

EXPLORING LEARNER AND TEACHER PERSPECTIVES ON THE

Impact of AI in Language Education

Learner Perspectives

Student Autonomy

AI chatbots, writing assistants, and translation applications support independent learning across all four language skills, with speaking now more accessible and affordable. They provide personalised practice, grammar explanations, and opportunities to use language in authentic contexts rather than focusing only on grammar and vocabulary.

Confidence Building

Learners can practice in low-stakes environments before interacting with peers. These tools provide personalised feedback and adapt to individual learning paces, creating tailored pathways to language development.

Concerns

There is a risk of overreliance on digital tools, with learners favouring them over human interaction. Questions about accuracy and potential bias highlight key limitations that must be addressed in educational contexts. AI use may also be limited in certain learning environments, such as short-term exam courses, due to learners' limited IT skills.

Teacher Perspectives

Support Role

AI can reduce teachers' workload by supporting lesson preparation, differentiated activities, error correction, and summative or formative assessment. These time-saving benefits make it a reliable assistant, consistently available and unaffected by fatigue. It can also accommodate students based on their multiple intelligences, reflecting a sophisticated understanding of diverse learning profiles.

Pedagogical Shift

Teachers become facilitators and curators of AI-supported learning, assisting in identifying learners' strengths and weaknesses. This gives them more time to develop learners' soft skills, support autonomy, and foster safe learning environments. It also allows for genuine differentiation, tailoring learning to each student's level and supporting their individual growth.

Challenges

The integration of AI raises concerns about reliability, ethics, and potential reductions in professional authority. Educators must balance AI efficiency with meaningful human interaction while maintaining their own creativity and expertise. Teaching critical AI literacy is essential to guide students in using AI as a supportive tool while preserving teacher creativity and authority.

AI redefines educational roles, enabling learners to develop personalised autonomy while teachers focus on guidance, critical thinking, and communicative competence. AI shifts teachers' roles across all subjects toward facilitators, mentors, and critical guides, reshaping instruction and support across education.

Key Message