

Exploring Teaching Practices for College Students' English Reading and Expression in the Context of Artificial Intelligence

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ABSTRACT

With the rapid advancement of artificial intelligence technology, its application value has become increasingly prominent. Various sectors of society are now seeking practical implementation strategies, and the education sector has also embraced AI as a crucial catalyst for reform and transformation. Against this backdrop, introducing and applying artificial intelligence in college English reading and expression instruction is a natural progression. However, the practical application of this concept requires ongoing research and exploration. This paper first analyzes the role of AI in university English reading and expression instruction, then proposes application strategies and considerations. The aim is to promote more comprehensive utilization of AI, achieving a more thorough and profound optimization of teaching outcomes in university English reading and expression instruction.

KEYWORDS

Artificial intelligence; University students; English reading and expression instruction

1 Introduction

New-generation information technologies represented by artificial intelligence are profoundly reshaping the educational ecosystem, becoming a vital force driving fundamental transformations in teaching models. Higher education serves as a critical foundation for talent cultivation. To enhance academic quality, embracing this trend by actively exploring effective pathways for integrating intelligent technologies with disciplinary instruction is essential, thereby developing innovative teaching models that meet students' personalized needs. Specifically, in university English reading and expression instruction, incorporating artificial intelligence and leveraging its strengths in intelligence, personalization, and interactivity to reshape teaching models can effectively support students' individual development. This approach also yields positive outcomes in providing instant feedback and expanding learning time and space. This discussion discusses how AI technology can empower university English reading and expression instruction. It analyzes its core value and explores systematic, creative integration of AI into teaching practices. The goal is to provide robust support for reshaping teaching models, enhancing instructional effectiveness, and cultivating students' comprehensive English application skills and core competencies.

2 Analysis of artificial intelligence's role in college English reading and expression Instruction

2.1 Reshaping the teaching process

The application of artificial intelligence technology in college English reading and expression instruction can provide auxiliary support during specific teaching phases, enabling instructors to focus more energy on critical components and thereby effectively enhance teaching efficiency. For instance, during pre-class preparation, teachers can utilize AI tools to rapidly screen, analyze, and integrate vast online English resources. Based on predetermined teaching objectives and difficulty levels, these tools can automatically generate tailored reading material libraries and thematic corpus packages^[1]. During classroom instruction, AI-assisted systems offer multifaceted support. For English expression training, they provide real-time interactive language environments and simulate authentic dialogue scenarios, enabling high-quality oral practice. In reading exercises, AI intelligently analyzes texts—deconstructing complex sentence structures and highlighting key information points—to help students grasp main ideas and logical flow swiftly. The AI platform automatically distributes personalized review tasks and extension exercises for post-class reinforcement. For example, it recommends relevant supplementary reading articles or audiovisual materials based on classroom content, extending learning beyond the classroom walls.

2.2 Empowering reading and expression training

Traditional classroom models emphasize uniform scheduling and instruction, leaving students passive recipients unable to select content tailored to their individual needs. Integrating AI into college reading and expression instruction effectively addresses this "uniformity over individuality" imbalance, granting students personalized learning

opportunities ^[1]. AI systems can collect and analyze student data—including learning history, practice performance, knowledge gaps, and interest preferences—to build precise learner profiles. Based on these profiles, they deliver differentiated learning content and training tasks. For instance, intelligent systems dynamically adjust difficulty levels in English reading: providing supplementary annotations and definitions for struggling learners while offering challenging, higher-level materials for advanced students. The system can tailor practice environments and content to individual students' oral and written expression needs. Some students may speak fluently in class but become hesitant in real-world communication scenarios. AI can then simulate conversational settings, progressively offering tasks from easy to challenging to help students gradually develop communication skills ^[2]. Students gain sustained access to tailored practice opportunities when personalized learning pathways are effectively established. This not only fosters greater learning initiative but also enhances overall educational outcomes.

2.3 Promoting more objective teaching evaluation

Teaching evaluation serves as a "verification tool" and a "guidance tool," specifically verifying the level of teaching outcomes and providing a basis for better guiding teaching improvement directions. Traditional teaching evaluation is heavily subjective, such as evaluators relying on personal experience to assess what they observe and perceive. Introducing and applying artificial intelligence can significantly reduce subjective bias, making the evaluation process and results more objective. For instance, AI-powered standardized analytical models can be developed. Only by inputting evaluation content into these models can multidimensional, granular measurements be initiated. Once student work is submitted in writing assessments, the intelligent system rapidly checks spelling and basic grammar while conducting a deeper analysis of syntactic complexity, lexical diversity, topic relevance, structural organization, and logical coherence ^[3]. Thus, the resulting evaluations reveal foundational knowledge mastery and deeper-level performance outcomes. In oral expression assessments, inputting spoken content enables technologies like speech recognition and natural language processing to analyze fluency, pronunciation accuracy, and appropriateness of language use. Compared to human evaluations susceptible to auditory fatigue and subjective impressions, this approach delivers more consistent and impartial assessments.

Furthermore, AI-supported formative assessment can be effectively implemented. Intelligent systems can continuously record and analyze all practice data throughout a student's learning journey, thereby mapping dynamic curves of skill development. This facilitates fairer and more comprehensive evaluations of student progress.

3 Building application strategies for artificial intelligence in college English reading and expression instruction

3.1 Establishing a new english teaching model centered on artificial intelligence

To better apply artificial intelligence in college English reading and expression instruction, we can start by constructing teaching models that deeply integrate AI. This involves systematically restructuring teaching objectives, content, and methods based on AI, ultimately forming a new teaching paradigm characterized by "data-driven, human-machine collaboration, and precision instruction." This model leverages AI's strengths—such as massive data processing and intelligent analysis—to foster a "student-centered" teaching philosophy ^[4]. Under this new approach, instructors can strategically apply AI: intelligent systems diagnose and evaluate each student's learning profile to identify weaknesses in reading and expression, enabling the setting of scientifically grounded, targeted teaching objectives. Intelligent systems can shape differentiated instruction and personalized learning pathways in content restructuring. For instance, AI platforms can dynamically adjust content presentation methods and difficulty levels, assigning appropriate reading materials and expression tasks to students at varying proficiency levels to ensure effective learning. In reconstructing teaching methods, educators can leverage AI to introduce student-centered approaches like scenario-based and discussion-based teaching, placing students at the center of the learning process. Examples include organizing virtual international conferences where students interact with peers from other countries, prompting them to consider how to communicate accurately and effectively while respecting cultural norms; or hosting academic seminars that encourage students to explore the value and application of language from a scholarly perspective ^[5].

3.2 Designing AI-integrated English reading and expression courses

Traditional English instruction often treats reading and expression as separate disciplines, creating knowledge and skill acquisition disconnects that hinder comprehensive competency development. Applying artificial intelligence technology enables the design of new curricula that deeply integrate both components. For instance, intelligent systems can analyze

the root causes of barriers between reading and expression. They can then create integrated learning tasks centered around teacher-defined themes or projects, such as "reading to enhance writing, speaking to stimulate thinking, and comprehensive output." This approach allows students to improve reading and expression skills while simultaneously completing tasks. Throughout this process, teachers can leverage the AI system's robust content selection and organization capabilities to filter relevant, appropriately challenging, and diverse multimodal reading resources—such as academic papers, news reports, opinion pieces, and audiovisual materials—from vast corpora. The system can also provide scaffolding, like text analysis tools, enabling students to deconstruct the argumentative logic and linguistic features of AI-recommended articles after reading them ^[6]. AI-facilitated online discussions or debates can be organized, allowing the students to practice oral expression around reading materials while receiving immediate feedback. Such courses integrate reading and expression, moving beyond isolation to achieve mutual reinforcement. Expression can be interwoven throughout reading, while reading content can be applied during expression, fostering the synergistic development and simultaneous enhancement of both skills. This deep integration cultivates students' comprehensive language literacy and critical thinking abilities—enabling them to absorb information, synthesize ideas, and produce practical outputs—thus thoroughly preparing them for complex tasks in future academic and professional settings.

3.3 Establishing an AI-driven English learning effectiveness evaluation system

Leveraging artificial intelligence to establish a learning effectiveness evaluation system provides a foundation for refined teaching management and personalized guidance. When establishing this system, the goal should be to create a comprehensive, multidimensional, and developmental new evaluation system ^[7]. In practical application, teachers can use AI technology to track learning behaviors throughout the process, accurately gauge students' reading and language proficiency levels, and scientifically predict their developmental potential based on performance. Every learning phase will be monitored, including previewing, classroom participation, post-class exercises, and project creation. Continuous collection of process-based data, such as reading speed and concentration levels, oral practice frequency and fluency progression, and writing revision counts alongside quality improvement trajectories, will comprehensively reflect students' effort and growth. Teachers can also leverage this system for multidimensional assessment, enabling deeper analysis of student capabilities ^[8]. For instance, reading assessments evaluate not only comprehension accuracy but also analyze reading strategy usage, reasoning judgment abilities, and critical thinking levels. In expression assessments, it evaluates linguistic accuracy, content logic, lexical complexity, emotional expressiveness, and cultural appropriateness. With this system's support, teachers gain specific, detailed, and personalized learning diagnostic reports, enabling them to fully understand students' strengths and areas for improvement, followed by targeted guidance.

4 Considerations for applying artificial intelligence in college English reading and expression instruction

4.1 Maintaining teacher leadership and creativity in the instructional process

The introduction and application of AI technology should not come at the expense of diminishing the teacher's role. If tools and technology dominate, the teaching process loses vitality and creativity. Therefore, it is essential to consistently maintain the teacher's leadership and creativity to ensure the knowledge transmission process remains dynamic and warm, while also providing students with emotional care and guiding the proper formation of their values ^[9]. When utilizing AI technologies, teachers should retain instructional control. They should selectively and critically apply technologies based on specific teaching objectives and student characteristics, rather than passively relying solely on technological solutions. For instance, teachers must exercise professional judgment to review and refine AI-generated analyses and recommendations, ensuring they align with practical teaching needs and enhance instructional effectiveness.

4.2 Emphasizing complementarity between AI and traditional teaching methods

When applying AI technology, educators should explore their effective integration instead of entirely abandoning traditional teaching methods. Traditional approaches possess inherent strengths that can compensate for AI's limitations when combined. Educators must identify optimal integration points. For instance, conventional face-to-face group discussions, direct teacher instruction, and peer assessment offer irreplaceable advantages in fostering deep engagement and building learning communities. When employing these methods, teachers can leverage AI for dynamic observation and personalized evaluation, enabling them to identify individual student needs and adjust instructional strategies accordingly ^[10]. Blended online-offline approaches are also crucial. Students can use AI platforms for self-directed training

and reinforcement of foundational language skills. At the same time, classroom time allows teachers to organize higher-order thinking activities—such as debates, collaborative projects, and creative expression—built upon these basic competencies. Integrating AI and traditional teaching methods requires ongoing exploration and practice, and continuously developing new application pathways to support more effective complementary outcomes.

4.3 Establishing a continuous optimization mechanism for AI-powered teaching applications

Applying artificial intelligence in college English reading and expression instruction is not a one-time solution. It requires establishing a long-term mechanism for dynamic evaluation and continuous optimization to "drive" ongoing innovation in application methods, thereby supporting improved outcomes. Specifically, this involves: First, constructing a multidimensional evaluation system that monitors both technical metrics (e.g., system response speed, error rates) and pedagogical outcomes (e.g., improvements in student reading fluency and expression complexity), while regularly collecting subjective feedback from instructors and learners. Second, establishing a data-driven decision-making mechanism analyzes collected learning process data to identify instructional pain points and inform optimization strategies.

5 Conclusion

Applying artificial intelligence in college English reading and expression instruction injects vitality into transformative innovation. This paper proposes implementation strategies and considerations based on its specific functions, offering reference points for more effective utilization. However, AI technology adoption is not an overnight process; it requires ongoing observation, understanding, and evaluation of its practical impact to facilitate timely adjustments and strategy refinement. AI implementation in English reading and expression instruction should adhere to "human-machine collaboration with a human-centered approach." By enhancing the application literacy of both teachers and students, we can ensure the full realization of AI's potential, laying a solid foundation for building a new ecosystem of English teaching adapted to the intelligent era.

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