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IMPROVING SPEAKING ABILITY USING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Madina Muzaffarova Umid qizi
Teacher at Sharq Universitety
ORCID: 0009-0002-2910-0817
madina1012@icloud.com

Abstract

This article explores the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in enhancing speaking abilities among learners. Moreover, it analyzes different AI tools and methodologies to boost the speaking ability and confidence of students, providing insights into their effectiveness, productivity and implications in the realm of language education. In the end, the findings from the analysis that AI can significantly improve learners' speaking proficiency and confidence are provided with personal opinion and conclusion.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Speaking Ability, Language Learning, Educational Technology, Pedagogy, Tools.

Introduction

the recent rapid advancement of technology has transformed the sphere of education, particularly in language learning which has never happened before the breakthroughs in technology. As speaking proficiency remains a critical component of language acquisition, this article examines how AI can improve speaking skills along the self-confidence of students. By using AI tools, educators can provide tailored learning experiences that foster improved communication abilities among students to speak fluently with personalized feedbacks to improve coherence and cohesion in a short period compared to the traditional methods used in language learning. In this globalized world, effective communication in multiple languages is of great importance. Traditional methods of language instruction often fall short in providing the necessary practice and immediate feedback that learners require. AI presents an innovative solution to these challenges by offering interactive and adaptive learning environments to meet the need of students and to increase their self-esteem to speak publicly or enhance interpersonal skills in communication.

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Literature Review

Recent studies in this field have highlighted the role of AI in language education. For instance, Heffernan (2016) discusses how AI-driven applications can provide real-time feedback, allowing learners to identify and rectify pronunciation errors. As clearly stated, this immediate corrective feedback is crucial for language learners to develop accurate speaking skills. Similarly, Zhao (2021) emphasizes the importance of personalized learning pathways facilitated by AI, which adapt to individual student needs to improve their speaking competence. As it can be seen this literature underscores the potential of AI to revolutionize traditional language teaching methods and adapt new methods to facilitate the learning process of students.

Theoretical Framework

The integration of AI in language education is grounded in several theoretical frameworks, they include followings:

1. Constructivist Learning Theory in which learners actively construct their own understanding and knowledge of the world through experiences and reflecting on those experiences to develop speaking ability.
2. Socio-Cultural Theory which emphasizes the role of social interaction in learning, and it suggests that collaborative AI tools can enhance language acquisition through peer interaction with flexible time and personalized feedback.

Methodology

The research uses a mixed-method approach, combining quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews to come up with valid outcomes. A sample of 100 language learners from various backgrounds was selected, utilizing AI tools such as speech recognition software and interactive language applications that can be found online for every learner. Then, participants were assessed on their speaking abilities before and after the implementation of AI-driven practices over a six-month period to see the difference in their fluency and ability to communicate effectively.

Data Collection

Surveys: Pre- and post-intervention surveys measured speaking confidence and proficiency using a standardized rubric.

Interviews: Semi-structured interviews provided qualitative insights into learner

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experiences with AI tools, exploring their perceptions of efficacy and engagement.
AI tools used

3. Speech Recognition Software: Applications like Google Speech Recognition were utilized to provide instant feedback on pronunciation and fluency.
4. Conversational AI Platforms: Tools such as Duolingo and Rosetta Stone were employed for interactive speaking exercises, simulating real-life conversations.
5. Gamified Learning Environments: Platforms like Kahoot! were used to create a competitive yet educational atmosphere, encouraging learners to practice speaking.

Analysis and Results

Data analysis showed significant improvements in speaking abilities among participants, it can be seen in the followings:

Quantitative Findings: Increased Confidence: 75% of learners reported increased confidence in speaking after the intervention.

Proficiency Scores: Average speaking proficiency scores improved by 30%, as assessed by both self-evaluation and instructor ratings.

Qualitative Insights

Participants said that the benefits of immediate feedback and personalized learning experiences. Common themes included increased motivation and engagement through gamified AI applications, which made learning more enjoyable and less intimidating for students. Many learners expressed that the AI tools provided a safe space for practice, reducing anxiety associated with speaking in front of peers which helps them to practice confidently in their flexible time.

Discussion

The findings suggest that AI technologies can significantly enhance speaking abilities among language learners. The immediate feedback provided by AI tools helps learners correct their mistakes in real-time, fostering a more effective learning environment. Furthermore, the personalized learning pathways that AI offers cater to individual student needs, allowing for a more customized educational experience that helps to boost their speaking skills.

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Challenges and Considerations

While the benefits of AI in language learning are evident, there are challenges to consider that we should take into account while using AI tools:

1. Accessibility: Not all students have equal access to technology, which can create disparities in learning opportunities and cause discrimination.
2. Data Privacy: The use of AI raises concerns about data privacy and the ethical implications of collecting learner data as students are usually asked to fill the data about themselves to utilize needed tools.
3. Teacher Training: Educators must be adequately trained to integrate AI tools into their teaching practices effectively as not all teachers are well-aware of recent updates about this sphere.

Conclusion and Suggestions

In conclusion, the findings of this study highlight the potential of AI to enhance speaking abilities among language learners. To maximize these benefits, educators should consider the following suggestions:

1. Integrate AI Tools: Strategically incorporate AI tools into the curriculum to complement traditional teaching methods to facilitate the learning process.
2. Training for Educators: Provide training for both teachers and students on the effective use of AI, ensuring that everyone is equipped with necessary skills to utilize these technologies.
3. Encourage a Blended Approach: Promote a blended learning approach that combines face-to-face instruction with AI innovations to create a holistic learning experience as only concentrating on AI tools may have some unforeseen negative sides.

Future Research

For the further development, I believe that future research should explore followings to take more advantage of AI tools to assist learners to develop their speaking skills as well as top prevent potential concerns and negative effects of AI tools:

1. The long-term impacts of AI on language retention and speaking proficiency.
2. The effectiveness of various AI tools across diverse learner demographics and settings.
3. Strategies to address accessibility and data privacy concerns in AI-driven education.

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