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REDEFINING THE ROLE OF TEACHERS IN THE AI ERA

Artificial intelligence (AI) has revolutionized nearly every industry and is now conquering such a conservative sphere as education. Emerging AI technologies — Generative AI Data Science, Data mining, Deep Learning AI, Machine Learning AI, Natural Language Processing, Neural Nets — present unprecedented opportunities to personalize learning and enhance educational experiences. However, these advancements require critical re-evaluation of the traditional roles of educators, particularly university professors, who are responsible for equipping the next generation with the skills necessary to navigate in the new digital world.

It is essential to thoughtfully consider not only what we teach but also how we teach. Both educators and learners must develop new skills and competencies to thrive in the digital age. The influence of AI technologies in the education market is growing exponentially. According to a forecast from the International Data Corporation (IDC), European spending on AI is expected to reach $133 billion by 2028, with a remarkable growth rate of 30.3% annually from 2024 to 2028 [1].

“GenAI (generative AI) has simultaneously captured the attention, imagination, and grave concern of higher education technology and institutional leaders across the world. While it is still very early days for this emerging and rapidly evolving technology, it is critical for higher education institutions to embrace GenAI to truly understand its implications and adapt with it” said Matthew Leger, senior research manager for IDC's Worldwide Education Digital Strategies research program [2].

One of the most notable impacts of AI in education is its ability to personalize learning experiences for learners. AI-powered adaptive learning systems, such as Duolingo, Rosetta Stone, Babbel, ELSA Speak allow students to benefit from content based on their individual strengths, weaknesses, and learning styles. This personalization helps to accommodate both leaders and underperformers by the impartial and

unbiased assessment based on their actual performance. Additionally, these systems can provide instant feedback, which gives students opportunity to timely correct mistakes and then revisit overlooked concepts. Online AI platforms like QuillBot, Grammarly, Ginger Grammar Checker, and ProWritingAid can offer a helping hand to educators by providing in-depth analysis of texts and grading assignments, tests, and essays with remarkable accuracy. Virtual assistants powered by AI, such as ChatGPT4, Amazon Alexa, Google Assistant, Microsoft Cortana, Apple Siri, support both educators and students by explaining complex concepts and providing comprehensive answers to questions. Neural networks Kandinsky 3.0, Midjourney, Gamma.app can help you generate diverse content, while interactive learning platforms such as Semantris, Mondly, FluentU, Lingvist can turn learning into an engaging gaming experience thereby enhancing understanding of the material and making learning more enjoyable. With AI technology, everybody can access quality education.

AI technologies change the paradigm of traditional teaching process. With a long-established approach, the teacher's role has always been central to almost all activities and processes in the classroom. The educator has been responsible for planning lessons and delivering instruction, managing the classroom and assessing students' progress providing meaningful feedback in order to facilitate and promote successful learning. "The long-term popularity of this teaching mode is due to its absolute advantages in imparting knowledge: knowledge can be transferred on a large scale and efficiently; every student can get the maximized benefit; it is easy for teachers to make unified evaluation" [3].

The emergence of the vast variety of AI-driven adaptive learning systems introduce a considerable shift in a teacher's core traditional responsibilities and roles. From an authoritative central figure imparting knowledge, a digitized teacher transfers into a guide assisting in active learning process, diversifying the only source of information- the textbook- into globally approved sources of reliable up-to-date information. Educator becomes a guide in discussions fostering group work and collaboration, offering advice, support, and encouragement walking away from standardized instruction to providing targeted support where it is most needed.

Learning platforms with AI can significantly change and upgrade educational processes by assisting and often replacing the teacher in the traditionally considered as human spheres. AI can handle:

- automating tasks and attendance tracking;
- scheduling meetings and managing workflows;
- assisting in organizing resources, ideas, and content visually;
- helping educators adapt and refine learning materials based on data insights;
- offering real-time collaboration tools and transcription services during meetings;
- providing access to intelligent chatbots for frequently asked questions;
- aiding teachers in assessing student understanding and progress;
- tailoring personalized learning paths based on individual progress, behavior, and performance;

• delivering instant analytics on assessments of performance and engagement, and offering real-time feedback and support.

This underscores the need for educators to adapt their new role, which is evolving from a primary source of information to a facilitator of learning whose digitized teaching responsibilities and roles now include:

1. designing engaging and relevant curricula that leverage the strengths of AI while addressing its limitations;
2. curating and personalizing learning experiences, tailoring content and activities to meet the diverse needs of their students;
3. promoting collaborative learning environments and facilitating group work, encouraging peer-to-peer learning, and fostering effective communication skills;
4. emphasizing the importance of critical thinking, problem-solving, and creative thinking skills;
5. collaborating with administrators and AI developers to ensure that technology is used effectively and ethically in the classroom;
6. embracing the need for lifelong learning which needs to be continuously updated to stay abreast of the latest developments in AI and educational technology.

In the AI era, the relationship between teachers and machines is not one of competition but rather collaboration. This shift requires a mindset change among educators, who must view AI as a partner rather than a threat.

Despite the many advantages AI brings to education, there are also concerns about its implementation. A significant barrier to integrating AI-based systems is the need for substantial restructuring of internal processes and infrastructure within universities, alongside high financial investments required for product development, implementation, and staff training. It is essential to ensure the protection of students' personal data and to consider the integration of new services with existing information systems in universities, which can pose a complex technical challenge. Many educators are hesitant to adopt artificial intelligence, fearing that these technologies might replace their roles as specialists in the future. Additionally, they also often lack the necessary skills for effective navigation in areas such as Data Science, Data Analysis, and AI application. It is vital to exercise caution and critically evaluate the content generated by AI, as it may provide inaccurate answers to queries. AI can analyze vast amounts of student data to identify patterns and trends, helping teachers make informed decisions about curriculum adjustments and teaching strategies. However, interpreting these insights and translating them into actionable plans remains the domain of human expertise. Teachers bring context, cultural sensitivity, and empathy to the table, elements that AI cannot replicate. By fostering curiosity and a love for lifelong learning, teachers can help students stay relevant and competitive in a world where AI is transforming industries at an unprecedented rate.

Definitely, personal initiatives are decisively important in the context of redefining teacher’s role in the AI era. We must embrace new technologies, adapt pedagogy, and prepare students for a future shaped by AI. At the same time, we must maintain our unique human qualities, such as empathy, creativity, and cultural sensitivity. By maintaining balance between human and machine contributions, we will be able to create a learning environment that maximizes the potential of both.

The integration of AI into education presents both exciting opportunities and significant challenges. By embracing a proactive and adaptable approach, educators can leverage AI to enhance learning experiences and empower students to thrive in the 21st century. The role of the teacher is evolving, shifting from a primary source of information to a facilitator of learning, a guide, and a mentor. By developing the necessary skills and embracing a growth mindset, teachers can play a pivotal role in shaping the future of education in the AI era.

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ОРГАНИЗАЦИОННО-МЕТОДИЧЕСКИЕ ФОРМЫ ПРОЦЕССА ОБУЧЕНИЯ ИНОСТРАННЫМ ЯЗЫКАМ В ВЫСШЕЙ ШКОЛЕ И ИХ СОДЕРЖАТЕЛЬНЫЕ АСПЕКТЫ

Изучение иностранных языков в Республике Беларусь считается важным фактором научно-технического, экономического, социально-культурного развития. Цель обучения иностранным языкам – научить использовать их для обмена информацией, развития взаимодействия между культурами, коммуникации в разных областях жизни, в том числе и в профессиональной деятельности. Стране нужны специалисты, которые умеют эффективно взаимодействовать и адекватно решать профессиональные задачи, используя такой инструмент, как