students.

7. Save your resource and remix it.

8. Consider sharing your new OER online.

Let the Search Begin

http://search.creativecommons.org

Evaluating an Open Educational Resource (OER)

1. Does it match your learners’ needs?
2. Does it align with curriculum standards?
3. Is there ease of use and accessibility (i.e., open formats, ability to download source files)?
4. Are there license restrictions?
5. Is there a community of users?
6. How large and open is it?
7. What is the quality of the content? Is the source reputable? For example, has it been peer reviewed?

Creative Commons Offer licenses with various degrees of openness. We recommend looking for materials published with the most open license – CC BY.

Example:

Find a CC BY resource with the keywords “Brazilian Portuguese pronunciation” and “coerll.utexas.edu/brazilpod/tafalado/” in Google’s search results. Does this fit your learners’ needs? Does this match your curriculum standards? Is this an easy resource to access and use? Is there a community of users? How large and open is it? Is the source reputable? Is the resource being shared with the most open license – CC BY?