

ChatGPT as a Mediating Tool in Education: Enhancing Learning Efficiency, Academic Performance, and Academic Self-Concept In Effort-Talent Focused Environments

Leah Li V. Echiverri, Shenyue Song, Tianchang Wang, Sihan Liang

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Introduction & Literature Review



The integration of AI in education, especially tools like ChatGPT, has transformed how students learn, offering personalized instructions and targeted feedback and increasing autonomy (Albadarin et al., 2024, Firat, 2023; Lai, 2021).



Students widely use ChatGPT for homework assistance/support, concept generation and clarification,—functions linked to improved learning efficiency and academic performance (Lera et al., 2023).



Learning efficiency is optimized when students receive immediate, tailored feedback and support as they help learners understand content and self-regulate their progress. (Hoffman & Schraw, 2010, Shemshack & Spector, 2020).

Learning Efficiency Academic Performance

Academic Self-Concept



ChatGPT enhances efficiency by providing step-by-step guidance, structured tutoring, formative feedback, and real-time corrections (Lera et al., 2023; Mollick, 2023).



Academic performance improves with ChatGPT through heightened critical thinking, motivation, and self-efficacy (Parsakia, 2023; Yuan & Liu, 2025).



There are risks of plagiarism, misinformation, fabrication and ethical violations, emphasizing the need for ethical use (Hutson, 2024; Khalaf, 2025).

Learning Efficiency Academic Performance

Academic Self-Concept



Academic Self-concept is shaped by student evaluations, peer comparison, and parental influence (Kavanagh, 2020; Marsh & Martin, 2011).



Self-evaluation reflects perceived academic competence, shaped by past achievements and influenced by experiences of success or failure (Wu et al., 2021; Preckel et al., 2013).



College-educated parents often instill greater confidence in their children's learning abilities through academic support and involvement (Chevalère et al., 2022; Yeung et al., 2010)



Research Statement



To investigate ChatGPT's potential role in enhancing learning efficiency, academic performance, and academic self-concept.

• Sub-objectives

 To describe the use of AI in college students' study.
 To explore college students' perceptions on the influence of ChatGPT on their learning efficiency, and academic performance

3. To determine correlations of learning efficiency, academic performance and academic self-concept.

Conceptual Framework

By analyzing responses from 563 students at Kean Wenzhou-Kean University, **i**hese University and University, traditional it aims to provide insights into the educational value and practical application of ChatGPT higher in education.





Methodology

Design & Approach

- Descriptive and correlational study using a quantitative survey
- Online surveys via Sojump and Qualtrics.

Instrument & Reliability

Self Constructed Survey using five point Likert Scale

- Learning Efficiency with ChatGPT Usage ($\alpha = 0.925$)
- Academic Performance with ChatGPT Usage ($\alpha = 0.710$)
- Academic Self-concept ($\alpha = 0.828$).

Legend: Strong (4.51-5.00); Good (3.51-4.50); Average (2.51-3.50); Somewhat low (1.51-2.50); Low (1.00-1.50).

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Ethical Consideration

- IRB approval
- Informed consent
- Declaration of AI Generative

Analysis

SPSS

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- Descriptive Stats: Mean, SD, frequency distribution, percentiles
- Inferential Stats: Pearson coefficient correlation (p < 0.05)





Discussions & Implications

Purpose of ChatGPT Use

Homework Review:

- Get hints on key points of a question
- Find explanations of academic concepts
- Get step-by-step instructions for complex Tasks

Personalized Tutoring:

- Seek clarification of complex concepts
- Program or solve technical problems
- Tailor a structured study plan

Construct	Options		P(%)
Homework	Get hints on key points of a question.	343	75.1
	Get step-by-step instructions for complex tasks	315	68.9
Review	Find explanations of academic concepts	327	71.6
	Brainstorm for ideas for answers to assignments	K	53.6
	Seeking clarification of complex academic concepts	322	87.7
	Tailor a structured study plan	155	42.2
Personalized Tutoring	Programming or solving technical problems	167	45.5
rutoring	Completing assignments including writing papers	128	34.9
	Others, please specify	22	6.0

Purpose of ChatGPT Usage

Language Practice:

- Translation and vocabulary assistance
- Interactive conversation exercises
- Correction of grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation

Real-time Feedback (academic writing):

- Text structure
- Grammar
- Spelling

Language Practice	Interactive conversation exercises simulating everyday communication situations	102	67.1
	Correction of grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation		62.5
	Translation and vocabulary assistance	107	70.4
	I think ChatGPT has improved my language learning efficiency.	4	2.6
	Grammar	180	57.5
Real-time Feedback	Spelling		44.4
	Text structure	212	67.7
	Academic language	160	51.1

ChatGPT : Learning Smarter and Faster

Homework	Using ChatGPT makes it easier for me to complete				
Review	Overall, findings indicate that ChatGPT use enhance				
Personalized Tutoring	 learning efficiency: makes study task easier hel helps clarify difficult concepts 				
	improves academic				
Homewor	Homework Reviewriting quality. ized Tutoring				
Students rated Honsework Review (M=4 22) and					
Personalized	d Tutoring (N=4.07) as "Agree,"				
indicating C	hatGPT use significantly simplifies				
study tasks, aids in grasping complex concepts, and					
targets areas	s needing improvement.				

Language Practice & Real-time Feedback (Academic Writing)

Students rated language practice (M = 4.05) and academic writing (M = 3.79) as "Agree," indicating that <u>ChatGPT use significantly contribute to their</u> <u>target language skill development and improved</u> academic writing quality.

	I think using ChatGPT-generated conversational
1	materials is appropriate for my language level.
Language Practice	
	I think ChatGPT has improved my language learning
	efficiency.
	I think ChatGPT's real-time feedback accurately guides
	me to improve my academic writing.
Real-time	Compared with traditional methods such as peer review
Feedback	or instructor feedback, real-time feedback from
reeuback	ChatGPT has increased my learning engagement.
	I feel that using ChatGPT for real-time feedback
	improves my overall learning efficiency.

How often do you use ChatGPT in a week?

Overall findings indicate that ChatGPT use:

Critical

- **Enhanced understanding & critical thinking**
- Increased confidence & self-regulation
- Improved engagement & participation

Concerns over potential academic dishonesty material.

Sudents rated critical thinking (M=3.78) as "Agree," and motivation/ engagement (M=3.49) as "Average" indicating ChatGo use significantly improved their understanding of compared academic problems, enhanced analytical thinking, and motivated more active class participation.

Self-efficacy and Plagiarism awareness

Students rated self-efficacy (M=3.75) as "Agree," indicating ChatGPT use significantly improved their confidence, help self-regulating learning and reduce anxiety. While plagiarism awareness (M= 3.59) rated as "Agree," indicates students' recognition of ChatGPT's usefulness for concept clarification and independent work,

while noting concerns about potential academic dishonesty.

Self-efficacy	ChatGPT makes me feel more confident and less anxious when completing academic tasks.
	ChatGPT helps me feel more able to self-monitor when I am learning.
	ChatGPT's feedback has increased my confidence in overcoming learning challenges when completing assignments or projects.
	ChatGPT boosts my confidence in tackling learning challenges and understanding complex course concepts.
	ChatGPT's usefulness in academic learning gives me confidence in improving my academic performance.
Plagiarism Awareness	ChatGPT makes it easier to complete assignments without personal effort, raising concerns about plagiarism and its potential negative impact on my academic performance.
	I recognize that "patchwriting", which involves making minor modification to an original passage of text—even when cited— is a violation of academic integrity and could negatively affect my academic performance.

Students' Academic Self-Concept Levels



influenced by familial background and social

comparison.

Self-Evaluation & School-Focused Environment

Students rated self-evaluation and school-focused environment "Agree" (M = 3.73) and (M = 3.79); indicating that students tend to view their academic abilities more positively when shaped by personal effort and supportive school environments.

Peer- comparison	I believe I perform academically better than the average level of my peers.
	I find it easier to learn new things in my studies than my classmates do.
	The effort-focused feedback (such as "Well done, you're working hard") received from the teacher made me feel confident in my learning ability.
School-focused environment	The more the school values hardworking students, the more confident I am in my academic performance.
	The talent-focused feedback (such as "Well done, you're smart") received from the teacher makes me feel confident in my learning ability
	The more the school emphasizes inherent intelligence and talent, the more confident I feel in my academic performance.

Variables	1	2	3	
Learning				
Efficiency				
Academic	.778**			
Performance				
Academic	.258**	(.432**)	_	
Self-Concept				
** C 1.4	::: c :+	441 - 11 - £ 01 1	1 (2 +-:1-1)	

**. Correlation is significant at the level of .01 level (2-tailed)

Results revealed there was a strong positive *correlation* between learning efficiency and academic performance, r(506) = .78, p < .01.

While results showed a *moderate positive correlation* between academic performance and academic self-concept, r(523) = .43, p < .01.

Learning Efficiency Academic Performance

Constructs	Learning Efficiency					
	Variables	Homework Review	Personalized Tutoring	Language Practice	Real-Time Feedback	
Academic	Critical Thinking	.70** <	.75**	.66** 🤇	.81**	
Performance	Motivation/Engagement	.42**	.56** (.74**	.74**	
	Self-Efficacy	.61**	.72**	.77* <	.79**	
	Plagiarism Awareness	.07	.11**	.01	.29**	

*. Correlation is significant at the level of .01 level (2-tailed)

Analysis:

- Strong correlations with critical thinking(r = .81; r = .75), motivation/engagement (r = .74) and self-efficacy (r = .79).
- Real-time feedback (e.g., ChatGPT) and personalized ٠ tutoring strongly enhances learning efficiency and academic performance.
- Efficient learning processes boost students' confidence. ٠

Is there a significant relationship between learning efficiency and academic performance?

Implications:

- Integrate AI-driven feedback • (e.g., ChatGPT) and customized learning to target deeper understanding and analytical thinking.
- Integrating AI feedback can ٠ foster self-regulating learning and student confidence.
- Personalized, timely support ٠ feedback enhance both cognitive skills and self-beliefs.
- Balance AI use with **ethical** • safeguards to mitigate overreliance risks.

Academic Performance

Academic Self-Concept

Constructs	Academic Self-Concept				
	Variables	Paranta'	Self-	Peer	School
	variables	Parents'			
		Educational	Evaluation	Comparison	Focused
		Level			Environment
Academic	Critical Thinking	.18**	.20**	.23**	.28**
Performance	Motivation/Engagement	.33**	.21**	.28**	.28**
	Self-Efficacy	.28**	.27**	.29**	.33**
	Plagiarism Awareness	.25**	.23**	.18**	.23**
**. Correlation is significant at the level of .01 level (2-tailed)					

Analysis:

Positive correlation with parents' educational level and school focused environment(r = .33, p < .01) fostering a reciprocal loop.
ChatGPT use enhances self-efficacy, → triggering teacher recognition/reinforcement (e.g., praise for effort) and further boosting self-concept → higher grades.

•Parental cultural enrichment (e.g., museums, educational events) and educational background \uparrow motivation, focus, and self-perception as capable learners.

Is there a significant relationship between Academic Performance and Academic Self-Concept?

Implications:

- AI tools like ChatGPT support a positive feedback loop: higher self-efficacy → teacher affirmation → stronger self-concept → improved academic performance.
- Cultural enrichment activities complement AI-enhanced learning by fostering confidence and sustained academic engagement.
- Holistic support (AI, teachers, family) amplifies learning outcomes
 →strengthen academic self-concept.





Conclusion, Limitations & Recommendations

Conclusion



• ChatGPT Use: Learning Smarter and Faster

Students perceived ChatGPT as enhancing learning efficiency, particularly through homework review and personalized tutoring, by simplifying study tasks and clarifying complex concepts.

• ChatGPT Use: Benefits and Risk in Academic Performance

Students view ChatGPT as enhancing critical thinking and self-confidence, while acknowledging moderate motivation and concerns about academic integrity.

● Learning Efficiency → Academic Performance → Academic Self-Concept

Learning efficiency showed a strong positive association with academic performance, whereas academic performance was only moderately related to academic self-concept

"ChatGPT, may enhance learning efficiency, which in turn supports higher achievement and, to a lesser degree, contributes to a stronger academic self-concept."



Limitations & Recommendations

Study Limitations

- Correlational design; no causal conclusions
- Outcomes may reflect pre-existing factors (e.g., motivation, parental support)
- Risk of skill erosion with excessive AI reliance
- Accuracy and ethical concerns (plagiarism, feedback validity)



Recommendations

• Integrate AI tools that offer immediate, personalize and constructive feedback. •Design scaffolded tasks to promote critical thinking & integrity •Use effort-based praise to build self-concept •Encourage parents to facilitate culturally enriching activities •Expand research to under-resourced settings



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