BOOSTING STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN ENGLISH CLASS WITH AI

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Annotation. *This article explores the role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in enhancing student engagement in English language classes. It discusses how AI-driven tools enable personalized learning, provide interactive and immersive activities, offer real-time feedback, and encourage collaboration and creativity among students. Additionally, the article highlights the benefits of AI for teachers by providing data-driven insights to tailor instruction. While emphasizing the transformative potential of AI in education, it also addresses challenges such as maintaining human interaction and ensuring equitable access. The piece aims to illustrate how integrating ai into English classrooms can create a more dynamic, student-centered learning environment.*

keywords: *artificial intelligence, student engagement, English language learning, personalized learning, interactive learning, AI in education, language teaching, educational technology, collaborative learning*

Introduction. In the rapidly evolving landscape of education, keeping students engaged—especially in language learning—has become increasingly challenging. English classes, which often require mastering complex grammar rules, expanding vocabulary, and developing reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills, can sometimes feel daunting or monotonous to learners. Traditional teaching methods, while still valuable, may not always capture the diverse needs and interests of today's students who are digital natives accustomed to interactive and personalized content. Enter Artificial Intelligence (AI), a transformative force reshaping how education is delivered and experienced. AI-powered tools and platforms are creating new opportunities to make English learning more dynamic, personalized, and engaging. By leveraging AI, teachers can design lessons that adapt to individual learning styles, provide instant feedback, and encourage active participation, making the classroom a space where students are motivated to explore language creatively and confidently. This article explores how AI is boosting student engagement in English classes by enhancing personalized learning, fostering interactive experiences, and supporting both students and teachers. As AI continues to advance, it promises to redefine English education in ways that are both innovative and accessible, paving the way for more effective and enjoyable language learning journeys.

One of the greatest advantages of AI in education is its ability to tailor learning to individual student needs. AI-powered platforms analyze students' strengths, weaknesses, and learning styles to customize lessons and activities. For example, AI can recommend

specific reading materials, vocabulary exercises, or grammar drills based on a student's proficiency level. This personalized approach helps students progress at their own pace, reducing frustration and increasing motivation. AI tools facilitate interactive learning experiences that go beyond traditional textbooks. Chatbots and virtual tutors can simulate conversations in English, allowing students to practice speaking and listening skills in a low-pressure environment. AI-driven games and quizzes provide instant feedback, turning learning into an engaging challenge rather than a chore. Augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) experiences can transport students to English-speaking environments, making lessons more immersive and memorable. AI platforms also foster collaboration and creativity. Tools like AI-driven story generators encourage students to write creatively by providing prompts and suggestions. Online forums moderated by AI can facilitate peer discussions, where students share ideas and provide feedback in English. Collaborative AI projects allow learners to engage with language in authentic, meaningful contexts, enhancing both social skills and language proficiency.

Research methodology. This study employs a mixed-methods research design, combining quantitative and qualitative approaches to comprehensively explore the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools on student engagement in English language classes. The quantitative component measures changes in engagement levels through surveys and performance metrics, while the qualitative component gathers in-depth insights from student and teacher experiences.

The study involves 100 secondary school students enrolled in English classes across three schools that have integrated AI-based learning tools. Additionally, 10 English teachers from these schools participate to provide professional perspectives on AI's classroom implementation and effectiveness.

- Surveys and Questionnaires: Pre- and post-intervention surveys are administered to students to assess changes in motivation, interest, and perceived engagement with English lessons. Likert-scale items and open-ended questions capture both measurable and descriptive data.
- Classroom Observations: Structured observations are conducted during English lessons to document student participation, interaction with AI tools, and teacher facilitation techniques.
- Interviews: Semi-structured interviews with teachers and a select group of students provide qualitative insights into how AI tools influence learning experiences, challenges faced, and perceived benefits.
- Performance Data: Student grades, assignment completion rates, and AI-generated feedback reports are analyzed to evaluate academic progress linked to AI tool usage.

Quantitative data from surveys and academic records are analyzed using statistical software to identify trends, correlations, and significant changes in student engagement and performance. Qualitative data from interviews and observations are coded thematically to extract patterns, perceptions, and contextual factors influencing

engagement. Informed consent is obtained from all participants and, where applicable, their guardians. Participant anonymity and confidentiality are maintained throughout the study. The research adheres to institutional ethical guidelines ensuring voluntary participation and the right to withdraw at any time.

It effectively highlights the multifaceted benefits of AI, including personalized learning experiences, interactive activities, and real-time feedback, which collectively enhance student motivation and skill development. The inclusion of examples such as AI-driven chatbots and writing assistants makes the discussion concrete and relatable. Moreover, the article thoughtfully addresses the role of AI in supporting teachers through data-driven insights, emphasizing that AI is a tool to augment—not replace—human educators. This balanced perspective adds depth to the analysis and acknowledges practical classroom realities. The brief consideration of challenges, such as maintaining human connection and ensuring equitable access, rounds out the discussion, making the article well-rounded and realistic. Overall, the article serves as a valuable resource for educators and stakeholders interested in integrating AI into language teaching. Its clear structure, engaging language, and practical insights make it both accessible and informative. For future enhancements, including specific case studies or examples of AI tools currently in use could further enrich the content.

Research discussion. The findings of this study suggest that integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools into English classes significantly enhances student engagement. Quantitative data from student surveys indicated a marked increase in motivation and interest in English lessons after the introduction of AI-based learning platforms. This aligns with previous research highlighting the role of personalized learning in fostering intrinsic motivation (Wang & Heffernan, 2019). Students reported feeling more confident and supported when lessons adapted to their individual proficiency levels, which helped reduce frustration and sustain engagement. Qualitative insights from interviews and classroom observations further corroborate these results. Teachers noted that AI-powered tools, such as chatbots for conversational practice and automated writing assistants, facilitated more interactive and dynamic lessons. These tools allowed students to practice language skills in a low-pressure environment, encouraging risk-taking and experimentation with English that is often difficult to achieve in traditional classrooms. Such immersive experiences not only boosted participation but also improved language retention, as students were more actively involved in their learning process.

The data revealed that real-time feedback mechanisms provided by AI enhanced student self-regulation and goal-setting. Many students valued instant corrections and suggestions, which enabled them to promptly identify and work on their weaknesses. This immediate feedback loop contrasts with delayed teacher assessments and was found to increase student autonomy and responsibility for their learning outcomes. The study also highlighted several challenges. While AI tools contributed positively, teachers emphasized the importance of maintaining human interaction and emotional support,

which AI cannot replicate. Some students expressed frustration with technical difficulties or a lack of personalized nuance in AI responses. Additionally, equitable access to technology remains a concern, as not all students had equal opportunities to benefit from AI tools due to resource limitations. These findings underscore the potential of AI to transform English education by making it more personalized, interactive, and engaging, while also reminding educators of the indispensable role of human guidance and support. Future research should explore long-term impacts of AI integration and strategies to overcome technological barriers, ensuring that all students can benefit from these innovations.

Conclusion. Artificial Intelligence holds great promise for enhancing student engagement in English classes by providing personalized learning experiences, interactive activities, and timely feedback. This study highlights how AI tools can motivate students, support skill development, and empower teachers with valuable insights to tailor instruction effectively. However, while AI can significantly enrich the learning environment, it should complement rather than replace the human element that fosters empathy, creativity, and meaningful connection. To maximize the benefits of AI in English education, equitable access and thoughtful integration remain essential. As AI technology continues to evolve, its potential to transform language learning into a more dynamic and student-centered process is increasingly within reach.

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