



# Introduction to the Online Interaction Scales

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## Key considerations

- Conceptualisation / methodology / rationale
- Potential exploitation for teaching and learning

# Key considerations

- Since 2001 the role of online modes of interaction has developed exponentially worldwide
- The existing 2001 illustrative scales do not adequately represent multi-modal online interaction and collaboration
- The features and constraints of specific communication technologies and tools become irrelevant over time
- Online interaction can, and does , involve multiple remote social actors who can flexibly remix media and texts to support their message
- Online interaction can be synchronous, asynchronous, spoken and written, and is often a blend these

## Needs that are pertinent to mixed synchronous / asynchronous remote online exchanges:

- (often) the need for more redundancy in messages;
- the need to check that the message has been correctly understood;
- ability to reformulate in order to help comprehension, deal with misunderstanding;
- ability to handle emotional reactions
- inter-cultural sensitivity



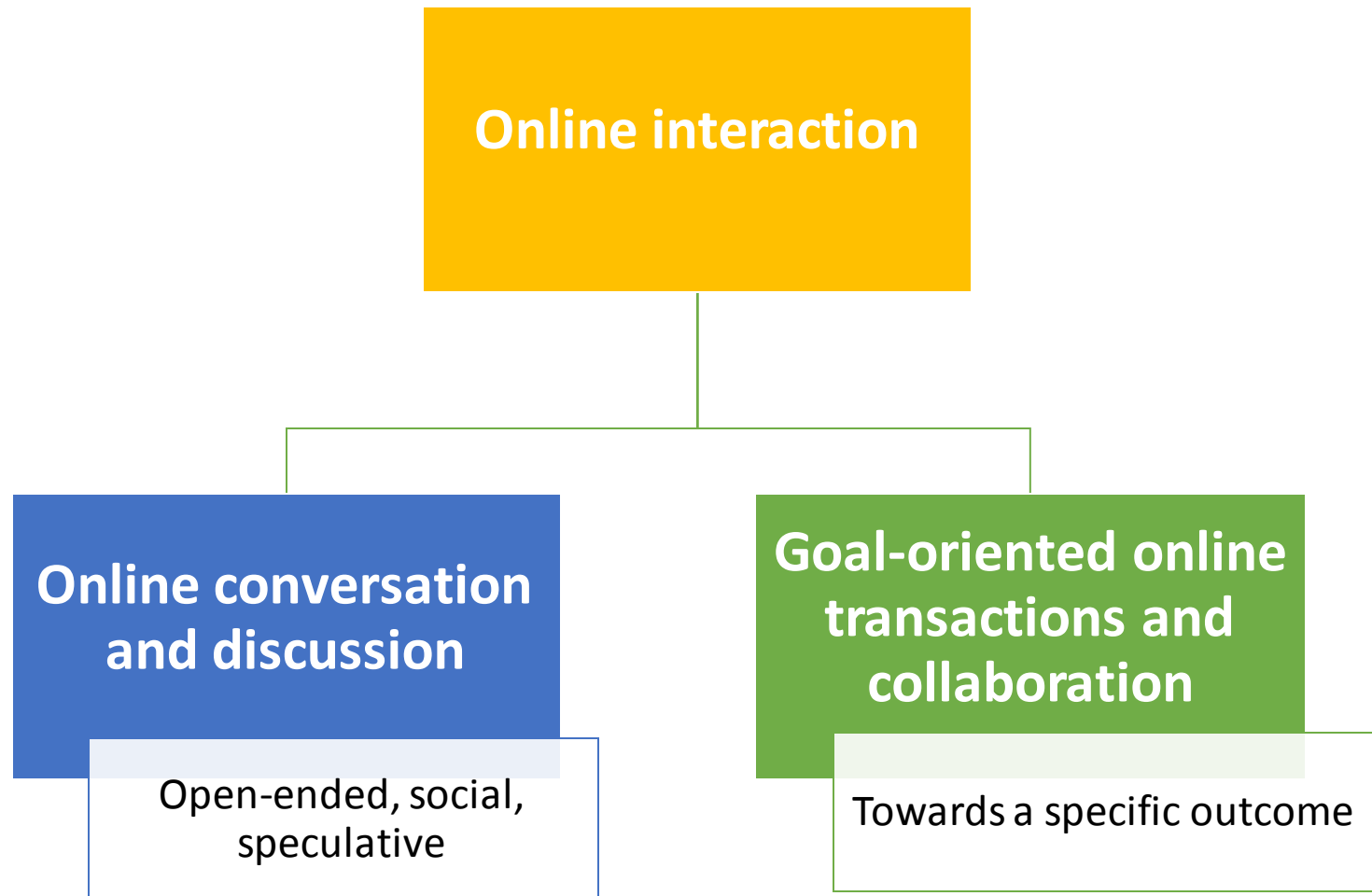
- Key considerations

➔ Conceptualisation / methodology / rationale

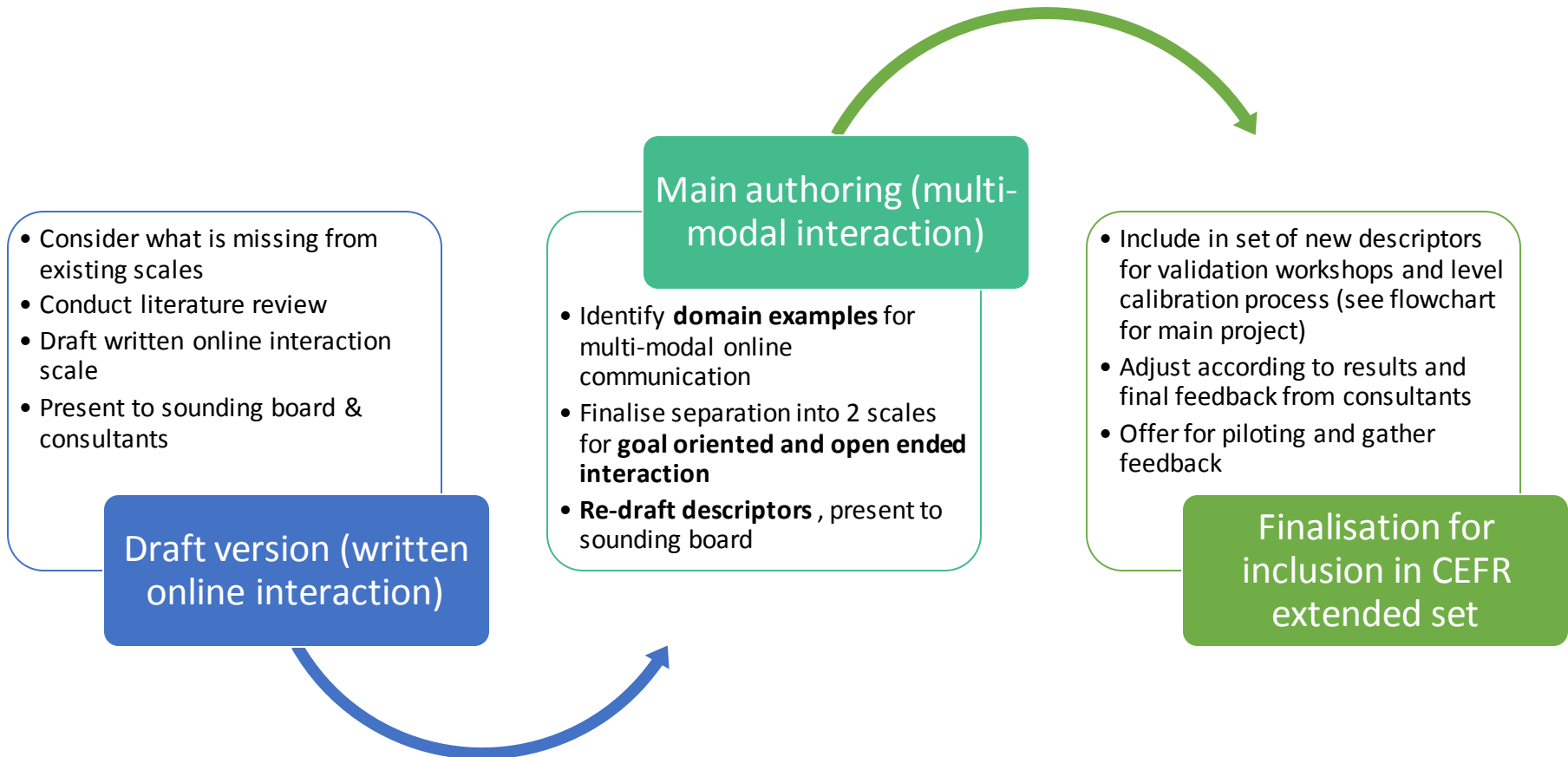
- Potential exploitation for teaching and learning

# Conceptualisation

Communicative activities		2001 descriptive scheme	2001 illustrative scales (levels and descriptors)	Extended / enriched in new CEFR Companion Volume	Illustrative scales added in new CEFR Companion Volume
Reception	Spoken	✓	✓	✓	
	Written	✓	✓	✓	
	Strategies	✓	✓	✓	
Production	Spoken	✓	✓	✓	
	Written	✓	✓	✓	
	Strategies	✓	✓	✓	
Interaction	Spoken	✓	✓	✓	
	Written	✓	✓	✓	
	Strategies	✓	✓	✓	
	Online				✓
Mediation	Spoken	✓			✓
	Written	✓			✓
	Strategies	✓			✓
Other Scales	Literature & Art				✓
	Plurilingual / Pluricultural				✓



## An iterative development process





## An iterative development process

- Consider what is missing from existing scales
- Conduct literature review
- Draft written online interaction scale
- Present to sounding board & consultants

Draft version  
(written online  
interaction)

Main a  
mod

- Identify **domain** multi-modal onl communication
- Finalise separati for **goal oriente interaction**
- **Re-draft descrip** sounding board

An interactive development process

## Main authoring (multi-modal interaction)

- Identify **domain examples** for multi-modal online communication
- Finalise separation into 2 scales for **goal oriented and open ended interaction**
- **Re-draft descriptors** , present to sounding board

- Include for valid calibration for main
- Adjust a final fee
- Offer for feedback

ng from  
ew  
teraction  
board &

ion (written  
interaction)

## An iterative development process

Examples for

to 2 scales for  
an ended

present to

- Include in set of new descriptors for **validation workshops and level calibration** process (see flowchart for main project)
- Adjust according to results and final feedback from consultants
- Offer for **piloting** and gather feedback

Finalisation for  
inclusion in CEFR  
extended set

**Online conversation and discussion** focuses on conversation and discussion online as a multi-modal phenomenon

- instances of **simultaneous (real time) and consecutive interaction**, the latter giving time to prepare a draft and/or consult aids;
- **participation in sustained interaction** with one or more interlocutors;
- composing **posts and contributions** for others to respond to;
- **comments (e.g. evaluative)** on posts, comments and contributions of others;
- **reactions to embedded media**;
- the ability to include **symbols, images, and other codes** for making the message convey tone,
- stress and prosody, but also the **affective/emotional** side, irony etc.

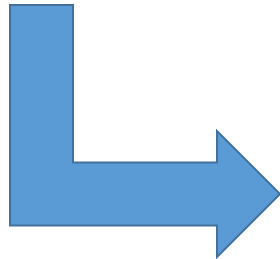
**Goal-oriented online transactions and collaboration:** This scale focuses on the potentially collaborative nature of online interaction and transactions that have specific goals, as a regular feature of contemporary life.

- **purchasing goods and services** online;
- engaging in transactions requiring **negotiation of conditions**, in a service as well as client role;
- participation in **collaborative project work**;
- **dealing with communication problems**.



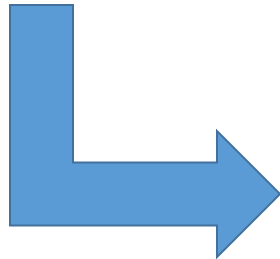
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Can make personal online postings about experiences, feelings and events and respond individually to the comments of others in some detail, though lexical limitations sometimes cause repetition and inappropriate formulation.



## GOAL-ORIENTED ONLINE TRANSACTIONS AND COLLABORATION (B1)

Can engage in online collaborative or transactional exchanges that require simple clarification or explanation of relevant details, such as registering for a course, tour, event or applying for membership.



## Tertiary B1:

*'Most of the students wrote in the questionnaire that it was nice to work online, but a small group said that it was a little bit too difficult... **The exercises based on the chat worked surprisingly well.***

## Tertiary/YL teaching prac. B2

*'The descriptors ...**helped students focus on the task** ... They serve for both students and the professor alike.'*

## Primary: A1/A2

*'a CLIL project about earthquakes...through a platform (eTwinning) where students can meet each other (chat, forum, live events), share materials (presentations on padlet)'*

Impact on T&L : *'**More focused on development of competences**'*





merci grazie gracias tesçekkurler  
danke faleminderit obrigado  
thank you efcharisto