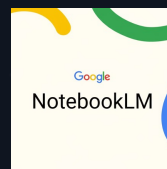
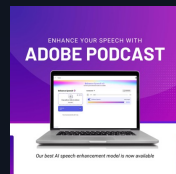


From Authentic to “Authenticized”

Reconceptualizing Language Teacher Identity and AI-Driven Materials



Stefano Maranzana, PhD



L2 Listening Challenges

Material Scarcity

Significant gap between beginner needs and native-speaker content, forcing educators to choose between overly simple pedagogical materials or inaccessibly complex authentic content

Authenticity Gap

Traditional classroom listening activities lack real-world prosody, cultural context, and natural speech patterns, leaving learners unprepared for authentic discourse situations

Difficulty of Podcasts

Commercial podcasts assume advanced linguistic competence and cultural background knowledge, creating barriers for beginner and intermediate learners

Resource Constraints

Time and resource limitations prevent teachers from creating high-quality, tailored audio materials with professional production values



Theoretical Foundations

Foundation Skill Development

Listening comprehension as foundation skill requiring real-time processing and strategic competence (Vandergrift & Goh, 2012), yet remains underrepresented in curricula despite critical role in acquisition

Cognitive Load Management

Cognitive load theory highlights need for scaffolded input that balances challenge with comprehensibility, preventing cognitive overload while maintaining engagement and learning progression

Curricular Neglect

Research demonstrates listening often neglected in curricula despite its critical role in acquisition (Siegel, 2013), with traditional approaches failing to address individual learner differences

Authenticity Balance

Authentic materials provide essential cultural immersion but may overwhelm learners without proper pedagogical support, requiring careful balance between authenticity and comprehensibility



Podcasting Benefits

Indonesian High School Study

Abdulrahman et al. (2018): Significant comprehension gains (85% improvement rate) over conventional methods, with participants reporting increased motivation, better vocabulary retention, and greater confidence in speaking.

University Student Outcomes

Yazmin & Clara (2024): 74% of university students improved listening scores after podcast intervention, while 90% reported enhanced comprehension and 78% felt more confident.

Experimental Group Success

Rahmi et al. (2025): Experimental group overcame initial deficits to outperform control group significantly (92% improvement rate), with improvements linked to a micro-learning approach.

Results

Research consistently demonstrates that podcasts effectively enhance listening comprehension, motivation, and confidence.
But how can we assign authentic podcasts to novice learners?



Bridging Authenticity and Pedagogy with AI

"Authenticized" Content

Feels authentic, but it's not. Combines natural speech patterns with controlled linguistic complexity for optimal input, providing learners with realistic prosody while maintaining pedagogical scaffolding.

Rapid Generation

AI tools enable rapid generation of topic-specific materials aligned with curriculum goals and student interests, reducing teacher preparation time while increasing content relevance.

Human-like Prosody

Text-to-speech advances produce human-like prosody, intonation, and natural conversation flow (Kumar et al., 2023), approaching authentic discourse patterns.

Customizable Parameters

Adjustable speech speed, vocabulary level, and cultural references enable differentiated instruction that meets diverse learner needs and proficiency levels.

Portability

Learners have access to the podcasts via computer, tablet or phones, any time, as many times as they want.



AI technology plays a crucial role in creating a seamless connection between authentic speech and educational content, offering dynamic and adaptive learning experiences.

Adobe Podcast: Professional Audio Enhancement

Enhance Speech

Removes background noise and improves clarity for professional-quality recordings, transforming low-quality audio into broadcast-standard content without expensive equipment

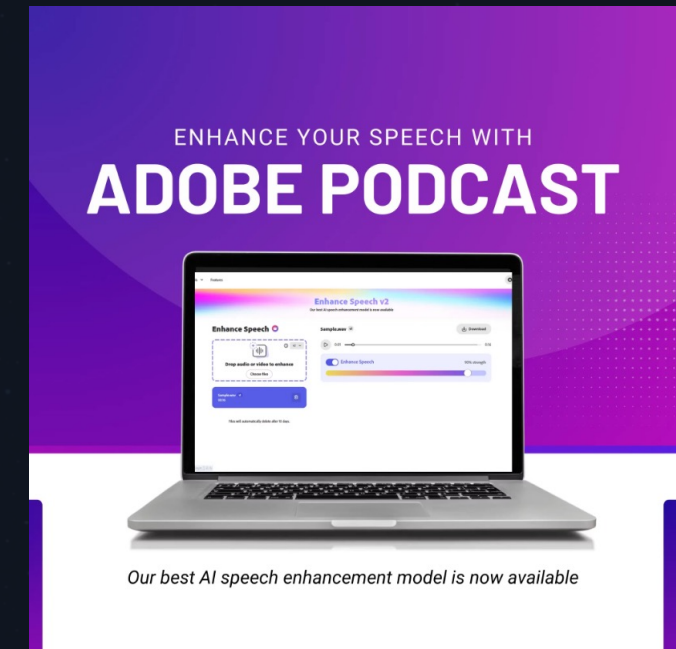
Mic Check Tool

Provides real-time feedback on recording setup and acoustic environment optimization, helping educators achieve optimal audio quality for educational materials

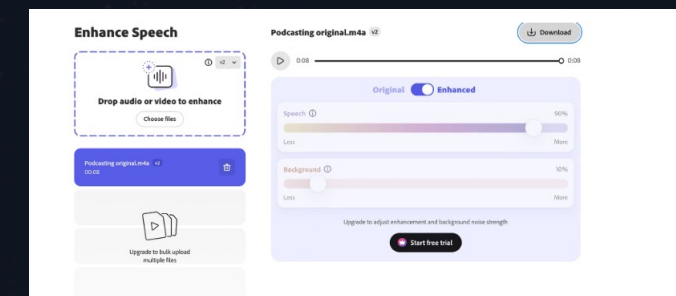
Studio Platform

Browser-based editing with timeline, effects, and multi-track capabilities, enabling sophisticated audio production without specialized software or technical expertise

📌 **Limitations:** 30-minute processing limit per session, 1-hour daily quota restriction, browser-dependent functionality requiring stable internet, and limited advanced editing features compared to professional software



<https://podcast.adobe.com/en>

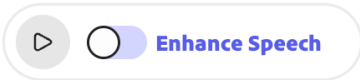


Adobe Podcast: Professional Audio Enhancement

Clean up audio for free with Adobe Podcast AI

Enhance Speech makes voice recordings sound as if they were recorded in a professional podcasting studio.

Hear a sample:



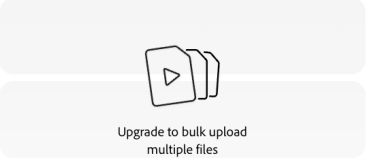
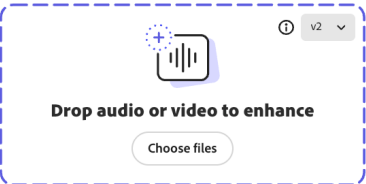
Get started

Sign up for a free account to begin.

Sign up

Already have an account? [Sign in](#)

Enhance Speech



Podcasting original.m4a v2 Download

0:08 0:08

Original ☒ Enhanced

Speech ⓘ

90%

Less More

Background ⓘ

10%

Less More

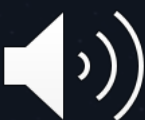
Upgrade to adjust enhancement and background noise strength

Start free trial

Adobe Podcast: Professional Audio Enhancement



Original Audio



Enhanced Audio

Google NotebookLM: Automatic Podcasting

Document Transformation

Google's research assistant transforms uploaded documents into conversational podcast format automatically, creating engaging dialogues from academic texts and educational materials

Audio Overview

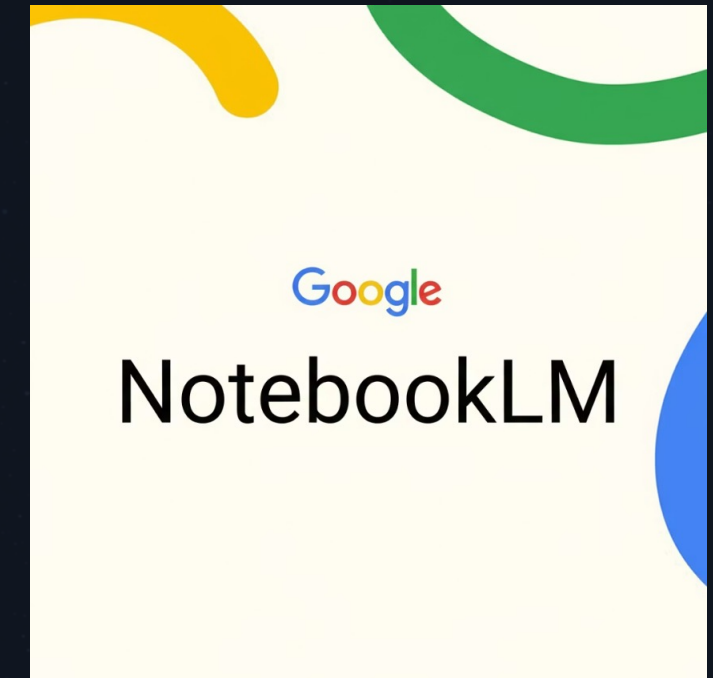
Generates 10-20 + minute discussions between two AI hosts on source material, synthesizing complex information into accessible conversational format for language learners

Multilingual Support

Supports 35+ languages with steering prompts for customized focus and pedagogical emphasis, allowing educators to direct conversations toward specific learning objectives

Limitations: Fixed dialogue format with limited variation options, dependency on Google's AI infrastructure and policies, and limited voice personalization and host characteristic control

FREE



<https://notebooklm.google>

Google NotebookLM: Automatic Podcasting

AI Podcasting for Second Language Listening Comprehension

Analytics

Share

Settings

PRO

Sources

+ Add

Discover

Select all sources

1142-Article Text-1583-1800-10-20240320.pdf

2410.03018v1.pdf

5588-Article Text-25781-1-10-20240813.pdf

AI Podcasting and Authenticized L2 Listening Materials

AI Podcasting for Second Language Listening Comprehension

Effect of poidcats.pdf

IJIET-V14N2-2038.pdf

Impact of podcasts.pdf

Learning teaching and assessment with generative artificial intellige...

Review about the podcasts.pdf

Use of podcasts.pdf

document.pdf

frai-07-1532896.pdf

Chat

AI Podcasting for Second Language Listening Comprehension

13 sources

The provided sources offer a multi-faceted examination of **Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI)**, particularly ChatGPT, and **podcasts** as tools for enhancing language education, specifically for English as a Foreign Language (EFL). Several articles focus on **case studies and systematic reviews** regarding the integration of ChatGPT to support EFL teachers in tasks like **lesson planning, content creation, and assessment**, highlighting the necessity of teachers developing **AI competencies** like prompt crafting and critical thinking. Concurrently, other studies present **quasi-experimental research** that investigates the **effectiveness of using podcasts** in the classroom, demonstrating that they significantly **improve students' listening comprehension** and foster positive attitudes and motivation. These sources collectively address both the **potential benefits and the challenges** of integrating modern digital and AI technologies to improve pedagogical practices and student outcomes in language acquisition. Finally, there is an exploration of GenAI's role in creating **creative and adaptive learning content** for lesser-taught languages, such as Javanese, underscoring its potential in **cultural preservation**.

Save to note

Video Overview

Audio Overview

Mind Map

Start typing...

13 sources

How does generative AI technology impact L2 teacher roles and content creation?

What empirical evidence exists regarding podcasts' effectiveness for L2 listening comprehension improvement?

What necessary competencies m... for effective, ethical AI tool integ...

Studio

Audio Overview

Video Overview

Mind Map

Reports

Flashcards

Quiz

Generating Audio Overview...

Come back in a few minutes

ChatGPT y Podcasts con IA: El Copiloto Inteligente que...

Deep Dive · 13 sources · 7d ago

Prompt Mastery and Authenticized Audio: The...

Deep Dive · 13 sources · 7d ago

AI Podcasting Tools: The "Authenticized" Input...

Deep Dive · 1 source · 39d ago

Add note

Jellypod: Comprehensive Creation Platform

Custom Voice Design

Allows custom voice design, multi-host conversations, and script editing capabilities, providing educators with complete control over content creation, speed and voice cloning

Advanced Text-to-Speech

25+ language support and natural conversation flow generation, enabling creation of authentic-sounding multilingual content

Platform Integration

Integration with major distribution platforms (Spotify, Apple Podcasts, YouTube) for seamless sharing, allowing educators to distribute content through students preferred listening platforms

Freemium Model

Credit-based system with limitations on free usage, commercial distribution rights requiring paid subscription tiers, and dependency on platform stability and continued service availability



<https://jellypod.ai>

Jellypod: Comprehensive Creation Platform

Welcome to Jellypod!

Let's get started by creating your very first podcast series. A podcast is a collection of individual episodes, which you'll create later.

Podcast Title

AI Podcasts for Listening Comprehension Practice

Language

 English

▼

What is your podcast about?

The podcasts will discuss the use of AI generated podcasts to let second language students practice their listening comprehension skills

Or choose from these popular ideas:

Discuss the future of technology and innovation

A show about wellness and fitness

A podcast about history and archaeology

Diving into the world of entrepreneurship

Exploring the creative process

Create Podcast

Step 1 of 3: Create Podcast

Est. Time to Complete: 40s

Great job! Now, choose your hosts.

We've generated a few unique hosts just for you based on your podcast idea. Each host has a unique voice and personality.

Choose who will host your new podcast (max 4 hosts):



Emily Carter
Emily is a linguist and tech enthusiast who specializes in AI language learning tools. Her calm and clear American...
American, Calm, Young, Female



Sophie Bennett
Sophie is an education technology consultant from the UK passionate about improving ESL learning through...
A young British female voice - smooth and expressive.



Michael Thompson
Michael is an AI researcher focused on natural language processing applications in education. His energetic...
Energetic Middle Aged American Male



Oliver Grant
Oliver is a British linguistics professor who studies the impact of audio media on language acquisition. His youn...
A young, friendly British English male voice; warm, dee...



Helen Davies
Helen is an experienced ESL teacher from Britain who integrates AI tools into her curriculum. Her mature,...
British Middle Aged, Mature Female with a Smooth, Sof...



Create your Voice Clone
With just a few seconds of audio, you can use your own voice as a host for your podcast.
[Click to get started](#)

Don't worry, you can always change these later.

Create Podcast →

Step 2 of 3: Select Hosts

Est. Time to Complete: 20s

6 Min Walkthrough

Watch a quick overview of the end-to-end flow. >

italianemory, ready to create your episode?

First, add a source below and then we'll help create your episode's outline.

 AI Podcasts for Listening

Hosts (3)

Paste a website url, attach a file, or describe your episode in a few words...



Deep Search

OFF

Create Episode Outline →

 AI Podcasting Tools- New Approaches to Listening Practice in Second Language Acquisition .do...

C X

Jellypod: Comprehensive Podcast Generation

AI Podcasts for Listening Co... > How AI Podcasting Tools Ar...

Outline

Transcript Editor

Regenerate Script

Hosts (2)

Remove our watermark by upgrading to any pro plan!

Upgrade Now →

Generate Audio First!

How AI Podcasting Tools Are Transforming Listening Practice

Description

This episode explores how AI podcasting platforms empower language teachers to create rich, tailored listening activities for second language learners. We break down how innovative tools like Adobe Podcast, NotebookLM, and Jellypod allow for customizable audio that bridges the gap between authentic and classroom content, supporting learners at any proficiency level. The hosts bring both research insights and practical anecdotes to discuss the promise and limitations of AI-powered listening practice.

Transcript Editor

Edit your episode script below. Your changes are saved automatically.

Intro Music

Outro Music

Chapter 1

The Listening Challenge and the Rise of AI Podcasting

Oliver Grant

Alright, welcome everyone to "AI Podcasts for Listening Comprehension Practice." I'm Oliver Grant, linguistics nerd, audio media enthusiast, and, well—someone who's probably spent too much time fiddling with podcast microphones and grammar guides. Helen, you want to introduce yourself?

Helen Davies

Gladly, Oliver. I'm Helen Davies, long-time ESL teacher and fan of anything that makes my students' lives easier. And, honestly, I feel like podcasts have been a bit of a secret weapon for listening practice—but until now, it's always been tough to get the right kind of audio for every class.

Oliver Grant

Yeah, absolutely. I don't know about you, Helen, but in the research world, it's been clear for years: listening, compared to, say, reading or grammar lessons, is almost always the odd one out, left for those last ten minutes before the bell rings. And yet, we know—right?—that it's central to language learning. If you can't understand spoken language in real time, you're, well, kind of stuck.

Helen Davies

Exactly. In practice, my students get much less exposure to real talks or different accents than they actually need. Materials are almost always scripted, polished, formal—classic textbook business. And outside the classroom, the world is, well, the opposite: informal grammar, slang, interruptions, all the bits we rarely manage to bring into lesson recordings.

Oliver Grant

Yeah, it's that gap between "listening for a test" and "listening so you don't get totally lost at a bus station in a foreign country"—two very different skills. You know, what always gets me is how authentic materials—real podcasts, radio, interviews—should be helpful, but almost all of them are made for native speakers. Even the adult learners at intermediate level, it's just overwhelming. Too fast, too full of jokes or cultural context.

Helen Davies

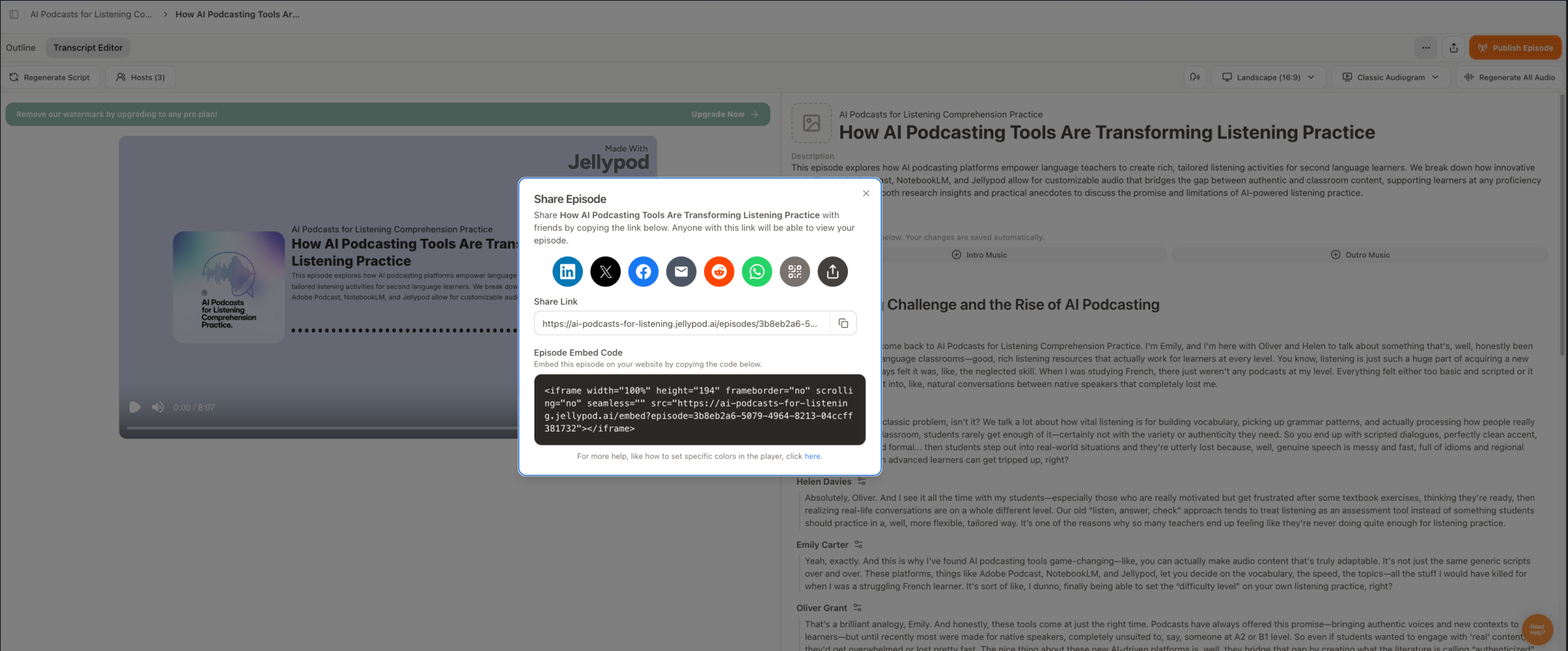
And that's why, for years, the debate was always: "Do I use real-world audio, or stick to what's made for classrooms?" Authentic content felt too tough, but classroom stuff could be, hmm—sterile, lacking any real-world messiness. So that's exactly why AI podcasting tools are exciting me so much these days: finally, there's a middle ground. You get audio that sounds pretty natural, but you can dial in the difficulty, the vocabulary, how formal or informal it is... It's "authenticized," if that's even a word.

Oliver Grant

Need help?

<https://ai-podcasts-for-listening.jellypod.ai/episodes/3b8eb2a6-5079-4964-8213-04ccff381732>

Jellypod: Comprehensive Creation Platform



<https://ai-podcasts-for-listening.jellypod.ai/episodes/3b8eb2a6-5079-4964-8213-04ccff381732>



**AI Podcasts
for Listening
Comprehension
Practice.**

AI Podcasts for Listening Comprehension Practice

How AI Podcasting Tools Are Transforming Listening Practice

This episode explores how AI podcasting platforms empower language teachers to create rich, tailored listening activities for second language learners. We break down how innovative tools like Adobe Podcast, NotebookLM, and Jellypod allow for customizable audio that bridges the gap...



Teacher Identity Transformation

New Role

Role shifts from knowledge dispenser to facilitator, curator, and collaborator

Digital Competencies

Requires new "digital AI competencies" beyond technical proficiency. Critical evaluation skills and AI literacy are essential

Empowering Teacher Creativity

Teachers transition from passive material users to active content creators. GenAI reduces time and effort in producing personalized learning resources with content that is aligned with specific student needs, proficiency levels, and learning goals

Human Judgment

AI as augmentation, not replacement of human pedagogical judgment. Teachers must vet content for accuracy, appropriateness, and bias



Synthesis and Future Directions

Complementary Technology

AI podcasting tools complement rather than replace human pedagogical expertise and cultural knowledge, requiring thoughtful integration with traditional teaching methods and human oversight

Strategic Integration

Integration requires thoughtful curriculum planning and quality assurance protocols for educational effectiveness, including evaluation of learning outcomes and student engagement

Emerging Promise

Emerging technologies show promise for personalized, responsive listening practice with potential for adaptive systems that adjust to individual learner progress and preferences

Research Needs

Continued research needed on long-term learning outcomes and optimal implementation strategies, including comparative studies with traditional methods and investigation of transfer effects



Envisioning the future landscape of educational technology, integrating AI tools thoughtfully.

Practical Implementation Recommendations

The Right Mix

Combine AI-generated content with human-created cultural context and follow-up activities, ensuring comprehensive learning experiences that address both linguistic and cultural competence

Teacher Training

Essential for effective prompt design, content evaluation, and pedagogical integration strategies, including professional development in AI literacy and educational technology implementation



Thoughtful integration of AI tools can enhance pedagogical principles, leading to more engaging and effective learning experiences.

From Authentic to “Authenticized”

Reconceptualizing Language Teacher Identity and AI-Driven Materials

THANK YOU



EMORY
UNIVERSITY

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