

Implementing Computer Supported Cooperative Learning
By David McConnell
Book Review by Abdulaziz BinTaleb

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Preliminary information:

Title: "Implementing Computer Supported Cooperative Learning"

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Abstract:

The author points out in his introduction that this book is mainly about how using computers can make the cooperative learning process easier between people who are described in this book as isolated from each other. He also states that this book should be of special interest to people who, for example, are members of cooperative groups learning by computer or who study through distance learning and the Internet. The book is divided into eight chapters. These chapters are mainly about three topics, understanding CSCL, designing CSCL projects, and advance learning and development of CSCL. McConnell divides each chapter into three sections, an introduction, body and conclusion. If one can take a look at this book, it is easy to see that there are three areas that the author emphasizes over other areas. One of these areas is about the differences between traditional learning and CSCL. A second area is about designing issues for CSCL, and this part is the longest part of the book. A third area is about advance learning technology in CSCL.

This paper begins with an introduction including preliminary information, the organization of the book and layout of the paper. After the introduction, I divided the eight chapters into three sections in an attempt to combine chapters that share similar ideas. The first section is understanding CSCL, which is summarizing of chapters. 1,2, 3 and 4. Similarly, the second section is designing for CSCL, which is a summary of chapters 5 and 6. The third section is trends and developments, which is a summary of chapters 7 and 8. In each section, I will extract the main ideas and summarize them. In addition, I will ignore details that do not relate directly to the main point of the chapter. Indeed, at the end of each section, I will discuss some of the author's ideas, which I have already summarized. Beside the discussion at the end of the section, there is a final discussion at the conclusion section at the end of this paper.