Old Forms & New Documents

An Experiment With

Hypertextual Glossaries

Overarching Goal

- Enabling people to use e-journals as easily & effectively as paper documents
  - Reading
  - 'Notemaking'
    - Annotation
    - Cross references (intra- & inter-document)
  - Multi-page views
- Readers incorporating new knowledge through interaction with documents

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Relative Advantages

- Paper
  - Easy to write on
  - Easy to read
  - Pliant (foldable)
  - Maintains page order

- Computer Files
  - Need electronic input
  - Hard to read for long
  - Rigid
  - Easy to alter order and insert new parts

Electronic Paper — A partial solution *perhaps*

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Steps Towards Our Goal

- People need to adapt to new technology
- Easiest to adapt from familiar use patterns to novel interfaces
- But people adapt their behaviour to available technology
- So… need to find out how people use existing paper-based technology first

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Role of Annotation

- Substantial interest in annotation in both HCI and HT Research Communities
  - A way for people to make docs their own
  - A way to maintain concentration
  - Questions
    - Why do people annotate?
    - How do they annotate?
    - How do they use those marks later?
- Glossaries as a special form

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The Current Experiment

See the draft article

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So what is *Hypertext* exactly?

'Text which does not form a single sequence and which may be read in various orders; specially text and graphics … which are interconnected in such a way that a reader of the material (as displayed at a computer terminal, etc.) can discontinue reading one document at certain points in order to consult other related matter.'

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