

Theme : L'intégration des technologies de l'intelligence artificielle dans l'enseignement des langues

Title :

The recently published ULB Policy on the use of AI in teaching contexts invites lecturers to embrace the use of AI in their teaching in a productive way and one which contributes to learning (ULB, 2024). This presentation explores one such initiative in the context of an EMI (English Medium Instruction) course. Research suggests that generative AI potentially holds a number of productive functions in university-level second-language writing including: the facilitation of new ideas; immediate feedback on grammar and vocabulary; enhanced self-correction by students; reduced anxiety (Curle 2023, Tang, 2023). Yet at the same time, it presents possible problems including the potential to produce ineffective text, problematic or plagiarised content (Kleinemann, 2023). As such, when teaching academic writing, instructors need to conceptualise the shifts in the traditional writing process that AI prompts, as well as understanding how students perceive and use such tools.

This presentation explores the integration of Chat GPT into a writing exercise in an EMI research Master's course at the ULB. Tracking the work of 5 students, it traces the evolution of their texts (pre- and post-Chat GPT) in terms of grammatical accuracy, range and accuracy of the lexis, coherence, cohesion and content). This is underpinned by an analysis of their Chat GPT prompts and supplemented by a feedback questionnaire about the students' (and the teacher's) sense of the function and effectiveness of Chat GPT as a tool to enhance their writing. The presentation concludes with reflections on how AI writing tools can be used to teach students to become more capable writers and how this process might integrate with more traditional approaches to writing.

References

Curle S. (2023) ChatGPT in English Medium Instruction Higher Education: Harnessing the Benefits and Navigating the Challenges, International Conference on Academic Studies in Technology and Education. Antalya, Turkey.

Kleineman G. (2023) Teaching Students to Write with AI: The SPACE Framework, The Generator, January 2023

Tang W. (2023) Unlocking Second Language Students' Potential: ChatGPT's Pivotal Role in English for Academic Purposes Writing Success, in S. Yacob et al. (eds.), Proceedings of the 2023 7th International Seminar on Education, Management and Social Sciences (ISEMSS 2023), Advances in Social Science, Education and Humanities Research 779,