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THE IMPACT OF AI-POWERED WRITING EVALUATION TOOLS ON IELTS WRITING PERFORMANCE: A STUDY OF FEEDBACK, BAND PREDICTION, AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT

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Annotation: This article examines the role of AI-powered writing evaluation tools, particularly platforms such as Lexibot, ChatGPT, Grammarly, and Engnovate, in improving IELTS Writing performance. These tools have become increasingly important in modern language learning due to their ability to provide comprehensive feedback on grammar accuracy, lexical choice, coherence and cohesion, and overall essay structure. Unlike traditional correction methods, AI systems are capable of analyzing essays at both sentence and paragraph levels, offering detailed explanations, vocabulary suggestions, and improved versions of learner-written texts. The study highlights how these tools contribute to different aspects of writing development, including grammatical error detection, lexical enhancement, idea generation, paragraph-by-paragraph evaluation, and writing style improvement.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, IELTS Writing, AI writing tools, Lexibot, ChatGPT, Grammarly, Engnovate, writing evaluation, grammar correction, lexical resource, coherence and cohesion, Band 9 writing, personalized learning, learner autonomy, academic writing development

Introduction

In recent years, the rapid development of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has started to change the way people learn languages and develop writing skills. Instead of relying only on classroom teaching, learners now use different AI-based tools to support their independent learning. This is especially noticeable among students preparing for international exams such as IELTS, where writing is considered one of the most challenging skills. IELTS Writing is often difficult for many English learners because it requires more than just grammatical accuracy. Students are expected to present clear ideas, organize their thoughts logically, use a wide range of vocabulary, and maintain an academic style under strict time conditions. Because of these demands, many learners find it hard to achieve high band scores and often look for additional support outside traditional learning environments. At present, AI-powered writing tools such as Lexibot, ChatGPT, Grammarly, and Engnovate are becoming increasingly popular among IELTS candidates. These tools help learners not only to correct grammatical mistakes but also to improve vocabulary, restructure sentences, and understand how to develop better essays. Some of them even provide approximate IELTS band scores and offer improved versions of student writing, which makes the learning process more interactive and practical.

Grammar Error Detection and Correction. One of the most important functions of AI-powered writing tools is detecting and correcting grammatical errors. Platforms such as Lexibot, ChatGPT, and Grammarly give learners instant feedback, which makes the writing process faster and

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more interactive compared to traditional teacher-based correction, where feedback usually takes more time. These tools are particularly helpful because they address the most common IELTS writing problems, including tense mistakes, subject-verb agreement, article usage, punctuation, and sentence structure. By identifying these issues in real time, AI systems help learners quickly revise their work and improve overall grammatical accuracy, making their writing clearer and more precise. Another useful feature is that AI tools do not only correct mistakes but also explain them. Instead of simply highlighting errors, systems like ChatGPT and Lexibot often describe why a structure is wrong and suggest better alternatives. This turns correction into a learning process rather than just editing. In addition, modern AI systems analyze grammar within context rather than as isolated rules. This helps learners understand how language works in real writing situations, which reduces repeated mistakes and gradually improves their overall writing competence.

Paragraph-by-Paragraph Evaluation. One of the most important advantages of AI-powered writing evaluation tools is their ability to analyze essays on a paragraph-by-paragraph basis. Instead of only focusing on individual grammatical mistakes, systems such as Lexibot, ChatGPT, and Grammarly evaluate the overall structure of the essay, including the introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion. This type of analysis helps learners understand how each part of the essay contributes to the overall quality of writing. In the introduction, AI tools typically assess whether the topic is clearly introduced, whether the thesis statement is present, and whether the writer has successfully outlined the main ideas. This is particularly important in IELTS Writing Task 2, where a clear and focused introduction plays a key role in achieving a higher band score. When it comes to body paragraphs, AI systems evaluate how well ideas are developed and supported. They check whether topic sentences are clear, whether arguments are logically organized, and whether examples are relevant to the main idea. If a paragraph lacks clarity or coherence, AI tools often suggest restructuring sentences or adding supporting details to improve the flow of ideas.

Lexical Resource Enhancement. Following the discussion of grammatical accuracy and structural organization, another key area where AI-powered writing tools demonstrate significant impact is lexical resource development. In IELTS writing, vocabulary range and appropriacy are essential criteria, as they directly influence the overall band score. For this reason, learners often need support in expanding their lexical knowledge and using more precise and academic expressions. AI-based tools such as Lexibot, ChatGPT, and Grammarly play an important role in this process by suggesting more suitable and advanced vocabulary choices. When learners use repetitive or overly simple words, these systems provide alternative expressions that are more formal, accurate, and contextually appropriate. This helps students gradually move away from basic language usage and develop a more academic writing style. In addition to synonym replacement, these tools also introduce learners to common collocations and fixed academic expressions. Such support is particularly useful in IELTS writing, where natural word combinations are essential for producing fluent and coherent essays. By seeing how words typically function together in context, learners begin to develop a more native-like command of English. Moreover, AI systems are capable of offering topic-specific vocabulary depending on the essay question. For instance, when writing about education, technology, or environmental issues, learners are provided with relevant lexical items that can strengthen their arguments and improve clarity. This targeted vocabulary support allows students to express ideas more precisely and avoid vague or general language.

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Band 9 Suggestions and Improved Versions. Another key benefit of AI-powered writing tools is their ability to provide improved versions of essays at different band levels, especially Band 8 and Band 9. Tools like Lexibot and ChatGPT do more than just correct errors; they often rewrite the entire essay in a more advanced and academically suitable form, which helps IELTS candidates understand what high-scoring writing looks like in practice. These upgraded versions usually show more varied sentence structures, including compound and complex sentences, which make the writing more natural and sophisticated. They also improve the flow of ideas by strengthening transitions and making the overall argument clearer and more logically connected. Another noticeable improvement is in vocabulary use. AI tools tend to replace simple words with more precise and formal academic expressions, which helps learners develop a better sense of tone and register required for IELTS writing. This also exposes them to how academic vocabulary is used in real contexts rather than in isolation. When learners compare their original essays with AI-generated higher-band versions, they can easily spot their weaknesses in grammar, vocabulary, and idea development. This comparison becomes a practical learning process, giving them a clearer understanding of what needs to be improved to reach higher band scores.

Generation of New Ideas. In addition to correcting linguistic errors and improving writing structure, AI-powered writing evaluation tools also play a significant role in generating new ideas. This function is particularly valuable for IELTS Writing Task 2, where candidates are required not only to write accurately but also to develop relevant arguments and support them with clear examples. Many learners often face difficulties at the brainstorming stage, especially when they are unable to generate sufficient ideas within a limited time. In such cases, tools like Lexibot and ChatGPT provide useful assistance by suggesting possible viewpoints, arguments, and supporting details related to the given topic. These suggestions help learners to better understand different perspectives on an issue and expand their thinking beyond their initial ideas. AI systems can offer real-life examples and explanatory points that strengthen the overall quality of an essay. By exposing learners to a wider range of arguments, these tools encourage more comprehensive and well-developed responses. This is particularly important in IELTS writing, where task achievement and idea development are key assessment criteria. Another important benefit of AI-assisted idea generation is that it helps learners overcome writer's block. When students struggle to start or continue their essays, AI-generated suggestions provide a foundation on which they can build their own arguments. Over time, this process not only improves writing fluency but also enhances critical thinking skills by encouraging learners to consider multiple perspectives.

Learning Through Detailed Explanations. A key advantage of AI-powered writing tools is that they do not only correct mistakes but also explain them in detail. Platforms such as ChatGPT and Lexibot often clarify why a particular structure is incorrect and why another option works better in context. This makes feedback more meaningful compared to simple error highlighting. In traditional learning settings, students usually receive corrected essays without clear explanations of grammar rules. Because of this, many learners simply memorize corrections without fully understanding the reasons behind them. AI tools, however, encourage a more reflective learning process by breaking down errors and explaining how improvements are made. This also helps learners develop stronger language awareness. When students understand why certain vocabulary or sentence structures are more appropriate, they gradually start noticing patterns in academic writing. Over time, this improves their ability to make better choices in their own essays, especially in terms of grammar, vocabulary, and style. In addition, this type of feedback promotes active learning. Instead of passively accepting

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corrections, learners are encouraged to think about their mistakes and understand the logic behind them. This strengthens long-term learning and supports the development of more independent writing skills.

Development of Independent Writing Skills. Artificial Intelligence-powered writing tools are changing how learners approach writing development by gradually promoting more independent learning. Instead of depending only on teacher feedback, students can now revise and improve their writing through platforms such as ChatGPT, Lexibot, and Grammarly, which provide continuous support during practice. With regular exposure to instant feedback, learners start to recognize their own writing patterns more clearly. They often notice repeated problems in grammar, vocabulary, and sentence structure, which helps them develop a habit of checking their work more carefully without external help. These tools also make it easier to practice writing in a more flexible way. Students can rewrite their essays several times and immediately see how each change affects clarity and coherence. This repeated practice helps them gain more control over their writing and gradually rely less on outside correction. In IELTS preparation, this is especially useful because candidates must write under strict time conditions without assistance. Learners who consistently use AI feedback usually become better at self-correction, which helps them manage mistakes more effectively during the exam itself.

Improvement of Coherence and Cohesion. A crucial aspect of IELTS Writing performance is the ability to present ideas in a logically connected and well-structured manner. In this regard, AI-powered writing evaluation tools have become increasingly useful, as they are capable of analyzing how ideas are linked across sentences and paragraphs. Systems such as Lexibot and ChatGPT go beyond surface-level grammar correction by examining the overall flow of the text and identifying weaknesses in coherence and cohesion. One important function of these tools is the evaluation of linking devices and transitional expressions. Many IELTS candidates tend to either overuse basic connectors such as “and,” “but,” and “because,” or use them incorrectly in complex arguments. AI systems help learners recognize these issues and suggest more appropriate discourse markers that improve the logical flow of ideas and create smoother transitions between sentences. In addition, AI tools analyze the progression of arguments within a paragraph. They assess whether ideas are introduced clearly, supported with relevant explanations, and logically connected to the main topic. If the structure appears unclear or fragmented, the system often recommends reordering sentences or adding linking phrases to strengthen the internal logic of the paragraph.

Personalized Learning Experience. One of the key advantages of AI-powered writing evaluation tools is their ability to create a more personalized learning experience for each individual learner. Unlike traditional classroom settings, where feedback is often general and time-limited, AI systems such as ChatGPT, Lexibot, and Grammarly are capable of analyzing each user’s writing patterns and providing feedback that is tailored to their specific weaknesses and needs. This individualized approach is based on continuous tracking of learner performance. As students repeatedly write and revise essays, AI tools identify recurring errors in grammar, vocabulary usage, sentence structure, and organization. Based on this data, the system generates targeted suggestions that directly address the learner’s most common mistakes. Over time, this allows students to focus on the areas that require the most improvement, rather than receiving generic feedback that may not fully reflect their learning needs. In addition, personalized feedback helps learners progress at their own pace. Some students may struggle with basic grammatical accuracy, while others may need support in developing more advanced writing skills such as coherence or argumentation. AI tools are able to

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adjust their level of feedback accordingly, making the learning process more flexible and efficient for different proficiency levels.

Time Efficiency. In traditional IELTS writing instruction, receiving feedback from a teacher often requires a considerable amount of time, as essays need to be manually reviewed, analyzed, and returned with comments. This process can slow down the learning cycle, especially for students who require frequent practice and continuous correction. In contrast, AI-powered writing evaluation tools have significantly changed this dynamic by providing almost instant feedback. Platforms such as Lexibot, ChatGPT, and Grammarly are able to analyze a written essay within seconds and generate detailed suggestions related to grammar, vocabulary, coherence, and overall structure. This immediate response allows learners to revise their work without delay and continue practicing in a more continuous and efficient manner. Another important aspect of time efficiency is the ability to reduce waiting periods between writing attempts. Instead of submitting an essay and waiting for external evaluation, learners can repeatedly write, check, and improve their texts in a single session. This creates a faster learning cycle, where mistakes are identified and corrected immediately, leading to more productive practice time. From a practical perspective, this advantage is particularly important for IELTS candidates who often have limited preparation time. The ability to receive quick feedback enables them to complete more writing tasks in a shorter period, which can directly contribute to faster skill development and better exam readiness.

Possible Drawbacks. Despite the advantages of AI-powered writing tools, their growing use in IELTS preparation also brings some concerns that should not be ignored. These tools are fast and very helpful, but if learners depend on them too much, it can affect their long-term writing development. One issue is over-dependence. Some students start relying on AI for almost every correction, and slowly they lose the habit of checking their own mistakes. Because of this, their confidence in writing without support may decrease, especially during the actual exam where no help is allowed. Another point is critical thinking. If learners just accept AI suggestions without thinking about them, they may become passive users. Over time, this can affect their ability to make decisions about language use and build arguments on their own. There is also the question of academic honesty. Since AI tools can produce full essays, some learners may copy or rely too heavily on these outputs. This can reduce originality and create problems with plagiarism in academic settings. In addition, creativity can also be limited. When students keep using ready-made structures and expressions, they may struggle to develop their own writing style. Their essays may become correct, but not very personal or flexible.

Conclusion. AI-powered writing evaluation tools have significantly transformed IELTS writing preparation by supporting learners in areas such as grammar accuracy, vocabulary development, idea generation, coherence, and writing style. Tools like Lexibot, ChatGPT, and Grammarly provide instant feedback, personalized suggestions, and model answers, making writing practice more efficient and structured compared to traditional methods. However, despite these benefits, challenges such as over-reliance on AI, reduced critical thinking, and academic integrity concerns still exist. While AI can enhance learning outcomes, it cannot replace the essential role of independent thinking and writing practice. Therefore, AI tools should be used as supportive learning resources rather than complete substitutes for human effort. A balanced approach that combines AI assistance with consistent practice and reflective learning is essential for achieving long-term improvement in IELTS writing performance.

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