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International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 : G09B 1/00, 5/00, 19/00, 19/04, 19/06	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/02862
		(43) International Publication Date: 22 January 1998 (22.01.98)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/IL97/00143

(22) International Filing Date: 4 May 1997 (04.05.97)

(30) Priority Data:
08/678,229 11 July 1996 (11.07.96) US

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(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AT (Utility model), AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, CZ (Utility model), DE, DE (Utility model), DK, DK (Utility model), EE, EE (Utility model), ES, FI, FI (Utility model), GB, GE, GH, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SK (Utility model), TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published
With international search report.
Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: APPARATUS FOR INTERACTIVE LANGUAGE TRAINING

(57) Abstract

This invention is an apparatus for interactive language training including a trigger generator for eliciting expected audio responses by a user, an expected audio response reference library containing a multiplicity of reference expected responses, the multiplicity of reference expected responses including a first plurality of reference expected responses having acceptable pronunciation and for each of the first plurality of reference expected responses having acceptable pronunciation, a second plurality of reference expected responses each having different pronunciation errors; an audio response scorer which indicates the relationship between the expected audio response provided by the user and the reference expected responses; and a user feedback interface (12, 14, 16), which indicates to the user the pronunciation errors in the expected audio responses provided by the user. The present invention also discloses speech recognition apparatus including at least one data base containing speech elements of at least first and second languages, a receiver receiving spoken speech to be recognized, and a comparator comparing features of said spoken speech with a combination of features of said speech elements of at least first and second languages. It is appreciated that in certain cases a combination of the speech elements may include a single speech element. A method for speech recognition is also disclosed.

