Enhancing Speaking Skills with AI: A Comprehensive Overview

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1. Introduction:

Being able to communicate effectively in various languages is becoming more and more crucial in the globalized world of today. In particular, speaking abilities are essential for both professional and personal success. The development of artificial intelligence (AI) has brought about cutting-edge methods and resources that greatly improve speaking and language acquisition. This study examines the several AI tools that support the development of speaking abilities, as well as their uses and advantages.

2. AI Technologies for Enhancing Speaking Skills:

a. Analysis and Recognition of Speech

AI-driven voice analysis and recognition technologies have completely changed how people practice and learn to speak. Among these technologies are:

- Speech Recognition (Automated): Spoken language is converted into written text using ASR systems, such as Apple's Siri and Google Speech-to-Text. This helps students recognize and fix mistakes by giving them a visual depiction of their speech. According to studies, ASR can greatly increase speaking fluency and accuracy (Strik et al., 2019).

- Analysis of Pronunciation: AI is used by programs like Rosetta Stone and ELSA Speak to deliver immediate pronunciation feedback. These tools assist learners in making accurate corrections by analyzing phonetic elements and intonation patterns. Studies reveal that receiving prompt feedback on one's pronunciation can result in significant progress (Neri et al., 2008).

- Evaluation of Speech Fluency: By examining speech patterns, hesitations, repetitions, and pacing problems, AI can assess fluency. This thorough feedback aids students in producing speech that flows more naturally.

b. Natural Language Processing (NLP):

NLP is a branch of artificial intelligence that specializes in computer-human language interaction. Regarding speaking abilities, NLP technologies comprise:

- Conversational AI: Learners are engaged in interactive dialogues via chatbots and virtual assistants, such as those found in Duolingo and Babbel. According to Jia et al. (2020), these systems offer contextual feedback that emulates real-life interactions, assisting students in practicing speaking in a natural situation.

- Dialogue Systems: Realistic speaking scenarios are generated by AI-powered dialogue systems, giving students practice speaking in a variety of settings. By simulating talks with native speakers, these systems can offer students an immersive educational experience.

c. Digital Intelligence:

Customizing language learning experiences is made possible in large part by machine learning algorithms. Important uses consist of:

- Personalized Learning Paths: AI systems examine unique learning styles and modify tasks to match the speed and skill level of the learner. By focusing on particular areas for improvement, this enables more effective skill development (Chen et al., 2020).

- Recognition of Error Patterns: Machine learning models are able to recognize frequent mistakes made by students and offer focused practice tasks to solve these particular problems. Speaking abilities are improved and learning is accelerated with this individualized method.

3. Applications of AI in Improving Speaking Skills:

a. Apps for Language Learning:

One of the most common uses of AI to enhance speaking abilities is through language learning applications. Prominent instances consist of:
• Duolingo: Makes use of AI to tailor courses and offer speaking exercises based on the learner's advancement. With the app's speech recognition capability, users may practice pronouncing words correctly and get immediate feedback (von Ahn, 2013).
• Babbel: Provides speech recognition-enabled interactive courses that let users practice pronouncing words correctly and gain confidence when speaking. Babbel's AI-powered method customizes lessons based on each student's learning preferences and advancement.

b. Virtual Language Tutors:

Virtual language tutors leverage AI to provide personalized and interactive language learning experiences:
• Mango Languages: Uses AI-driven interactive lessons that include speaking exercises and pronunciation feedback. The app adapts to the learner's pace and provides targeted practice to improve speaking skills.
• Lingoda: Provides live classes with human instructors, supplemented by AI tools that offer additional speaking practice and feedback. This combination of human and AI-driven instruction creates a comprehensive learning environment.

c. Speech Therapy:

AI is being utilized more and more in speech therapy to help people with speech impairments:
• Apps for Speech Therapy: AI is used by apps like Speech Blubs to provide entertaining and interactive workouts for kids with speech impairments. These apps give kids immediate feedback on their speech, which helps them become more fluent and pronounce words correctly (Pindrik et al., 2019).

4. Presentation and Public Speaking Skills:

Additionally gaining popularity are AI aids for public speaking and presentation skills:
• Online Speech Coach: AI is being used by programs like Presentr and Orai to help people become better public speakers. These applications evaluate speech for engagement, timing, and clarity and then offer individualized feedback and speaking practice to improve a speaker's skills.

5. AI's Advantages for Developing Speaking Capabilities:

There are numerous significant advantages to using AI to improve speaking abilities and language acquisition.
• Personalized Learning: AI adapts exercises and courses to each learner's unique requirements, resulting in more effective and efficient skill development.
• Immediate Feedback: Learners can improve their pronunciation, fluency, and other speech-related skills right away thanks to AI's real-time feedback.
• Increased Engagement: Learners are encouraged to practice more regularly by using interactive AI tools and applications, which make learning more pleasurable and engaging. And Orai to help people become better public speakers. These applications evaluate speech for engagement, timing, and clarity and then offer individualized feedback and speaking practice to improve a speaker's skills.
• Accessibility: AI-powered language learning technologies make language acquisition more inclusive by being available to a wider spectrum of users, including those who have speech impairments.
• Scalability: AI can reach many learners at once, expanding access to high-quality language instruction for a larger global population.

6. Challenges and Considerations:

While AI has many benefits for enhancing speech abilities, there are drawbacks and things to bear in mind as well:
• Risk and Prejudice: When it comes to non-native accents or dialects, AI systems are prone to biases and erroneous feedback. It is crucial to guarantee the fairness and accuracy of AI systems.
• Security and Privacy: Data collection on individuals is a common practice in the use of AI to language learning. It is essential to guarantee the security and privacy of student data.

7. Conclusion:

Artificial Intelligence has revolutionized the field of language acquisition by offering cutting-edge methods and resources to improve speech abilities. Artificial intelligence (AI) has a wide range of applications that improve learning efficiency, accessibility, and engagement. These include speech recognition, natural language processing, tailored learning pathways, and virtual language tutors. Even while there are still obstacles to overcome, AI has clearly improved speaking abilities, opening the door to a world where communication and connectivity are more prevalent.

REFERENCES: