CLAIMS

1. A computer system configured to implement a user interface for the teaching of a logographic language, the system being configured to:

select a word in the logographic language that is represented in the language by multiple written characters;

cause multiple placeholder icons to be displayed to a user of the system, there being one placeholder icon for each character of the selected word;

enable the user to select one of the placeholder icons and to re-order the placeholder icons on a display;

initially display the placeholder icons such that not all of the placeholder icons correspond to the character of the selected word having the same order in the selected word as the respective placeholder icon in the set of placeholder icons; and

in response to the user re-ordering the placeholder icons such that each placeholder icon corresponds to the character of the selected word having the same order in the selected word as the respective placeholder icon in the set of placeholder icons, present a message to the user causing information to be presented to the user relating to a corresponding character of the selected word.

2. A computer system as claimed in claim 1, wherein each placeholder icon has an appearance different from the appearance of any character in the logographic language.

3. A computer system as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein all the placeholder icons have the same appearance.

4. A computer system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the placeholder icons are geometric shapes of a common colour.

5. A computer system as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the placeholder icons are displayed side-by-side.

6. A computer system as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the system is configured to cause information to be presented to the user that is one of (i) the meaning of the corresponding character of the selected word in isolation and (ii) other words that comprise the corresponding character of the selected word.

7. A computer system as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the system is configured to cause information to be presented to the user that is the pronunciation of the corresponding character of the selected word.

8. A computer system as claimed in claim 7, wherein the system is configured to present the pronunciation to the user in audio form.

9. A computer system as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the system is configured to enable the user to re-order the placeholder icons by selecting one of the displayed placeholder icons in a first ordered position relative to the or each other displayed placeholder icon and moving it to a different ordered position relative to the or each other displayed placeholder icon.

10. A computer system as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the system is configured to enable the user to re-order the placeholder icons by dragging and dropping.