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USING CHATGPT AND OTHER AI TOOLS TO IMPROVE LANGUAGE SKILLS

The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in language learning has made a change in the lives of students and teachers. These chatbots, or AI-powered models such as ChatGPT, give instant feedback, help improve writing skills, and even motivate English as a Foreign Language (EFL) students. Research shows that the use of AI in language learning is beneficial for students and has a positive impact on their writing skills specifically in terms of coherence, grammar, and vocabulary (Song & Song, 2023, 4). This improvement in writing is important for the learners to be able to convey their ideas coherently and correctly in academic writing.

ChatGPT, however, has shown to be useful in developing individual learning pathways. Due to the diverse needs, abilities, and preferences of learners, they can get specific writing feedback. For instance, ChatGPT can help learners navigate language rules in a safe space, which may be helpful for students who are embarrassed to make mistakes when speaking in front of their peers (Athanasopoulos et al., 2023, 7). Moreover, the tool gives instant feedback on written work, which can help students find their mistakes in grammar and sentence construction and, thus, become better writers in the process (Solak, 2024, 355). Instant feedback is more effective because it is provided frequently and in a short time, which is a great benefit compared to conventional learning where feedback may not be instant.

Even though AI tools like ChatGPT have a lot of good points, there are worries that people might depend on them too much. If people use them all the time, they might not learn how to think for themselves or write well on their own. This is especially true if students just use what the AI gives them without really thinking about it (Ghafar, 2023, 74). If they depend on AI too much, their work might not be very creative or unique because they're just using the AI's ideas. Plus, we need to worry about things like plagiarism and making sure AI gives credit where it's due (Ghafar, 2023, 76). AI can be helpful, but we need to teach students how to use it the right way so they don't rely on it too much for schoolwork.

But, if used the right way, AI tools like ChatGPT can make learning better. AI can mimic actual conversations, which lets students practice writing and speaking without feeling embarrassed. This makes it a good way to get better at language and feel confident in yourself (Solak, 2024, 356). AI can also make learning more personal by helping with what each student needs and giving help right away, which keeps them interested and motivated (Song & Song, 2023, 5). As AI gets better, it could make learning even more interactive and personal, which is pretty cool for the future of education.

So, AI tools like ChatGPT can be very helpful for learning languages, but it's important to deal with issues like plagiarism and people depending on them too much. We need to make sure they add to old-fashioned ways of learning, not replace them. Teachers have to find a good middle ground between using AI and helping students learn to think and write on their own. If they do that, they can use AI to make language learning more fun, personal, and helpful for all kinds of students.

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