





Sachsen – Tschechien | Česko – Sasko



Project background | Al and language learning



- The use of AI technology in language education has the potential to personalise teaching, boost the effectiveness of learning and encourage independent study.
- Chatbots, in particular, have great potential for developing oral skills by reducing anxiety associated with speaking and encouraging interaction, thereby contributing to confidence and fluency (DU & Daniel, 2024).

☐ Challenges

- The use of Al-supported technologies will shape the future working lives of students. Machine translators will largely take over the creation of purely functional texts.
- One particular challenge will be to rethink educational practices and integrate Al-supported chatbots into teaching and learning scenarios (Klímová et al., 2024).
- Lastly, these technologies must be incorporated into competence frameworks and curricula (Klar & Schleiss, 2024).











Project | Key points

Target groups:

- Learners of Czech and German at Czech and Saxon universities
- Their language teachers at universities and secondary schools
- **Timeline:** Sept 2024 Aug 2026
- ☐ **Partners:** TU Dresden, University of J. E. Purkyně (Ústí nad Labem), Technical University of Liberec
- **5 Funding:** Interreg Česko Sasko













Project | Objectives



Strategies

learn how to use AI for their own language learning and writing processes

Competences

learn how to interpret Algenerated content in terms of addressee and situation

Opportunities

collaborate with their peers in real-world scenarios to use and train language



Teachers and institutions

- know how to enable their students to use Al-supported text generators competently
- have suitable materials and prompt collections for language teaching purposes
- find ways how to bridge formal curriculum requirements with realworld cooperation experiences





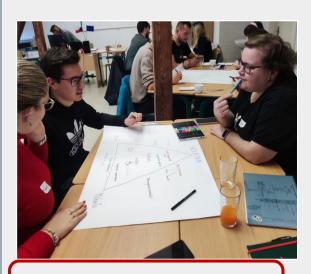






Project | Activities

For students

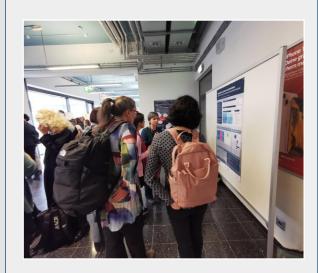


- Formal training: tandem courses
- **Informal training**: language cafés

For language teachers and research fellows



- Workshops: Using Al effectively
- Developing prompts and tasks



- **Research**: impact of Al use on teaching practises and learning outcomes
- Academic papers











Tandem Course | Set-up

A2 and B1
course in
Czech at TUD

2 on-site
meetings
3 online
meetings
at TUL and UJEP

Duration: Six weeks

Task:

- Create and present your own foreign language project.
- Check the progress and the product with your tandem partner.
- Use AI to prepare the cooperation, the meetings and the product.
- Reflect the usage in a language learning diary.







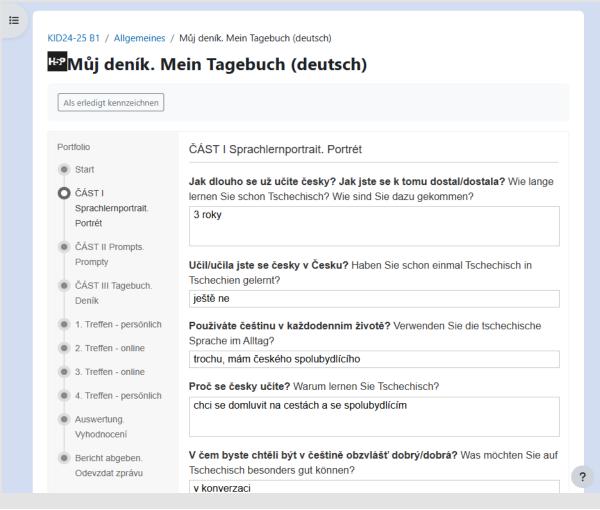






Tandem Course | Integration of assessment

In the •☑□Complete self-study tasks on Moodle course of the project •☑□Use Al-based chatbots to prepare for the meetings and the individual project •☑□Arrange meetings with tandem partners and take part in individual sessions For formative assessment • ✓ Post an introductory video ◆ Document the prompts used ◆ Design the individual writing project • Present the project













Tandem Course | Challenges

For students ...

- Scheduling & commitment: fear of extra workloads
- Unclear expectations regarding the writing project
- Final presentation

For teachers ...

- **Scheduling**: different academic calendars
- fit project's workload into regular courses
- keeping students motivated to continue writing their diaries beyond the six-week project phase
- uncertainty regarding the implementation of the project

Not reported ©

- Communication breakdowns due to differing CEFR levels within pairs
- Technology issues: all participants were able to use an AI tool or translator











Research study | Diaries

Q How do students perceive and make use of Al-based technologies in practice?

Q How does their willingness to communicate and their communication anxiety change over the course of the project?

Do you think AI can help you learn foreign languages?

"Absolutely, I think if you use AI correctly, it can definitely be a help, for example in creating exercises for yourself or summarizing grammar. But you should also learn not to rely on it alone."

What did you talk about?
How did you feel after the meeting?
Did you feel like going to the meeting?

"We talked about what we have in common and corrected each other when we felt unsure. I felt good after the meeting because I was convinced that I could really be understood in Czech. I was really looking forward to the meeting."

Research study | How do students use Al-based technology

■ Learning partner & competent language user ■ Tutor & learning assistant ■ Writing assistant & advisor ■ Translator Tutor & learning assistant Learning partner & competent Writing assistant & language user advisor gives creates feedback supports project exercises, and worksheets and development corrects helps with explains flashcards mistakes phrasing, finds grammar & gives alternative provides language compiles vocabulary learning formulations, overviews supports with reading tips / phrases simplifies **Translator** helps with checks and the provides usage revises the linguistic translat translates examples and text acts as a conversation es unspecified use as design of individual explains (long) partner the project translator helps with structuring... words language use texts

Roles of Al-based chatbots (information extracted from students' diaries, n = 46)

Benefits

- Al-supported and task-based cooperation provide a motivating framework
- Students are encouraged to overcome reluctance to engage in foreignlanguage communication
- ▶ Collaboration with real partners creates valuable language experiences
- Authentic tasks help link classroom learning with real-world communication











Project | Next steps and outlook

Further development of interactive self-study modules

Pilot implementation in four courses in the winter semester

Revision of prompts / provision of GPTs

Curricular integration of tandem courses











Project | Outcomes & sustainability

Milestones

- Interactive learning modules on using Al for language learning
- Best practices and guidelines for language teachers
- Database of approved prompts
- ❖ Academic papers and final project conference



7 Further adaptation

Self-study module opened for collaborative further development (CC license)

Creation of GPTs for training specific skills

Tailor the portfolio / diary to different language course requirements











Thank you! I'll be happy to discuss your ideas and questions.











Literature

DU, J., & Daniel, B. (2024). A systematic review of Al-powered chatbots in EFL speaking practice: Transforming language education. *Computers and Education: Artificial Intelligence, 6*, 100230. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.caeai.2024.100230

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Klímová, B., Pikhart, M., & Al-Obaydi, L. (2024). Exploring the potential of ChatGPT for foreign language education at the university level. *Frontiers in Psychology*, *15*, 1269319. https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2024.1269319









