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Exploring the Efficacy of ChatGPT's Audio Features in Language Learning

Saturday, 18 May 2024 10:50 (30 minutes)

With the increased interest in integrating artificial intelligence (AI) into language education, this practice-based research project explored the use of ChatGPT's audio functionality to enhance Japanese students' oral communication skills. Japanese university students often complain that they have little chance to practice their English skills. To address this issue, the following research question was devised: Can ChatGPT effectively serve as a conversation partner for Japanese students aiming to improve their oral communication skills? Students participated in interactive sessions with ChatGPT, where they were required to interact through the speech-to-text function of the ChatGPT smartphone app. Following this, the students were given a reflective survey. This reflective process aimed to draw out students' opinions on and feelings about their interactions. This presentation is based on that data and will shed light on the students' perceptions of communication with an AI interface. The presentation will begin by explaining how students were taught to use the chatbot, followed by an analysis of their reflections on that experience. Next, the viability of employing AI chatbots as language learning tools will be discussed. As AI technology progresses, there are broad implications for implementation in educational settings, this presentation will present an example of one way to use an AI chatbots for oral communication and propose some recommendations for the integration of AI technology in language learning classrooms.

Keywords

Artificial Intelligence, Language Learning, ChatGPT, Conversation Partners, Pedagogical Implementation.

Primary author: MACWHINNIE, Steven (Hirosaki Gakuin University)

Presenter: MACWHINNIE, Steven (Hirosaki Gakuin University)

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