### **Using AI for teaching English to secondary school students**

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**Annotation**

This paper explores the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into English language instruction at the secondary school level, with a particular focus on its application in countries like Uzbekistan. It examines how AI technologies—such as automated essay scoring, speech recognition, chatbots, and adaptive learning platforms—can enhance various aspects of English learning, including writing, speaking, and comprehension. The study reviews specific AI tools like Grammarly, Duolingo, ELSA Speak, and Quillionz, highlighting their roles in improving personalized learning, providing instant feedback, and increasing student engagement. The paper argues that while AI is not a substitute for human teachers, it can be a powerful supplement to address key challenges in language education, such as large class sizes, limited resources, and lack of individual attention. It concludes that the thoughtful integration of AI can lead to more effective, inclusive, and future-ready English instruction, particularly in under-resourced educational settings.

**Key Words:**
Artificial Intelligence (AI), English language instruction, secondary education, personalized learning, AI tools, Grammarly, Duolingo, ELSA Speak, chatbot, speech recognition, automated essay scoring, adaptive learning, Uzbekistan, language education technology

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### **1. Introduction**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has rapidly become one of the most transformative forces in modern education. As schools and educators around the world search for more effective and efficient teaching strategies, AI has emerged as a practical solution to many challenges in the classroom. In particular, English language instruction, which requires a blend of vocabulary acquisition, grammar understanding, reading comprehension, speaking, listening, and writing skills, can greatly benefit from AI-driven innovations.

In countries like Uzbekistan, where English is taught as a foreign language in most secondary schools, the quality and effectiveness of instruction often depend on access to resources, teacher training, and class size. Many teachers face difficulties in offering individual attention to students, correcting essays, or providing detailed pronunciation guidance. AI technologies, including natural language processing, speech recognition, and adaptive learning platforms, offer new ways to address these issues.

This paper focuses on the integration of AI tools into English teaching at the secondary school level. It discusses both general applications of AI in education and specific tools designed to teach English. The paper also examines the advantages these tools offer for both teachers and students, such as time-saving automation, individualized instruction, and enhanced student motivation. Although AI is still relatively new in many educational systems, including Uzbekistan’s, its growth is inevitable.

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### **2. AI Tools and Applications in Teaching English**

AI is being used in a wide variety of ways to support language instruction. Tools powered by AI are capable of understanding language input, analyzing student responses, and offering meaningful feedback in real time. This functionality is especially helpful for teaching English, where students need continuous exposure and correction to build fluency.

Some key applications include:

* **Automated Essay Scoring:** AI systems such as Grammarly and Write & Improve can evaluate grammar, vocabulary, and coherence in writing. These tools not only grade assignments but also provide suggestions to improve sentence structure and clarity.
* **Speech Recognition:** Tools like Google's Speech-to-Text and ELSA Speak allow students to practice pronunciation. They give immediate feedback on accent, fluency, and articulation.
* **Chatbots and Virtual Tutors:** AI chatbots simulate real-life conversations, enabling students to practice conversational English without the pressure of a live audience. Duolingo's chatbot is a well-known example.
* **Adaptive Learning Platforms:** Systems like Century Tech or Carnegie Learning adjust the difficulty of exercises based on the learner’s performance, providing a more personalized learning experience.

These tools support both the student and teacher by increasing practice opportunities, saving grading time, and delivering personalized insights that are hard to achieve in large classrooms.

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### **3. AI Tools for Teaching English**

Focusing specifically on the tools relevant for English instruction in secondary schools, we find several platforms and software that are currently effective and increasingly accessible:

1. **Grammarly:** An AI-powered writing assistant that provides grammar, punctuation, and style suggestions. For students writing essays or assignments, it serves as a personal tutor that explains each correction.
2. **Duolingo:** While more suited for beginners, Duolingo uses AI to adjust questions based on a learner's strengths and weaknesses. It offers gamified learning which keeps students engaged.
3. **Quillionz:** This tool helps teachers by automatically generating questions from a passage of text, useful for creating reading comprehension exercises and quizzes.
4. **ELSA Speak:** A mobile app that focuses on improving English pronunciation using AI. It analyzes speech and provides feedback, which is very beneficial for non-native speakers.
5. **Kuki AI or Replika:** AI chatbot platforms that can carry on text-based conversations. These tools offer students a chance to practice informal English in a low-stress environment.

Using these tools, English teachers can diversify their teaching methods and make language learning more dynamic and student-centered.

### **4. Benefits of Using AI in English Language Instruction**

The integration of AI into English language instruction brings several significant benefits:

* **Personalized Learning:** AI can analyze a student's learning patterns and adapt content accordingly. This means students work at their own pace and get help where they need it most.
* **Instant Feedback:** Traditional classroom feedback can take days. AI tools deliver feedback immediately, allowing students to correct mistakes and learn faster.
* **Increased Student Engagement:** Many AI tools incorporate gamification, visuals, and interactive tasks, which make learning more enjoyable and engaging for students.
* **Support for Teachers:** AI reduces the burden of repetitive tasks such as grading or preparing practice materials. Teachers can focus more on guiding, mentoring, and interacting with students.
* **Improved Outcomes:** With more targeted instruction and consistent practice, students are more likely to retain vocabulary, develop fluency, and gain confidence in using English.

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### **6. Conclusion**

AI is already transforming the way English is taught in secondary schools. From grading essays to helping with pronunciation, the potential for AI to support English learning is vast. In countries like Uzbekistan, where traditional teaching methods sometimes limit the opportunity for individualized learning, AI tools offer a new horizon. They can help bridge the gap between teacher capacity and student needs, making English language instruction more effective and future-ready.

In addition, introducing AI into classrooms helps prepare students for a future where digital literacy will be essential. Familiarity with AI tools not only supports their language skills but also increases their confidence in using technology across subjects. Moreover, AI allows for data-driven insights into student progress, helping teachers make informed decisions about their instructional strategies. While challenges such as access to devices, internet connectivity, and teacher training remain, these can be gradually addressed with the right support from educational institutions and policymakers. Ultimately, combining the strengths of human teachers and intelligent technologies creates a more inclusive, responsive, and future-oriented English language learning environment.

Artificial Intelligence is not a replacement for human teachers, but rather a supplement that enhances their capabilities. When integrated thoughtfully, AI can address many of the challenges faced in teaching English, especially in resource-constrained environments. For secondary school students, who are in a critical stage of language acquisition, these tools can provide the practice, feedback, and motivation they need to improve their skills. As AI technologies continue to evolve, their role in language education will only grow, making it essential for educators to embrace and adapt these tools responsibly.

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