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Науч. рук.: Кобенко Ю.В., д.филол.н., профессор.

А.И. Сафьянников

Национальный исследовательский
Томский политехнический университет

**Use of Artificial Intelligence in Preparation
for Foreign Language Exam**

The article is devoted to the use of artificial intelligence in preparation for foreign language exams, in particular English. The article describes methods and tools for self-training and application of AI in education. Specific examples are given for certain sections of exams. The author analyzes the relevance and convenience of using AI in preparation.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence; Speechace; ChatGPT; foreign language exams; independent preparation for exams.

Currently, many people are engaged in preparation for exams in foreign languages, English in particular, in order to obtain a certificate that they are needed for exchange programs or employment. In addition to time necessary

to attain a required level of language skills (2 years on average), you need to master the exam format, which will take about half a year on top of your linguistic training. Most often, there are special courses [1, p. 269] for a particular exam or one-on-one teacher-led training. One way or another, the student has to work independently as well, even if they go to classes or studies with a personal tutor. In this case, websites for learning foreign languages and YouTube are of immense help.

This was the case before, but in recent years, artificial intelligence saw active development. One of its application area is education, where people are now successfully using machine intelligence. There are reasons they are popular at the moment: they are free, or at least more affordable than classes and they are convenient for students [2] to find the information they need and get feedback, which they cannot do so quickly and conveniently by simply going online and entering their request. Also, every day there are more and more trained AI models, which allows you to find the right tools for your tasks and adapt to the difficulties in learning foreign languages and preparing for exams. And nowadays exists a lot of services and tools to prepare for exams. Having analyzed several popular AI-powered tools, the author will highlight those, which will be successful to training your pronunciation and write skill to exam.

The first service I want to highlight is «Speechace». This is a service that allows you to train pronunciation independently, without the participation of another person. It would seem that a few years ago, this could only be a dream, because one of the main problems of learning English is pronunciation, which is practiced only with another person, preferably a native speaker, in order to receive feedback and hear correct speech. Now the interlocutor is replaced by an artificially trained model, which was one of the first to appear at «Speechace» [6].

This site uses its own model and, if desired, it can be integrated into your products and used for your tasks, because they have an open source code, which is very important for the development of this area.

The service has two main sites aimed at slightly different tasks and having different implementations. Namely, the ability to choose what you will train and in what format. In the first option, you have access to a set of topics for practicing pronunciation (see Fig. 1), improving your vocabulary and grammar level on the relevant topics. In it, a virtual interlocutor created using artificial intelligence interacts with you. He asks you questions and explains the tasks. This creates the feeling of a full-fledged conversation and increases efficiency and involvement in the process. My experience has shown that this format gives the greatest effect in improving your speech.
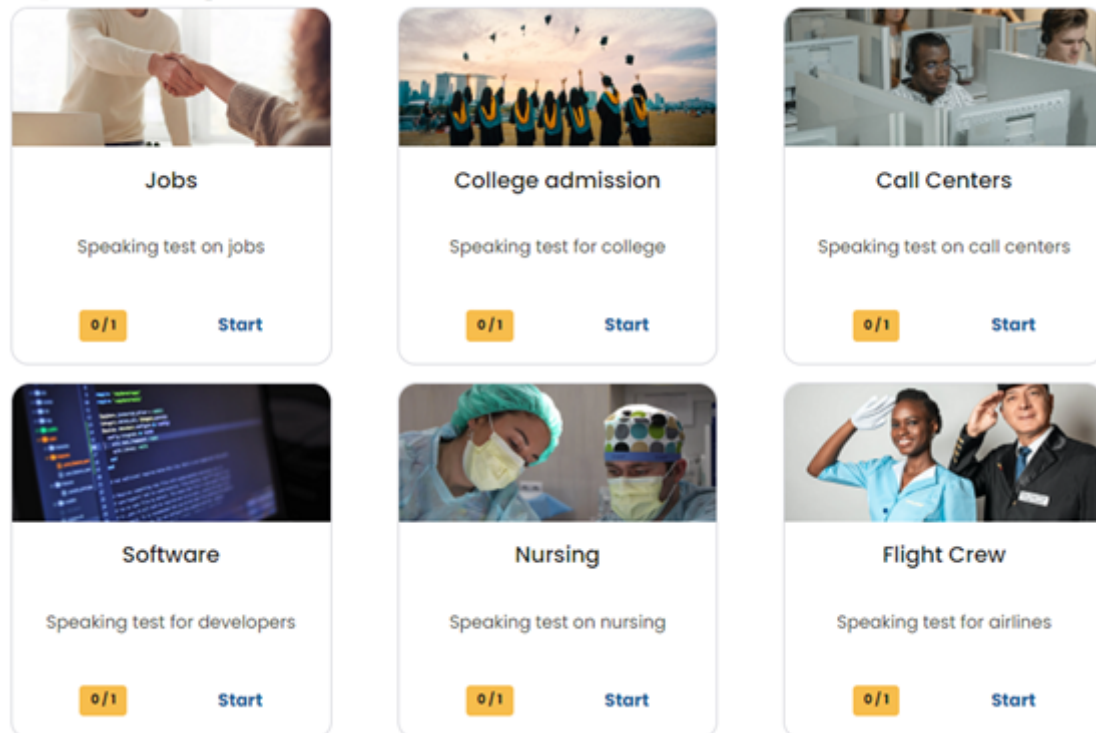
Speaking Assessments

Jobs

Speaking test on jobs

0/1   **Start**

College admission

Speaking test for college

0/1   **Start**

Call Centers

Speaking test on call centers

0/1   **Start**

Software

Speaking test for developers

0/1   **Start**

Nursing

Speaking test on nursing

0/1   **Start**

Flight Crew

Speaking test for airlines

0/1   **Start**

Fig. 1. List of topics

Summary of scores | **Speechace** | CEFR | IELTS | PTE | TOEFL | TOEIC

Speechace

5.8/9

? Scoring guide

Pronunciation	6/9
Fluency	6.2/9
Vocabulary	5.3/9
Grammar	5.7/9

Descriptive feedback

Overall (5.8)
Can generally be understood while speaking but can mispronounce frequently. Demonstrates reasonable fluency and coherence. Sometimes may hesitate while speaking due to inability to come up with appropriate vocabulary or grammar. Has a reasonably high vocabulary and frequently uses uncommon idiomatic structures. Generally uses good grammar while speaking but may make occasional mistakes.

Pronunciation (6)
Uses a range of pronunciation features with mixed control. Shows some effective use of features but this is not sustained. Can generally be understood throughout, though mispronunciation of individual words or sounds reduces clarity at times.

Fluency (6.2)
Capable of willing to speak at length, though may lose coherence at times due to occasional repetition, self-correction or hesitation. Uses a range of connectives and discourse markers but not always appropriately.

Vocabulary (5.3)
Manages to talk about familiar and unfamiliar topics but uses vocabulary with limited flexibility. Attempts to use paraphrase but with mixed success.
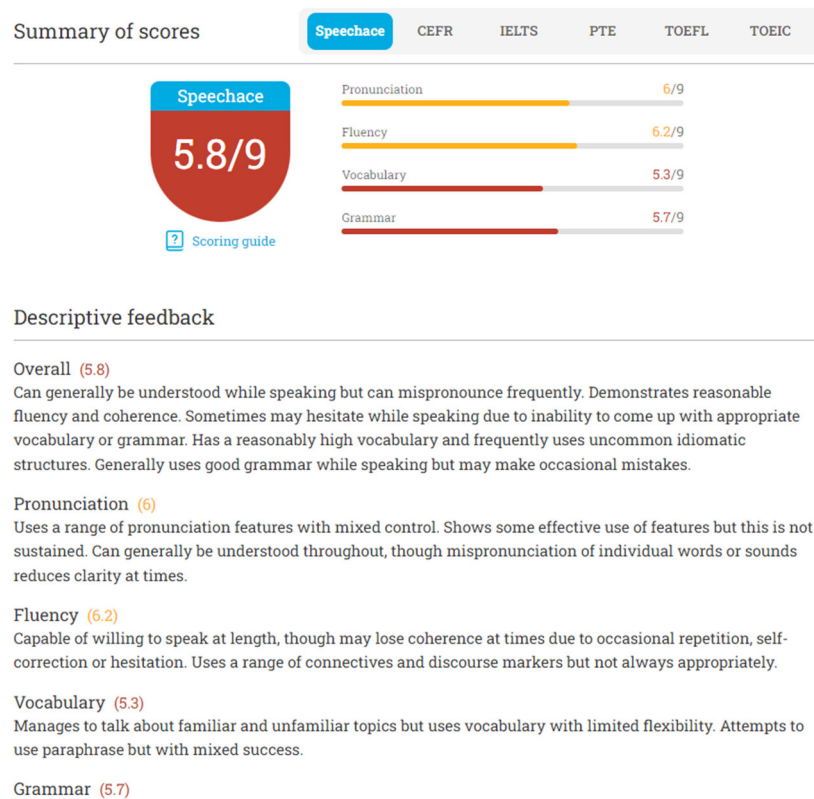
Grammar (5.7)

Fig. 2. Dialogue results

The dialogue with the virtual assistant is built in a question-answer format, that is, he asks you questions on a certain topic, and you must prepare your answer in the allotted time, then record your answer and send it to the site. During the preparation, grammar is trained and words on a specific topic are often remembered, and when the recording is in progress – pronunciation and memory. This allows you to take a comprehensive approach to preparing for oral exams and get as close to reality as possible. Because this service is aimed specifically at this section and was created based on exam formats such as IELTS.

At the end of the dialogue, you are shown the results (see Fig. 2) and scores in accordance with the classification of various exams, such as IELTS and TOEFL. You can look at your mistakes, identify weaknesses and listen to yourself. The first time, I was very surprised by my results and pronunciation, because when I speak, I may not notice many moments in my speech and not attach importance to them, but when I listened to myself and saw the assessment and highlighted errors, this allowed me to see them, analyze and correct them in the future accordingly. This approach ensures the maximum result during independent preparation, because you get the same feedback, only when viewing the results of the analysis of artificial intelligence and listening to yourself.

The second site of this service also contains sections on various topics, but with short phrases and individual words. In the process of passing the section, you pronounce the specified phrases and immediately see the result. Which I found very useful because you can listen to the «standard pronunciation» [5] and then listen to yourself again. This allows you to remember the pronunciation and accumulate words for the oral exam and everyday dialogues. This format is aimed only at improving pronunciation, which is one of the points of all oral exams.

The next AI that students are actively using now, including when preparing for English exams, is Chat GPT [3]. This model has already become so well-known for its effectiveness and accessibility that most likely everyone has already used it.

In the process of preparing for the exam essay, you need to hone your skills in the following areas: grammar, vocabulary, vocabulary, understanding the structure of the exam, and others. Chat GPT can help with all this. Firstly, it will suggest the correct structure for writing an essay for the exam and give examples, secondly, it can be used as a simulator and hone your skills on it. By presenting Chat GPT with a specific writing task, such as an essay Prompt from a past Cambridge English exam [4], you can receive a model response that demonstrates effective structure, language use, and coherence. The generated response can serve as a reference point for your own writing, allowing you to analyze and incorporate the strengths of the model into your own compositions. Moreover, Chat GPT can offer synonyms, suggest improvements, and provide alternative

sentence structures, helping you expand your vocabulary and improve your overall language proficiency.

Another way to use «chat» is to improve your vocabulary. In the process of communicating and preparing for the exam, together with «chat», you learn new words by using them in your essays and looking at ready-made texts. In addition, you can ask Chat GPT for synonyms and more interesting and complex constructions to improve your language level, because this is an important factor in the exam.

Chat GPT has the potential to revolutionize the way you prepare for the Cambridge English exams, particularly in the writing section. By leveraging its sophisticated language models and interactive conversational abilities, Chat GPT can provide valuable support, feedback, and inspiration for your writing practice. However, it is essential to keep in mind its limitations and exercise critical thinking when utilizing the generated responses. By combining the strengths of Chat GPT with traditional study methods, you can enhance your exam readiness, expand your vocabulary, and improve your overall English proficiency.

Not everything is so perfect. There is also a bad example of artificial intelligence being used in English test preparation tools. For example, «Quizizz», where you can create a quiz by writing your answer and the artificial intelligence will combine keywords to create a unique quiz. This is bad because the quiz does not help you prepare for the English exam and improve your English level, but there is another reason. AI Quizizz will do almost all your work for you, do all the analysis of the answers in the quiz and provide statistics on the answers, but this will not help identify your weaknesses in preparing for English exams.

In conclusion, there are powerful tools available for studying and assisting students; AI offers a variety of resources that students can utilize when preparing for exams on their own. On the other hand, we now need to integrate new technologies with traditional teaching and learning methods. These are just tools, and without a proper strategy and system in place for preparation, no one can pass their exams.

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Scientific supervisor: Aksenova N.V., PhD in Literature, docent.

И.В. Слесаренко, Ю.А. Зеремская

Национальный исследовательский
Томский политехнический университет

**Изучение эффективных методических приемов
запоминания лексических единиц английского языка
в техническом университете**

В работе обсуждаются итоги практико-исследовательского проекта, выполненного в области педагогики высшей школы в Томском политехническом университете. Проведены теоретические изыскания, разработана анкета и проведено анкетирование студентов. Обсуждаются результаты анкетирования, выявленные методические приемы работы с лексическими единицами английского языка.

Ключевые слова: лексические единицы; обучающиеся; английский язык; технический университет; практико-исследовательского проекта.

Запоминание лексических единиц иностранного языка (в нашем случае, английского) может предоставлять значительные трудности для обучающихся. Наша целевая аудитория – обучающиеся с родным русским, казахским и китайским языками, студенты, аспиранты Томского политехнического университета (ТПУ). Преподаватели систематизируют множество приемов ознакомления и запоминания лексических единиц для различных групп обучающихся, однако, индивидуальные стратегии научения также влияют на эффективность запоминания. Индивидуальные стратегии и стратегии обучения позволяют накапливать банк эффективных приемов запоминания лексики, соотносить рекомендуемые