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1) I attended the event organised by Baroness Coussins and CiOL at the House of Lords, 1 November 2022

Languages are for Everyone: CioL and Duolingo in conversation

John Worn asked Duolingo CEO Luis von Ahn a series of questions. Find below the main points:

- Duolingo offers 39 languages at ab initio level.
- How far can you get with Duolingo? French B2 (Reading and Listening); Spanish A2-B1. Similar for Italian and German.
- Duolingo is providing English language tests (replacing IELTS increasingly as a certified online provider)
- There are currently two million users that don't miss a day of learning on the app
- Duolingo is used in 40% of US schools to support language learning. Some are "adopting" the app to be part of the curriculum to support teaching activities.
- Duolingo is expanding to create podcasts to include cultural content to the existing exercises. They are also planning to create a duolingo version for Maths.
- Duolingo claim that they put learners first so the content is tailored to their individual needs. It resembles a game where you earn streaks, and you can be a top learner. Learners get daily reminders, and they can also compete with other users to improve their streaks.

I asked a question which is related to the research I've done so far on the impact of automation in translation studies: *What does the future look like for language teachers (in relation to AI)?* Luis first dithered in giving an answer but then admitted that there will come a time (no exact time given) when machines will be as good as teachers but not now! He didn't elaborate any further.

Interesting links:

<https://blog.duolingo.com/how-duolingo-experts-work-with-ai/>

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/the-british-are-not-too-lazy-to-learn-foreign-languages-app-entrepreneur-says-093912gkm>

2)

[This is the report](#) that I have produced following the data I gathered last summer on language roles in the market. I'm happy for it to be published by UCML and for the data to be used and disseminated.

I'm currently in conversations with several stakeholders to further disseminate the findings.