

Table 5: Subjects' involvement in the pilot study.

Research Aim I: Establish the problems which a first-year student at the UST is likely to encounter in reading CS-related texts.

Study Ia Multiple-choice questionnaire survey (MCQS)

Groups	Survey procedures	Survey techniques	Forms of feedback	Numbers of subjects
1	Decontextualised-word level glossing Exercise (DWLGE) ↓ Multiple-choice questionnaire survey (MCQS)	Interview Questionnaire	Oral Written	50
2	DWLGE ↓ MCQS	Interview Questionnaire: • thinking-aloud technique (TAT) • retrospective interview (RI)	Oral Oral • thinking-aloud protocol • tape-recording	10
Total number of multiple-choice questionnaires collected				60

Study Ib Hands-on computer tasks (HOCT)

Groups	Survey procedures	Survey techniques	Forms of feedback	Numbers of subjects
1	DWLGE ↓ HOCT	Interview On-the-spot hands-on exercise	Oral Oral: recorded score	10
2	DWLGE ↓ HOCT	Interview On-the-spot hands-on exercise • TAT • RI	Oral Oral • recorded score • thinking-aloud protocol • tape-recording	10
Total number of HOCT scores obtained				20

Research Aim II: A prototype glossary of semi-technical vocabulary to help students in their understanding of CS-related texts.

Groups	Survey procedures	Survey techniques	Forms of feedback	Numbers of subjects
1	DWLGE ↓ First attempt at HOCT ↓ Second attempt at HOCT	Interview On-the-spot hands-on exercise with consultation of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>COBUILD 1</i> • <i>LDOCE 2</i> • <i>OALD 4</i> • <i>OALECD 4</i> On-the-spot exercise with consultation of the Electronic glossary of semi-technical vocabulary (EGSV)	Oral Oral: recorded scores Oral: recorded scores	10
2	DWLGE ↓ First attempt at HOCT ↓ Second attempt at HOCT	Interview On-the-spot hands-on exercise with consultation of <i>COBUILD 1</i> , <i>LDOCE 2</i> , <i>OALD 4</i> and <i>OALECD 4</i> together with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAT • RI On-the-spot exercise with consultation of the EGSV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAT • RI 	Oral Oral <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recorded score • thinking-aloud protocol • tape-recording Oral <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recorded score • thinking-aloud protocol • tape-recording 	10
Total number of HOCT scores obtained				20

Table 6: Subjects' involvement in the main study.

Research Aim I: Establish the problems which a first-year student at UST is likely to encounter in reading CS-related texts.

Study Ia Multiple-choice questionnaire survey (MCQS)

Groups	Survey procedures	Survey techniques	Forms of feedback	Numbers of subjects	Totals
1	DWLGE	Written exercise	Written	● Computer Science (CS) 86	305
	↓ MCQS	Written exercise	Written	● Computer Engineering (CE) 107 ● Information and Systems Management (ISMT) 112	
2	DWLGE	Written exercise	Written	● CS 15	60
	↓ MCQS	Questionnaire ● TAT ● RI	Oral ● thinking-aloud protocol ● tape recording	● CE 15 ● ISMT 30	
Total number of MCQSSs collected					365

Study Ib Hands-on computer tasks (HOCT)

Groups	Survey procedures	Survey techniques	Forms of feedback received	Numbers of subjects	Totals
1	DWLGE	Written exercise	Written	● CS 15	40
	↓ HOCT	On-the-spot hands-on exercise	Oral recorded score	● CE 15 ● ISMT 10	
2	DWLGE	Written exercise	Written	● CS 15	40
	↓ HOCT	On-the-spot hands-on exercise, with: ● TAT ● RI	Oral ● recorded score ● thinking-aloud protocol ● tape recording	● CE 15 ● ISMT 10	
Total number of HOCT scores obtained					80

Research Aim II: A prototype glossary of semi-technical vocabulary to help students' understanding of CS-related texts.

Groups	Survey procedures	Survey techniques	Forms of feedback	Numbers of subjects	Totals
1	DWLGE ↓ First attempt at HOCT ↓ Second attempt at HOCT	Written exercise On-the-spot hands-on exercise with consultation of one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>COBUILD 1</i> ● <i>LDOCE 2</i> ● <i>OALD 4</i> ● <i>OALECD 4</i> On-the-spot hands-on exercise using EGSV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TAT ● RI 	Written Oral: recorded scores Oral: recorded scores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CS 15 ● CE 15 ● ISMT 10 	40
2	DWLGE ↓ First attempt at HOCT ↓ Second attempt at HOCT	Written exercise On-the-spot hands-on exercise with consultation of one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>COBUILD 1</i> ● <i>LDOCE 2</i> ● <i>OALD 4</i> ● <i>OALECD 4</i> On-the-spot hands-on exercise with consultation of EGSV, using <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TAT ● RI 	Written Oral <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● recorded score ● thinking-aloud protocol ● tape recording Oral <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● recorded score ● thinking-aloud protocol ● tape recording 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CS 15 ● CE 15 ● ISMT 10 	40
Total number of HOCT scores obtained					80

