REVIEW OF THE BEST AI TOOLS FOR TEACHERS THAT HELP OPTIMIZE THE LEARNING PROCESS

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ABSTRACT

In today's educational landscape, teachers are often overwhelmed by extensive workloads that in addition to direct instructional duties, also include numerous behind-the-scenes tasks. Integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) in education offers solutions to reduce the pressure, enabling teachers to focus more on meaningful student interactions and personalized learning. This paper comprehensively reviews four prominent AI tools designed to optimize the learning process: iSpring Page, Canva Magic Write, Magic School, and PowerPoint Speaker Coach. Each tool was assessed based on user feedback from teachers and educators, as well as practical testing in simulated classroom environments. Criteria for evaluation included user-friendliness, interactivity, customization, interaction with existing systems, support and training, effectiveness in achieving learning outcomes, and assessment capabilities. The outcome highlights that Magic School stands out due to its user-friendly dashboard, extensive customization platforms, and comprehensive support resources. While Magic School excels in these areas, the other tools provide benefits as well. iSpring Page's simplicity for content creation and PowerPoint Speaker Coach's real-time feedback on presentation skills also offer valuable benefits allowing teachers to choose the tool that best fits their special teaching needs.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence in Education, Personalized Learning, Interactive Learning, Digital Teaching Resources, AI-powered learning.

INTRODUCTION

In the field of education today, teachers are faced with high workloads and work demands. The essence of teaching lies in the interaction between students and teachers, encouraging a development environment. However, the additional burden of behind-the-scenes tasks, such as adapting educational materials, assessment, and communicating with parents, contributes significantly to teacher stress. Recognizing these challenges, the development of AI-based tools offers a promising solution to reduce these pressures. These tools are designed to simplify and automate many routine tasks, saving teachers time and enabling them to focus more on meaningful student interactions and individualized learning, which are essential to effective teaching and learning processes. This paper aims to review and evaluate some of the best AI tools available to teachers, focusing on their ability to optimize the learning process. The review covers a variety of AI tools, including iSpring Page, Canva Magic Write, Magic School, and PowerPoint Speaker Coach. Each of these tools offers unique features designed to address different aspects of the teaching process, from lesson planning and content creation to student engagement and performance assessment.

AI tools play an important role in personalized learning by creating educational content for the individual needs of each student. This helps teachers cater to different learning styles, making education more inclusive and effective. The immediate feedback and analysis provided by AI tools help teachers quickly identify areas where students are struggling and adapt their teaching strategies accordingly (MagicSchool).

This paper aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the best AI tools for teachers, starting with an introduction to the importance of AI in education, followed by criteria for selecting AI tools for teachers, detailed review and evaluations of selected AI tools, a comparative analysis and finally a conclusion highlighting the most valuable tool for teachers. Through this structured approach, the work aims to provide educators with the knowledge needed to effectively use AI tools, enhancing the teaching and learning experience in educational institutions.

1. Review of AI Tools

Numerous AI tools and platforms are available to educators to enhance and optimize the learning process. Among these, notable examples include iSpring Page, Canva Magic Write, Magic School, PowerPoint Speaker Coach, Khan Academy, Quizlet, Edpuzzle, Grammarly, Classcraft, Turnitin, Otter.ai, Kami, Nearpod, and Socratic by Google. This papes is focused on four of the most widely recognised tools: iSpring Page, Canva Magic Write, Magic School, and PowerPoint Speaker Coach.

1.1. iSpring Page

Creating eLearning content can often lead to staring at a blank page, unsure of how to get started. This is where iSpring's AI tool comes into play. iSpring is designed to create single-page or multi-page online learning content. The name reflects its focus on building responsive, web-based eLearning modules that can be hosted on pages. AI mode enables writing a text or improving it, lesson plans can be created just by specifying the concept and it will generate thoughtful content. iSpring allows the creation of self-assessment quizzes or formal assessments, adding an interactive element to the course.

The platform's design includes built-in navigation, headings to organise content, and interactive elements like flash cards. iSpring is a powerful but underdeveloped eLearning creator, enabling the development of high-quality courses without having to choose between different formats (iSpring).

Key features of iSpring Page are a User-Friendly Interface, Responsive Design, Multimedia Support, Interactive Elements, Built-In Templates, Quiz Generator, Progress Tracking, Cloud-Based Storage, SCORM/AICC/xAPI Compliance.

1.2. Canva Magic Write

Canva Magic Write helps create first drafts quickly, allowing teachers to focus on creativity rather than writing. Although it works best in English, it also supports languages like Indonesian, French, Portuguese and Spanish. This tool is a great copywriting assistant, increasing creativity and efficiency within Canva Docs.

Key features of Canva Magic Write are a user-friendly interface, AI-powered text generation, multi-language support, integration with Canva Docs, a wide range of text options, and efficiency enhancement (Canva).

1.3. Magic School

Magic School is another AI assistant which can be used for teaching purposes, it has over 50 tools that can help teachers do different tasks and can help create lesson plans, differentiate, communicate with families, write an IEP (Individual Education Program) adapted to individual student needs (MagicSchool).

One of the most popular tools is the rubric generator, which is a tool designed to help teachers quickly create detailed and customized rubrics in table format for assessing student work. Another useful tool is The Multiple-Choice Assessment tool designed to help teachers create, customise, and administrate multiple-choice quizzes and tests efficiently. The key feature of Magic School is the Raina Educational Chatbot. Magic School has the opportunity to export the generated text from all the tools within the Magic School platform to Google Docs, Google Forms, Microsoft Forms, Microsoft Word or print. Within the Magic School, there is a platform called Magic Student, which is designed for the students' side with limited access to the tools launched by their teachers. It is designed to help students use AI responsibly with engaging and educational tools.

Within the Magic School, teachers can create a virtual space to manage various classroom activities, interactions, and assessments. It's a digital environment, so-called 'room', that enables structured learning and communication between teachers and students. Teachers can control how students use the tools and can provide better guidance and support to individual learning needs, by writing feedback to students.

Key features of Magic School are a user-friendly interface, lesson planning tools, differentiated instruction, communication with families, choice assessments, AI chatbot (Raina), time-saving tools, customisation options, Google forms integration, resource generation, interactive dashboard, writing feedback tool, safe AI interactions, creativity and critical thinking and IEP generator.

1.4. PowerPoint Speaker Coach

Presenter Coach in PowerPoint is a tool for improving presentation skills. PowerPoint Speaker Coach is an AI-powered feature in Microsoft PowerPoint that helps users improve their presentation skills by providing real-time feedback and post-session analysis (Microsoft. 2019).

Key features of PowerPoint Speaker Coach: Real-Time Feedback, Rehearsal Mode, Speech Pacing, Filler Word Detection, Inclusive Language Suggestions, Detailed Report, Pronunciation Feedback, Integration with PowerPoint for Web, Rehearsal Summary, and Accessibility Features.

2. Criteria for Selecting AI Tools for Teachers

When selecting AI tools for teaching, it is crucial to consider various criteria to ensure that the tools are chosen effectively and enhance the teaching and learning experience. Key criteria needed to be considered include:

2.1. User-Friendliness

AI tools should be easy to use, with intuitive interfaces that require minimal training. Teachers need to be able to integrate these tools into their workflows without disruptions (Hossain, A. A. M. S. 2015).

2.2. Customization and Flexibility

The ability to customize AI tools to fit specific teaching needs and styles is vital. Tools should offer flexibility in terms of content creation, assessment formats, and feedback mechanisms (Ning, Xue et al. 2019).

2.3. Interactivity and Engagement

Effective AI tools should enhance student engagement through interactive features. Tools that include motivation, interactive quizzes, and multimedia support can make learning more appealing and effective (Chi, Michelene TH et al. 2014).

2.4. Integration with Existing Systems

AI tools should offer the possibility of integration with existing educational platforms and systems. Compatibility with grading software, and other educational technologies ensures a smoother adoption process (Pardo, Abelardo et al. 2014).

2.5. Scalability

The chosen AI tools should be scalable to accommodate different class sizes and educational levels. Whether for a small classroom or a large institution, the tools should be performed consistently and efficiently (Johnson, Larry et al. 2016).

2.6. Support and Training

Reliable customer support and comprehensive training resources are essential. Teachers should have access to help when needed and be able to find answers to their questions quickly, ensuring that they can use the tools effectively (Sugar, William et al.2004).

2.7. Effectiveness in Achieving Learning Outcomes

AI tools should contribute to achieving educational goals. Tools should be evaluated based on their impact on student learning outcomes, including improvements in understanding, retention, and application of knowledge (Hattie, John et al. 2008).

2.8. Feedback and Assessment Capabilities

Tools that provide real-time feedback and detailed analytics on student performance can help teachers adjust their teaching strategies. Effective assessment features are crucial for tracking progress and identifying areas for improvement (Shute, Valerie J et al. 2008).

By considering these criteria, educators can select AI tools that streamline their tasks and enrich their students' educational experience, making education more personalized, efficient, and engaging.

3. Comparative Analysis

The comparative analysis of AI tools such as iSpring Page, Canva Magic Write, Magic School and PowerPoint Speaker Coach will focus on several key criteria: user-friendliness, customization, interactivity, integration, data privacy, scalability, cost-effectiveness, support and training, effectiveness in achieving learning outcomes, and feedback and evaluation skills.

3.1. User-Friendliness

iSpring Page: Features an intuitive interface with built-in navigation headers and interactive elements, making it easy for educators to create high-quality e-learning content.

Canva Magic Write: Offers a straightforward, user-friendly interface that allows users to generate text quickly with minimal effort, making it accessible for teachers.

Magic School: Provides a user-friendly dashboard with over 50 tools tailored to different teaching tasks, simplifying the management of classroom activities.

PowerPoint Speaker Coach: Integrated within PowerPoint, it offers a familiar interface and provides real-time feedback, making it easy to use for improving presentation skills.

3.2. Customization and Flexibility

iSpring Page: Allows customization of content with interactive elements like flashcards, quizzes, and multimedia support.

Canva Magic Write: Supports multiple languages and offers a wide range of text options and templates, enhancing flexibility in content creation.

Magic School: Highly customizable, enabling teachers to tailor tools and resources to specific classroom needs, including lesson plans and assessments.

PowerPoint Speaker Coach: Provides customizable modes and detailed feedback reports, allowing users to focus on specific areas for improvement.

3.3. Interactivity and Engagement

iSpring Page: Supports interactive content creation, including self-check quizzes and formal assessments.

Canva Magic Write: Enhances engagement through creative and efficient text generation, making content more appealing.

Magic School: Promotes interactive learning through tools like rubric generators and multiple-choice assessments and features the Raina Educational Chatbot for dynamic content engagement.

PowerPoint Speaker Coach: Encourages engagement by providing real-time feedback during presentations, helping users improve their delivery and interaction skills.

3.4. Integration with Existing Systems

iSpring Page: Compatible with LMS and other educational platforms, ensuring seamless integration.

Canva Magic Write: Integrates with Canva Docs and supports a wide range of design and text tools.

Magic School: Integrates with Google Docs, Google Forms, Microsoft Forms, and Microsoft Word, enhancing compatibility with existing systems.

PowerPoint Speaker Coach: Fully integrated within PowerPoint, making it easy to use for users familiar with Microsoft Office.

3.5. Scalability

iSpring Page: Scalable to accommodate various class sizes and educational levels.

Canva Magic Write: Scalable and supports collaborative projects, making it suitable for different educational contexts.

Magic School: Highly scalable, supporting a wide range of classroom activities and student interactions.

PowerPoint Speaker Coach: Scalable for individual use or integration into broader educational programs.

3.6. Support and Training

iSpring Page: Offers comprehensive support and training resources, ensuring users can effectively utilize its features.

Canva Magic Write: Provides extensive help documentation and customer support to assist users.

Magic School: Includes robust support and training resources to help teachers maximize the use of its tools.

PowerPoint Speaker Coach: Supported by Microsoft's extensive help resources and customer support.

3.7. Effectiveness in Achieving Learning Outcomes

Spring Page: Effective in enhancing learning outcomes through interactive and engaging content.

Canva Magic Write: Supports creative and efficient content creation, contributing to improved learning outcomes.

Magic School: Comprehensive toolset that supports diverse learning needs and outcomes.

PowerPoint Speaker Coach: Effective in improving presentation skills, contributing to overall communication and learning effectiveness.

3.8. Feedback and Assessment Capabilities

iSpring Page: Provides robust assessment tools and real-time feedback mechanisms.

Canva Magic Write: Limited in direct assessment capabilities but supports content creation that can be used for assessments.

Magic School: Offers extensive assessment tools, including rubric generators and multiple-choice assessments, with real-time feedback.

PowerPoint Speaker Coach: Provides detailed feedback on presentation skills, though not directly an assessment tool.

CONCLUSION

In this review of AI tools for teachers, we have examined several leading platforms: iSpring Page, Canva Magic Write, Magic School, and PowerPoint Speaker Coach. Each tool offers unique features and benefits, providing different aspects of teaching and learning. Based on our analysis, we can highlight the most valuable tool for teachers, considering various criteria such as user-friendliness, customisation, interactivity, integration, effectiveness in achieving learning outcomes, and feedback and assessment capabilities.

Magic School resulted as the most comprehensive and valuable tool for teachers among the reviewed options for the following reasons:

- Provides a user-friendly dashboard with over 50 tools suitable for various learning tasks. Its interface simplifies the management of classroom activities.
- It is excellent in customization, allowing teachers to use tools and resources to specific classroom needs, including lesson plans, assessments personalised learning experiences, and flexibility in adapting to different teaching styles.

- Promotes interactive learning through tools like rubric generators, and multiple-choice assessments, with real-time feedback mechanisms and the Raina Educational Chatbot. These features enhance student engagement and create dynamic learning environments.
- A comprehensive toolset supports diverse learning needs and outcomes. The ability to create personalised learning experiences and offer real-time feedback contributes significantly to achieving educational goals.

These features allow teachers to track student progress and adjust teaching strategies accordingly. They can modernise their teaching practices, reduce administrative burdens and create more engaging, effective and personalised educational experiences for their students.

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