

accessibility, interactivity, incorporation of cutting-edge technology, engagement in discussion and teamwork, usage of multimedia, and an atmosphere of constant innovation.

In addition to linguistic benefits, participation in ICM promotes cross-cultural understanding and identity formation. Students bring back a wealth of knowledge about different cultures, which can enrich the educational environment in their home universities. Therefore, active implementation of gained experience fosters an atmosphere of inclusivity and broadens perspectives, allowing students to see their own cultural identities from a new perspective. In the Ukrainian education system context, it is particularly significant as the country navigates its place within the broader European context.

To sum up, international student exchange programs are catalysts for promoting multilingualism within Ukrainian universities. These programs contribute to a more interconnected and diverse educational process. Moreover, as Ukraine continues its journey toward European integration, gaining brand-new practical experience and benefits of ICM can help cultivate a new system of learning and teaching foreign languages emphasising new perspectives suggested by students. Further research and investment in these programs will be essential to maximise their impact on language education and cultural exchange in the region.

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### **ChatGPT IN LANGUAGE LEARNING: OPPORTUNITIES, CHALLENGES, AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

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### **ChatGPT У ВИВЧЕННІ МОВ: МОЖЛИВОСТІ, ВИКЛИКИ ТА ПЕРСПЕКТИВИ РОЗВИТКУ**

The emergence of ChatGPT, an advanced generative AI language model by OpenAI, has stirred both excitement and debate in the field of language education. As with previous technological innovations—such as Google Translate, language apps, and voice assistants—ChatGPT has encountered skepticism, with concerns that it could inhibit learners' ability to develop authentic language skills (Reuters, 2023). However, past experience demonstrates that when new technologies are thoughtfully integrated, they can significantly enhance learning (Carr, 2008; Kaufman & McNay, 2017).

ChatGPT's core strength lies in generating human-like responses by analyzing patterns in extensive datasets, allowing it to facilitate meaningful conversations, translation tasks, and personalized tutoring sessions (Bonner et al., 2023). Unlike traditional search engines that retrieve static information, ChatGPT offers interactive, real-time feedback, making it a valuable tool for second-language acquisition (Thorp, 2023).

By simulating real conversations, ChatGPT helps learners practice speaking, correct grammar mistakes, and build vocabulary in a low-pressure environment (Kohnke, 2023). Research highlights that continuous interaction with chatbots can foster learners' motivation and reduce anxiety, making it easier to acquire new linguistic patterns (Fryer & Carpenter, 2006). This is particularly useful for adults learning English as a second language, as it offers immediate support, similar to having a personal language coach (Kovačević, 2023).

Teachers can also use ChatGPT to develop customized quizzes, generate reading materials tailored to students' proficiency levels, and simulate practical communication scenarios. These applications help reinforce grammatical structures and foster fluency through practice (Chiu et al., 2023; Huang et al., 2022).

Compared to earlier AI assistants like Siri and Alexa, ChatGPT offers richer conversational depth and adaptability. It engages students beyond simple voice commands, helping them notice linguistic nuances and providing corrective feedback aligned with modern second-language learning theories (Schmidt, 1990; Mackey, 2012). This makes it a more versatile tool for both structured lessons and informal practice sessions.

In addition, ChatGPT can support flipped classrooms, where learners engage with online content before class and spend face-to-face time practicing conversational skills. This integration enables teachers to focus on developing communicative competence while ChatGPT handles repetitive or foundational tasks (Turan & Akdag-Cimen, 2020).

Despite its potential, using ChatGPT in language education presents several challenges. There are concerns about learners becoming overly reliant on AI-generated responses, leading to shallow learning or a reduction in authentic language exposure (Adiguzel et al., 2023). Similarly, teachers worry about the accuracy and bias in ChatGPT's responses, as well as the potential for academic dishonesty, such as students using AI to complete assignments (Thorp, 2023). Ensuring responsible use requires digital literacy and ethical guidelines to help students benefit from AI without compromising essential skills (Meniado, 2023).

Another challenge is data privacy, as students must feel safe when interacting with AI platforms. Schools and educators need to implement policies to safeguard personal information and monitor AI outputs for unintended inaccuracies (UNESCO, 2023).

To maximize ChatGPT's potential in language learning, students and teachers need appropriate training. Although the COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the development of digital skills, further competence is essential to leverage ChatGPT effectively in educational settings (Moorhouse, 2023). Teachers can benefit from targeted workshops that demonstrate how to incorporate AI into lesson planning while maintaining pedagogical goals.

By striking the right balance between AI-powered learning tools and traditional teaching methods, educators can prevent over-dependence on technology while fostering meaningful language acquisition (Hockley, in press). AI should complement—not replace—face-to-face interaction, which remains vital for mastering communication skills.

While concerns surrounding AI tools like ChatGPT are valid, their potential to revolutionize language education is undeniable. When integrated thoughtfully, ChatGPT can enrich the learning experience by offering personalized, engaging, and adaptive language practice (Xu et al., 2023). Policymakers and educators must explore strategies to ensure that AI tools support students' long-term development rather than substituting essential skills.

In conclusion, ChatGPT opens new pathways for personalized and dynamic language learning, making practice more accessible for learners of all levels. With the right strategies and safeguards, it can become a powerful ally in transforming language education for the better. Balancing AI's benefits with human teaching will be key to fostering deeper learning and equipping students for real-world communication.