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## **DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE PROMPTS FOR AI IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING**

The integration of artificial intelligence (AI) in language learning has revolutionized the way students acquire and practice English. AI-powered tools provide instant feedback, personalized learning experiences, and interactive opportunities that were previously unavailable. From chat-based tutors to grammar correction programs, these technologies offer valuable support to learners at all proficiency levels.

A key factor in maximizing the benefits of AI lies in the way users formulate their prompts. The effectiveness of AI responses depends heavily on the clarity, specificity, and structure of the questions or instructions given. Well-crafted prompts can lead to meaningful interactions, enhanced comprehension, and improved

language skills, while vague or poorly structured prompts may result in irrelevant or unhelpful responses.

This paper explores strategies for designing effective prompts that optimize AI's potential in English language learning. It examines best practices for prompt formulation, provides practical examples, and highlights the impact of well-structured interactions on learners' progress. By understanding how to communicate effectively with AI, both students and educators can harness its full potential as a powerful language-learning tool.

AI-powered tools have become a vital part of modern language education, offering innovative ways to enhance learning. These technologies, including platforms like ChatGPT, Duolingo, and Grammarly, use advanced algorithms, machine learning, and natural language processing (NLP) to simulate human interactions, providing personalized and adaptive learning experiences.

AI tools work by analyzing vast amounts of data, recognizing patterns, and using NLP to understand input and generate relevant responses. For instance, ChatGPT engages learners in conversations, Duolingo adjusts difficulty based on performance, and Grammarly

offers instant grammar and style corrections. These AI systems allow learners to receive real-time feedback, customize lessons according to their level, and practice without the need for a teacher's presence.

The main benefits of AI in language learning include personalized lessons, immediate feedback, and the ability to practice anytime. These tools also promote interactive engagement, especially for developing speaking and writing skills, by simulating real-life scenarios where learners can make mistakes without fear of judgment. However, despite its advantages, AI has limitations. It may struggle with complex or unclear prompts and lacks the emotional intelligence or cultural context that a human instructor can provide. Additionally, over-reliance on AI could hinder learners from fully engaging in essential real-world interactions.

When it comes to using AI for language learning, how you phrase your prompts can make all the difference. Well-designed prompts can lead to better, more helpful responses from AI, while vague or unclear prompts might cause confusion or irrelevant answers. Here are some key principles to keep in mind when crafting prompts that will get the best results.

## **Clarity and Specificity**

The clearer and more specific your prompt is, the more likely you are to get a useful response. When asking AI for help, it's important to be direct and precise about what you want. Instead of asking, "Can you correct this?" try something like, "Can you correct the following sentence and explain why it's wrong?" The more details you provide, the better AI can understand your request and offer an accurate response.

## **Contextualization**

Providing context can help AI understand the situation or the topic you're working on. If you're asking AI for feedback on an essay, give some background about the purpose of the text, the level of formality, or specific areas you'd like feedback on. For example, instead of just saying, "Check my writing," say, "Check my essay for grammar and coherence, focusing on transitions between paragraphs." This helps AI tailor its response to your needs.

## **Level-Appropriate Prompts**

It's important to adjust the difficulty of your prompts according to your language level. If you're a beginner, asking AI to translate

complex academic articles might be overwhelming and unhelpful. However, for an intermediate learner, that could be a great way to practice. Make sure the prompts are suited to your current proficiency and gradually increase the complexity as you improve.

### **Encouraging Interaction**

AI can be a great conversation partner, but only if you encourage back-and-forth exchanges. Prompts that invite further discussion or responses can keep the learning experience engaging. For example, instead of just asking AI to define a word, you could ask, “Can you use this word in a sentence and explain its meaning in simple terms?” This creates a more interactive experience that can deepen your understanding of the language.

By keeping these principles in mind, you can design prompts that help you get the most out of your AI interactions. When done right, prompts can guide AI to offer targeted, useful feedback that helps learners build language skills more effectively.

Now that we’ve discussed how to design effective prompts, let’s look at some practical examples. These prompts can help learners practice different aspects of the English language, from grammar to writing, speaking, and even critical thinking. By using AI in the right way, learners can engage in meaningful exercises that improve their skills quickly.

## **Grammar Practice**

One of the most common ways to use AI for language learning is by working on grammar. A good prompt could be: *"Can you correct the following sentence and explain the rule behind it? 'She don't like playing tennis.'"*

This kind of prompt helps the AI not only correct the error but also provide an explanation of the grammar rule, reinforcing the learning process.

## **Vocabulary Expansion**

To build vocabulary, you can ask AI to offer synonyms, definitions, or examples. A useful prompt might look like: *"Give me five synonyms for the word 'happy' and use each in a sentence."*

This prompt encourages both learning new words and understanding how they're used in different contexts, expanding vocabulary and improving fluency.

## **Speaking & Pronunciation**

AI can also help with speaking skills by providing interactive exercises. A good example of a speaking prompt could be: *"Can you act as an English teacher and help me improve my pronunciation of the word 'through'?"*

This type of prompt allows AI to focus on a specific pronunciation issue and offer tips for improvement, acting like a language partner who provides personalized feedback.

### **Writing Skills**

Writing is another area where AI can provide valuable support. If you need help with structure, coherence, or style, try a prompt like: *“Please help me improve this paragraph by correcting any grammatical mistakes and suggesting better transitions between sentences.”*

This prompt guides the AI to give detailed feedback on your writing, helping you improve both the technical and stylistic aspects of your English.

Incorporating AI into English language learning offers countless benefits, from personalized feedback to interactive practice. By crafting clear, specific, and context-rich prompts, learners can maximize the effectiveness of AI tools and accelerate their language acquisition.