

Integrated Skills: Reading, Speaking and Writing

Title: _____

Date: _____

Student's name: _____



AI in Education: A Student Discussion

Professor Davies: Good morning, class. Today, we're discussing a topic that's rapidly evolving: Artificial Intelligence in education. Sarah, could you start by sharing your initial thoughts on AI's role in schools?

Sarah: Good morning, Professor. My initial thoughts are quite mixed. On one hand, I see the potential for AI to personalize learning. Imagine an AI tutor that adapts to each student's pace and learning style, providing targeted support. That could be incredibly beneficial.

Professor Davies: That's a very common and valid perspective, Sarah. Personalization is a key benefit. What about potential drawbacks or concerns you might have?

Mark: I'm concerned about over-reliance. If students become too dependent on AI for answers or completing tasks, will they develop critical thinking skills? I worry that it might hinder their ability to problem-solve independently. Also, what about the data privacy aspect? Schools collect a lot of student information.

Professor Davies: Excellent points, Mark. The balance between AI assistance and independent skill development is crucial. And data privacy is a significant ethical consideration that we're actively addressing. Emily, what are your thoughts on AI's impact on teachers?

Emily: I think AI could actually free up teachers' time. For instance, AI could handle grading for multiple-choice tests or even provide initial feedback on essays, allowing teachers to focus more on one-on-one interaction and lesson planning. It could also help identify students who are struggling early on.

Professor Davies: That's a great insight, Emily. AI as a tool to augment, not replace, the teacher's role. Sarah, you mentioned personalized learning. Can you elaborate on how that might look in practice?

Sarah: Certainly. An AI system could analyze a student's performance on assignments and quizzes, identify specific areas of weakness, and then recommend relevant resources, like videos or practice problems, tailored to that student. It could also provide instant feedback, which is often delayed in

a traditional classroom setting.

Professor Davies: Precisely. The immediacy of feedback is a powerful advantage. Mark, you raised concerns about critical thinking. How might we mitigate that risk?

Mark: Perhaps by designing AI tools that encourage deeper thinking, rather than just providing answers. For example, an AI could ask probing questions, guide students through a problem-solving process, or present complex scenarios that require analysis. It should be a tool for exploration, not just a shortcut.

Professor Davies: That's a very constructive approach, Mark. Focusing on AI as a facilitator of inquiry. Emily, any final thoughts on the future of AI in our classrooms?

Emily: I believe it's about finding the right integration. We need to ensure equitable access so all students benefit, and we need ongoing training for both teachers and students on how to use these tools effectively and ethically. It's a journey, and we're just beginning to understand its full potential and challenges.

Professor Davies: A very balanced conclusion, Emily. The journey of integrating AI into education requires careful consideration, ethical guidelines, and a focus on enhancing human learning and teaching. Thank you all for your insightful contributions today.

Vocabulary Practice

Complete each sentence with a word from the word bank.

Word bank: personalize | over-reliance | augment | inquiry | equitable

1. The software can _____ the learning experience for each student based on their strengths and weaknesses.
2. We must avoid _____ on technology and ensure students still develop essential problem-solving skills.
3. AI tools can _____ the teacher's ability to provide individual support to students.
4. The teacher encouraged students to use the AI as a tool for deeper _____ into the subject matter.
5. It is important to ensure _____ access to these new educational technologies for all students.
6. AI can help _____ educational content to match the specific needs of each learner.

Comprehension / Text Discussion

Answer the questions using information from the text (as per teacher instruction, this activity can be either completed in writing or performed orally).

1. What are some of the potential benefits of using AI in education that Sarah mentions?

2. What specific concerns does Mark have about students using AI?

3. How does Emily suggest AI could help teachers in their daily work?

4. According to Sarah, how can an AI system personalize learning for a student?

5. What does Mark suggest as a way to ensure AI tools encourage deeper thinking instead of just giving answers?

Writing Activity

Write a paragraph discussing the potential benefits and drawbacks of using Artificial Intelligence in education. Use the useful sentences below to help you.

Useful sentences:

1. AI has the potential to personalize learning by adapting to each student's pace and learning style.
2. An AI tutor could provide targeted support to students.
3. A concern is over-reliance on AI, which might hinder students' critical thinking skills.
4. AI could handle tasks like grading, freeing up teachers' time for more interaction.
5. AI can help identify students who are struggling early on.
6. It's important to ensure equitable access so all students benefit from AI tools.
