



INTEGRATING SCIENCE, THOUGHT, AND TECHNOLOGY: TOWARD AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENT ENVIRONMENT

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Artificial Intelligence: Making Education More Competitive or More Enjoyable?

Supervisor: Durdona Khamidova,
Teacher of English Philology Faculty, UZSWLU

Student: Yusupova Dildoraxon Baxromjon qizi
English Philology Faculty, UZSWLU

Abstract

This article explores the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in English Language Teaching (ELT), focusing on its impact on classroom instruction and personalized learning. Studies show that children are increasingly obsessed with AI for educational purposes—but does AI make learning more enjoyable or more competitive? This question remains open. While AI creates motivating learning environments and supports independent study, it may also negatively influence learners' thinking skills and emotional well-being. By analyzing experimental research and practical observations, this article highlights the reasons why AI improves learning efficiency and simultaneously risks turning students into “robot-like” learners who rely on automation rather than conscious effort.

Key words: competitive, enjoyable learning, personalized learning, feedback, schoolchildren, AI industry, learning process.

Artificial Intelligence plays a vital role in today's fast-paced world, offering opportunities to simplify daily and academic tasks. AI refers to the ability of machines to perform tasks requiring human intelligence—learning, reasoning, problem-solving, perception, and decision-making. Over time, AI has evolved from simple systems to highly advanced models capable of performing complex human-like activities.

Education has become one of the fields most influenced by AI. Students, schoolchildren, and teachers actively use AI to improve academic performance. Statistics show that **44% of children** engage with generative AI, and **54% use it specifically for homework and school tasks**.

Inspired by this trend, a survey was conducted among UZSWLU English Philology students. Results showed:

- **44%** use AI to get quick answers and explanations
- **28%** use it to increase learning efficiency
- **22%** rely on AI because they do not want to complete assignments independently
- The rest use AI mainly for entertainment

These findings demonstrate AI's strong presence in students' academic lives. But is its effect positive or negative?

Among the many AI tools developed in recent years, **ChatGPT, Canva, Gemini, Gamma** are the most frequently used in 2025. According to students, **ChatGPT** remains the preferred tool because it:

- provides explanations
- creates presentations
- generates academic content
- simulates communication
- offers language practice

Teachers also use these tools to create interactive activities. But the central question remains: **Does AI truly make education more enjoyable, or does it increase unhealthy competition?**

Many educators argue that AI improves classroom atmosphere by reducing academic anxiety. With the help of AI, students:

- become more motivated
- work independently
- receive personalized learning
- access self-assessment tools
- learn visually and interactively

According to the survey, **59%** of students use AI for research and presentations. Visual materials—slides, illustrations, diagrams—help students understand topics more effectively than traditional textbook methods. Since childhood, humans learn better through imagery, making AI-generated visuals beneficial.

Students often struggle with speaking due to limited exposure to native speakers. AI provides a practical solution:

- **ChatGPT, Gemini:** conversational practice
- **ELSA:** pronunciation feedback
- **Kahoot:** game-based learning
- **VR/AR tools:** immersive environments

Educational games blended with AI help develop:

- critical thinking
- Problem-solving

- deeper engagement
- better memory retention

In short, AI boosts confidence, minimizes stress, and makes learning more enjoyable and engaging.

Education as a Competitive Journey

Despite its benefits, AI also introduces new challenges. Some students believe that AI increases competition in education rather than enjoyment.

1. Technological Inequality

Students with better devices, stable internet, and paid AI versions have an advantage. They create more polished presentations and assignments, while low-income students struggle. This widens the educational divide.

2. Higher Anxiety and Low Self-Esteem

AI produces:

- error-free essays
- perfect presentations
- well-structured homework

Students feel pressure to meet unrealistic standards, which damages confidence and increases academic stress.

3. Decline in Critical Thinking

Students often prefer AI-generated answers instead of thinking independently. Because of pressure to “be the best,” they:

- skip the thinking process
- avoid problem-solving
- submit AI-generated work
- engage in academic dishonesty

This leads to a generation dependent on technology rather than intellectual effort.

4. Risk of Becoming “Robot Learners”

Overuse of AI may:

- reduce creativity
- weaken analytical thinking
- limit imagination
- destroy individuality

If this continues, education may become excessively automated in the future.

Conclusion

The study shows that **71%** of participants believe AI’s impact depends on *how* it is used.

Survey Question:

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“Do you think AI made education more enjoyable or more competitive?”

- **Green:** “It depends on how it is used” (majority)
- **Yellow:** “Enjoyable”
- **Red:** “Competitive”

In summary:

- AI improves education quality
- AI makes learning interesting
- But AI must be used responsibly
- Students must avoid full reliance on AI
- Human thinking and creativity must remain central

To ensure enjoyable learning, students must balance AI support with independent thinking and reflective learning.

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