Artificial intelligence as a text corrector for language learners

Tekoäly kielenoppijan tekstien korjaajana

Tehisintellekt kui keeleõppija tekstide parandaja

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(Poster presentation)

In recent years, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a teacher's tool has become the subject of research, and it has been examined, for example, as an Automated Writing Evaluation (AWE) tool for assessing foreign language students' texts (Shin & Lee 2024; Bucol & Sangkawong 2024) or as a writing assistant (Dong 2024; Innaci & Jona 2024).

This presentation will explore the use of AI as a tool to help adult language learners revise their texts. The focus is on how AI corrects learners' texts as opposed to how a teacher would correct them. We study the writings of Finnish students of Estonian and Estonian students of Finnish, assessed at the A2–B1 language proficiency level, which were first written without assistance, or with the help of a traditional dictionary, and then submitted for correction by an AI program (ChatGPT-4). The data are compared with the corrections made by a teacher and classified according to the error categories used in the ICLFI corpus (Jantunen, Brunni & Oulun yliopisto, suomen kielen oppiaine 2013; Brunni, Jantunen & Skantsi 2020). The study reveals the types of errors in learner language that are corrected (or not corrected) by the AI. The presentation will further discuss and provide new insights into the potential of AI in foreign language teaching.

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