IAX Tech

IAX Tech is a French startup that aims to develop a new tool for different types of live action games. The tool created is a wearable computer device attached to the player's forearm which, via a screen, allows them to interact with their environment or to access information. This company also adapts the design of the bracelet to fit with the theme of the game.

Particularities

This tool actually consists of a smartphone with a specific application developed for the experience, which is integrated into a wearable device that the players wear on their forearm. Depending on the game in which this tool is used, it can be programmed for different functions that can be used in escape games, such as data display, use of a laser pointer or RFID chip or card reading.

Why is it relevant to teach languages

- **Immersive design:** In a lot of games, what players wear is not directly related to the theme of the game and this can hinder their immersion into the experience. At the same time, it seems difficult to ask your students to respect a dress code for your experience. Having utensils, equipment or clothing fitting with the theme can greatly enhance your escape game (police 7badges or hats, VIP cards for a party with your players' photo, etc.)
- **Collaboration in the development of the device:** IAX Tech's wearable device has of course required several technical skills were to develop this project, ranging from 3D modeling and printing to application programming or electronic engineering. It is unlikely that as a language teacher you will have the knowledge, resources and time to do create a similar tool. Nevertheless, do not hesitate to discuss with your tech colleagues or students, or to visit a makerspace to ask them if they could create something useful for one of your games! (you can take a look at the Makerspace sheet)

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- **Use of RFID technology:** The use of RFID chips can open up a wide range of possibilities in terms of game design. This feature allows an electronic device to react when it approaches a small chip that can be hidden on anything and does not need to be powered.

Resource

IAX Tech presentation, Published by IAX Tech. Available at: URL https://www.iax-tech.net (Accessed: 28 February 2021)

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