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Student Perceptions of AI-Assisted Writing Feedback in CLIL Courses

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The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in educational settings has opened new avenues for enhancing learning experiences. This study focuses on understanding students' perceptions of using AI, specifically ChatGPT (3.5 version), to provide feedback on writing performance in a Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) course. The course, centered on Data Description and Analysis, required students to write weekly paragraphs on business-related data topics. Our methodology involved students maintaining a Writing Journal. Each week, they were given a prompt with specific criteria to assess. Students used ChatGPT to insert these prompts and their draft paragraphs, receiving feedback on adherence to the criteria and corrections for any grammatical or spelling errors. Based on the AI's feedback, students revised their drafts for their final weekly submissions. After 14 weeks of this process, students completed a survey evaluating their experience, particularly in terms of writing skill improvement and task completion efficiency. The results revealed that students generally perceived the AI-assisted method as beneficial for enhancing their writing skills and improving their performance in completing assignment tasks. They appreciated the immediacy and specificity of the feedback. However, there were notable concerns regarding the complexity and relevance of the feedback provided. Some students found the AI-generated advice to be convoluted, challenging to comprehend, or occasionally off-topic. Despite these issues, the overall response was positive, with students valuing the innovative approach to learning and its impact on their writing proficiency. This study underscores the potential of AI tools like ChatGPT in educational contexts, particularly in enhancing writing skills. It also highlights the need for improvements in AI feedback mechanisms to ensure clarity and relevance, ensuring that such tools are more effectively integrated into learning environments.

Keywords

AI, ChatGPT, CLIL education, writing feedback, writing skills development

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