

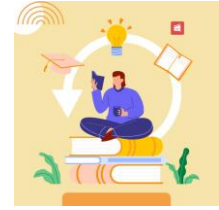
Self-Direct to Learn, Self-Direct to Live: Exploring Learner Choices, Experiences, and Possibilities in a Self-Directed Learning World

Curtis J. Bonk, Indiana University
cjbok@indiana.edu
<http://curtbonk.com/>



1

Activity #1 (Paired): How would you Define Self-Directed Learning?



2

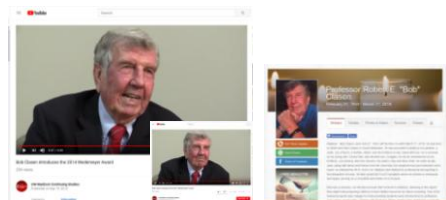
30+ Ways Learning is Changing: Three Mega Trends: Engagement, Access, and Customization



3

Bob Clasen, University of Wisconsin

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kCm1_MGagec&feature=youtu.be
 February 27, 1934-March 17, 2018
<https://www.cressfuneralservice.com/obituary/249139/Robert-Clasen/>



4

35+ years ago... Knowledge Navigator (1987) Apple Computer

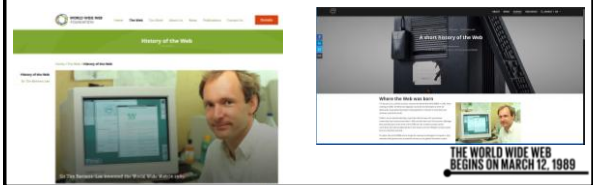
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=98BAu5w6tc>



5

August 6, 2021 The Web is now 30+!

<http://info.cern.ch/> (First website)
<http://www.cern.com/2016/08/06/technology/world-wide-web-30-years-old/finding.html?tid=hp-stack-dm>
<https://webfoundation.org/about/visions/history-of-the-web/>
<https://thomson.com/education/compelling/birth-of-the-web/history-web>



6

January 15, 2021 Wikipedia is now 20+!

Simon Garfield, Esquire: What We Know And Can Agree On: Wikipedia At 20
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:20th_anniversary
<https://www.esquire.com/uk/culture/a34412278/wikipedia-at-20/>
<https://www.wikipedia20.pubpub.org/>



7

MIT OpenCourseWare (OCW) MIT OpenCourseWare is now 20+!

<http://ocw.mit.edu/index.htm>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0aAEamhJHUI>
<https://ocw.mit.edu/about/milestones/>



8

November 14, 2024 Case Examples (MIT OCW)

Like millions of others during the global Covid-19 lockdowns, Emmanuel Kasipati, an entrepreneur from Uganda, turned to YouTube to pass the time. But he wasn't following an infamously sharing platform for educational resources. Since learning journey through YouTube, educating his



9



Fast Forward to 2021...

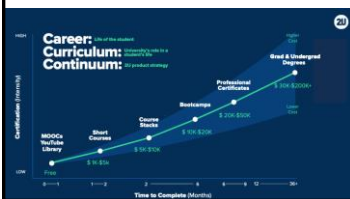
"Anyone can now learn anything from anyone at any time."



10

March 13, 2019 The Career Curriculum Continuum

Andrew Hermelyn, Inside Higher Ed
<https://www.insidehighered.com/digital-learning/stories/2019/03/13/how-universities-can-stay-center-learners-views-opinion>



11

December 14, 2021 A Decade of MOOCs: A Review of MOOC Stats and Trends in 2021

Dhawal Shah, Class Central
<https://www.classcentral.com/report/mooc-stats-and-trends-2021/>



12

Hundred+ MOOC Clubs

250 MOOCs and Counting: One Man's Educational Journey, Chronicle of Higher Education

<https://chronicle.com/article/250-MOOCs-and-Counting-One-Man's-Educational-Journey/7cid=at>
If the MOOC movement has faded, nobody told Jima Ngei. Mr. Ngei, who lives in Port Harcourt, Nigeria, has completed and passed 250.



Jima Ngei: "I had this unrelenting fear that this miracle of free access might evaporate soon."

13

December 14, 2021

A Decade of MOOCs: A Review of MOOC Stats and Trends in 2021

Dhawal Shah, Class Central

<https://www.classcentral.com/report/mooc-stats-and-trends-2021/>

220M Students
950 Universities
19.4k Courses
1670 Microcredentials
70 MOOC-based degrees

class central

By the Numbers: MOOCs in 2021
Source: Class Central Report

14

February 1, 2021

Learning is More Massive

Yale is offering its highly popular 'happiness' course to high school students for free

By Marika Gerken, CNN

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/02/01/us/yale-good-life-class-trnd-wellness/index.html>
(3.4 million enrolled, 28,500 reviews)

Yale is offering its highly popular 'happiness' course to high school students for free



3 things I loved about The Science of Well-Being, the free online version of Yale's most popular class ever



15

June 6, 2023 (Code in Place)

How to 'democratize education':

Stanford's free online course gains 30,000 students in 3 years

(30,000 students, 120+ countries, 3,000 volunteer teachers)

<https://news.stanford.edu/2021/03/22/famous-stanford-coding-course-free-online/>
Alcino Donadel, University Business

<https://universitybusiness.com/how-to-democratize-education-stanfords-free-online-course-gains-30000-students-in-3-years/>

How to 'democratize education': Stanford's free online course gains 30,000 students in 3 years

Alcino Donadel

When it comes to high scoring online degrees in data and computer science are among the fastest growing fields in the world. Stanford's free online course in the same field is the best kept secret for high school students.

As a professor and educator, I believe that the best way to democratize education is by making it free. Stanford's free online course in the same field is the best kept secret for high school students.

Stanford's free online course in the same field is the best kept secret for high school students. It is a course that is free, open, and accessible to all. It is a course that is free, open, and accessible to all.



(Clockwise from left) Stanford faculty Chris Piech and Mehran Sahami and senior lecturer Julie Zaretsky will teach 'Code in Place,' a free online intro to coding course that is being offered for the second time since the coronavirus pandemic began. (Image credit: Andrew Brodhead)

16

January 20, 2022

Arizona State University Announces Effort To Educate 100 Million Students Worldwide

Michael T. Nietzel, Forbes

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/michaelnietzel/2022/01/20/arizona-state-university-100-million-learners/>
Video (2:07): https://vimeo.com/667987472?embedded=true&source=vimeo_logo&referrer=13433234
<https://thunderbird.asu.edu/100-million-learners>

Arizona State University Announces Effort To Educate 100 Million Students Worldwide

Arizona State University

Arizona State University

Arizona State University

Arizona State University

Arizona State University

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Arizona State University

Arizona State University

- Global Leadership in the Fourth Industrial Revolution
- Customer Experience and Digital Marketing in a Global World
- Global Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Business
- Data Analytics and Digital Transformation in a Global World
- Global Financial Accounting



17

MOOC books (2020) and (2015)



18

19

20

21

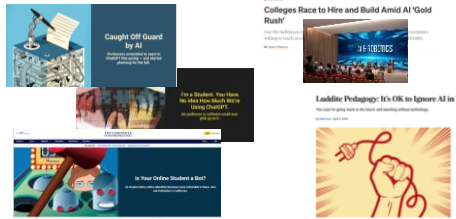
22

23

24

November 2022 to May 2025: AI, AI, AI, AI...

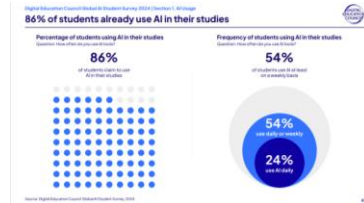
AI in Higher Education News



25

August 2, 2024 Digital Education Council Global AI Student Survey 2024 The Digital Education Council

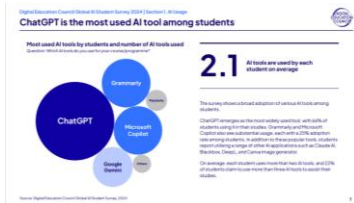
<https://www.digitaleducationcouncil.com/post/digital-education-council-global-ai-student-survey-2024>



26

August 2, 2024 Digital Education Council Global AI Student Survey 2024 The Digital Education Council

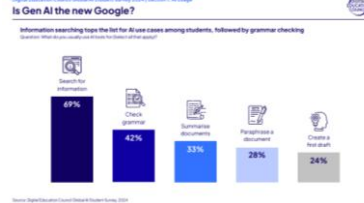
<https://www.digitaleducationcouncil.com/post/digital-education-council-global-ai-student-survey-2024>



27

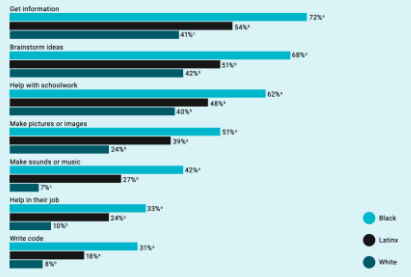
August 2, 2024 Digital Education Council Global AI Student Survey 2024 The Digital Education Council

<https://www.digitaleducationcouncil.com/post/digital-education-council-global-ai-student-survey-2024>



28

% of generative AI users who have used it for the following reasons by race/ethnicity



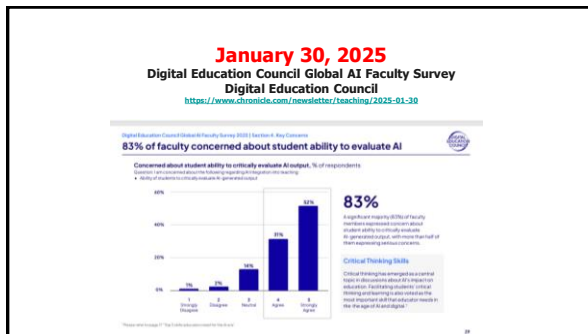
29

January 30, 2024 Digital Education Council Global AI Faculty Survey Digital Education Council

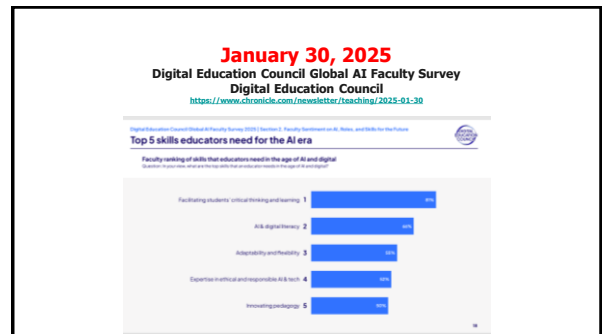
<http://www.dedcouncil.com/newsletter/teaching/2025-01-30>



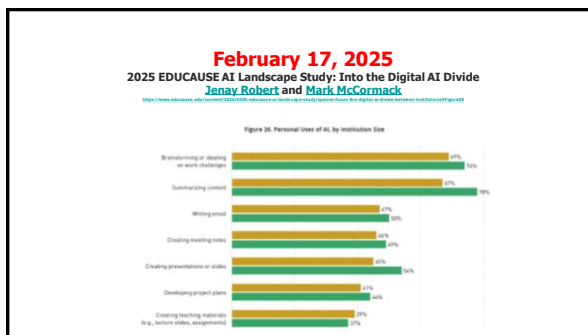
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32



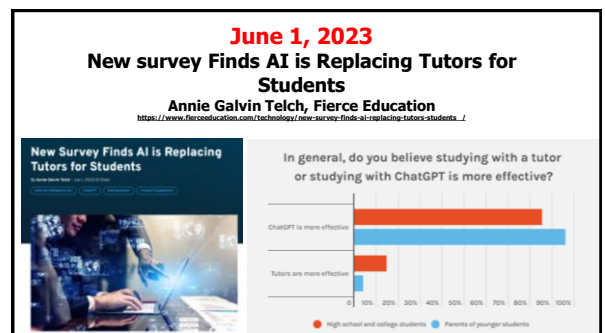
33



34

AI Tutor Pro and AI Teaching Assistant Pro, Contact North
<https://www.aiteachingassistantpro.ca/>
<https://www.aitutorpro.ca/>

35



36

New Survey Finds AI is Replacing Tutors for Students



Some of the reasons cited for ChatGPT usage include:

- Ease of access and convenience of 24/7 availability
- Personalized learning experiences tailored to each student's needs
- Interactive and engaging experience appeals to students
- Comfortability in interacting with a chatbot
- Judgment-free zone when seeking citations or asking questions
- Anonymity fosters a more inclusive learning environment
- Encouragement to explore and learn without hesitation

March 2024

Student affordances to using ChatGPT

The Educational Affordances and Challenges of ChatGPT:

State of the Field

Helen Crompton and Diane Burke, TechTrends

<https://link.springer.com/chap/10.1007/978-1-4939-9929-9>

Student codes

- 24/7 support and accessibility
 - Unlimited access
 - Variety of subjects/platforms
 - Increased opportunities
- Explain difficult concepts
 - Summaries
 - Provide rationale
- Conversation partner
 - Diverse contexts
 - Customized conversations
 - Argument practice
- Personalized feedback and materials
 - Feedback
 - Tailored activities
 - Personalized pacing
 - Personalized materials
 - Recommendations
 - Language assistance

Writing Support

- Writing steps
- Ideas
- Editing
- Self-assessment
 - Generate outlines
 - Study guides
 - Questions
 - Diagnostic reasoning
 - Detailed responses
- Engagement
 - Facilitate discussions
 - Collaboration
 - Interactive learning
- Facilitate self-determination
 - Sense of control
 - Autonomy over learning
 - Increase efficacy

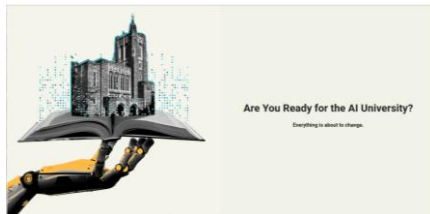
37

38

April 8, 2025

Are You Ready for the AI University
Scott Latham, The Chronicle of Higher Education

<https://www.chronicle.com/article/are-you-ready-for-the-ai-university?x=1>



Are You Ready for the AI University?

Everything is about to change.

39

Education 3.0

The Genesis and Emergence of Education 3.0 in Higher Education and its Potential for Africa

First Monday, by Derek Keats and J. Philipp Schmidt, March 2007

<http://firstmonday.org/issue/12.3/keats/schmidt/article/view/1625/1540>

EDUCATION 3.0

Characteristics	Education 1.0	Education 2.0	Education 3.0
Primary role of professor	Source of knowledge	Guide and source of knowledge	Orchestrator of collaborative knowledge generation
Content arrangements	Traditional copyright materials	Copyright and freespaces educational resources for students within disciplines, sometimes across institutions	Freemium educational resources created and shared by students across multiple institutions, disciplines, nations, supplemented by original materials created for them
Learning activities	Traditional, essays, assignments, tests, some groupwork within classroom	Traditional assignment approaches transferred to more open technologies; increasing collaboration in learning activities; still largely confined to institutional and classroom boundaries	Open, flexible learning activities that focus on creating space for student creativity; social networking outside traditional boundaries of disciplines, institutions, nation

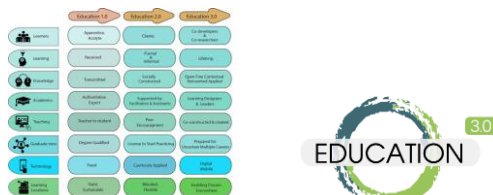
40

September 18, 2017

Education 1.0 to 3.0

Gilly Salmon, University of Liverpool, UK

<http://www.gillysalmon.com/learningfutures.html>



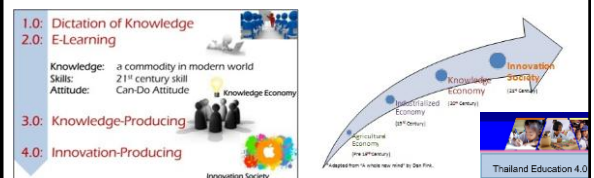
41

Now What is Education 4.0?

"Innovation-producing education. Learn more in: Development of Individual Agency within a Collaborative, Creative Learning Community"

<http://www.igi-global.com/dictionary/education-40/41755>

<https://thinc.in.th/engadmission/education4.html> (Chula Engineering)



42

Is there an Education 5.0?

Education 5.0:

Collaboration and Creativity in Improving Students' Digital Intelligence
<https://btqur.or.id/index.php/injosedu/article/view/202>

Education 5.0 is an innovative approach to education that integrates advanced technology and the latest learning methodologies to create a student-centred learning environment. The research method conducted in this study is literature. The results showed that students' digital intelligence, creativity, and collaborative skills improved. The implementation of Education 5.0, which embraces technology and innovative learning methodologies, facilitates a more dynamic and interactive learning environment, increasing student motivation and participation in the learning process.



43

Education 5.0 (according to ChatGPT)

Education 5.0 is an evolving concept that reflects the integration of advanced technologies, digital tools, and modern pedagogical practices into the education system to prepare learners for the future of work and society. It draws inspiration from Industry 5.0 and focuses on human-centered learning, where technology supports both academic growth and the development of essential life skills.

Here are some key features of Education 5.0:

- 1. Learner-Centric:** The emphasis is on personalized learning, where students take an active role in their education, and learning pathways are tailored to individual needs, preferences, and learning styles.
- 2. Human-Technology Collaboration:** Education 5.0 harnesses the power of AI, machine learning, and other digital technologies to complement human teachers, making learning more efficient, accessible, and engaging. These technologies support, rather than replace, human educators.
- 3. Skills for the Future:** The focus is on developing critical skills such as creativity, problem-solving, emotional intelligence, and ethical reasoning. There is a strong emphasis on **soft skills** and **transversal skills** that help learners adapt to rapidly changing work environments.



44

Education 5.0 (according to ChatGPT)

- 4. Real-World Problem-Solving:** Project-based and experiential learning are central to the concept of Education 5.0, encouraging students to work on real-world challenges that require interdisciplinary knowledge and collaboration.
- 5. Global and Digital Citizenship:** In line with the globalized world, Education 5.0 promotes the idea of global citizenship and digital literacy. Learners are trained to navigate complex socio-cultural and environmental challenges while being responsible digital citizens.
- 6. Lifelong Learning:** Education 5.0 advocates for continuous learning beyond formal education, encouraging individuals to acquire new skills and knowledge throughout their lives to remain relevant in a rapidly evolving world.
- 7. Sustainability and Ethical Focus:** Education 5.0 emphasizes the importance of sustainability and ethical responsibility. It integrates learning about environmental challenges and social justice, encouraging students to become change agents for a more sustainable future.

It is seen as the next stage in the evolution of education, following previous models like Education 3.0 (digital and networked learning) and Education 4.0 (which emphasized technology-enhanced and adaptive learning).



45

Education 5.0:

<https://uquallo.com/post/education-5-0-how-new-trends-are-shaping-the-future-of-education>



Education 5.0 focuses on personalized, learner-centered education through digital technologies. It enhances engagement, improves learning outcomes, and broadens access to education. Key features include personalized learning, interactive tools like gamification and VR, and greater accessibility through online platforms.

46

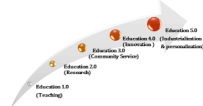
Now What is Education 5.0?

Education 5.0:

<https://www.sylde.com/blog/education-5-0-61e71a99edf3b9259714e25a>

Education 5.0 is the outgrowth of this idea. It doesn't discard the proposals of Education 4.0, but it adds a more human perspective to learning, including social and emotional abilities in order to promote lesser environmental impact with greater health and safety.

- Collaborative work
- Better interpersonal relations, empathy, and tolerance of diversity
- Creativity
- Conflict management
- More fluid communication



47

Now What is Education 5.0?

Education 5.0:

<https://www.sylde.com/blog/education-5-0-61e71a99edf3b9259714e25a>

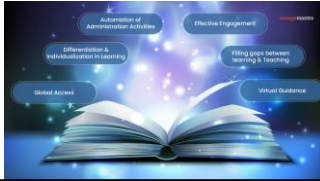
Education Enhances Society: Education 5.0 focuses on preparing individuals with the skills, mindset, and adaptability needed to thrive in a rapidly evolving world. By nurturing critical thinking, creativity, and interdisciplinary problem-solving abilities, Education 5.0 contributes to the overall advancement of Society 5.0's goals, such as sustainable development and technological integration.



48

Activity #3 (Personal, then Paired, and then Small Group): What will Education 5.0 look like in 1-2 decades?

<https://www.orangemantra.com/blog/ai-in-education/>

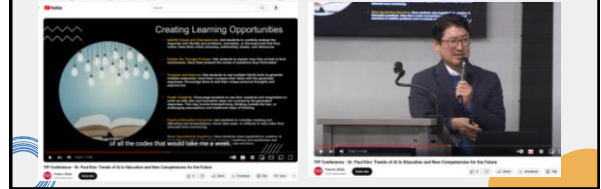


49

March 8, 2024
Paul Kim, Stanford

Cal State Fresno, TIP Conference - Dr. Paul Kim: Trends of AI in Education and New Competencies for the Future Video (1:17:03)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DsUEhxINku8>
Keynote ("Trends of AI in Education and New Competencies for the Future") at the Fresno State University event, Exploring Ethical Uses of AI.



50

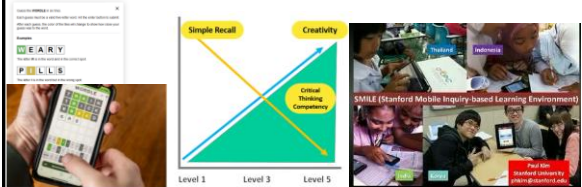
June 6, 2022

Learning is More Game-based

How teachers use Wordle—and other games—for next-level engagement

Laura Ascione, eSchool News

<https://www.eschoolnews.com/2022/06/06/how-teachers-use-wordle-for-next-level-engagement/2/>



51

January 25, 2023

Learning is More Video-based...

YouTube-iversity, ASU

Susan D'Agostino, Inside Higher Ed

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2023/01/25/arizona-state-turns-youtube-reach-learners-margins>



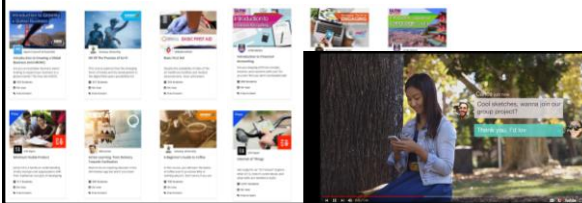
52

Learning is More Self-Directed

The LMS Market is Quickly Losing Ground

Carol Leaman, CLO

<https://www.openlearning.com/>
<https://www.openlearning.com/>



53

December 24, 2022

Learning is Informal

Will AI change the future of language learning? | ChatGPT

Grace Guo, Mandarin Chinese, Tom Gally Japanese
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WNfmU6ibVbE>




54

**Learning is More Self-Directed
Language Lessons Online**
e.g., BBC Learning English, Duolingo, Babbel, SpanishPod, etc.
(Zixi Li & Curt Bonk, 2023 published, Duolingo Research)
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish>



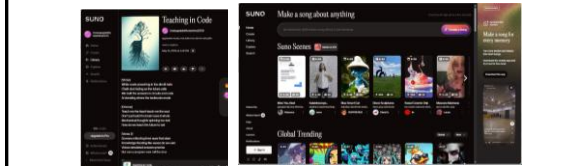
55

December 6, 2024
How Faculty Can Harness Generative AI for Enhanced Learning: Part 1: TEC-VARIETY and R2D2
Curt Bonk, Student Learning Outcomes (SLO), COACHes Hub
Mark Brown, "My Leukemia Story": <https://on.scribd.com/learn/190741/>
**NotebookLM Podcast (17:44): <https://rss.com/podcasts/friday-slo-talks/1790741/>
SLO: <https://www.youtube.com/@studentlearningoutcomes-slo>
NotebookLM Podcast (20:45): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3lhu5FSd4Q>
NotebookLM podcast (12:57): <https://youtu.be/hPr-p2Co-5I>



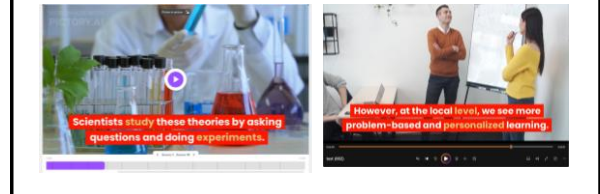
56

May 15, 2025
Learning is More Digitally Rich
Suno: Makes a Song About Anything
How About: The medical educators and AI song, indie rock
<https://suno.com/>
The Future We Create: <https://suno.com/song/5343d47d-8bcd-4d01-88ab-ba51c44695c>
Teaching in Code: <https://suno.com/song/8704ddfc-5d25-4488-95e9-37863b06e3cd>
https://suno.com/create/signup_source=splashpage&referrer=52fhome&redirected_from=signup&id=defaul




57

November 12, 2023
Learning is More Video-based...
Pictory
<https://video.pictory.ai/1699816453911212134320090y0ha2NLYZ80ppDX>
<https://app.pictory.ai/>




58

Activity #4 (Personal, then Paired, and then Small Group): How might you use one of those AI tools?
<https://www.paradisosolutions.com/blog/ai-and-self-directed-learning/>



59

February 20, 2024
Learning is More Visual
Sora: Finally, An AI Video Generator
Video (3:34): <https://youtu.be/IBx3xW1ua-E>



60

February 16, 2024
Learning is More Visual
OpenAI's Video Generator Sora Is Stunning and Utterly Terrifying
 Tony Ho Tron, The Daily Beast

<https://www.thedailybeast.com/openai-video-generator-sora-is-stunning-and-utterly-terrifying>



61

February 16, 2024
Learning is More Visual
OpenAI's Video Generator Sora Is Stunning and Utterly Terrifying
 Tony Ho Tron, The Daily Beast

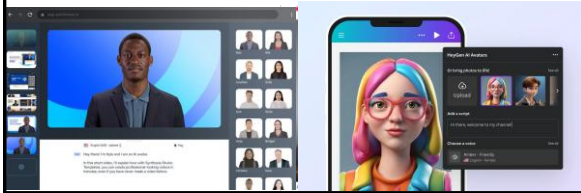
<https://www.thedailybeast.com/openai-video-generator-sora-is-stunning-and-utterly-terrifying>



62

Activity #5 (Paired): How might you use AI video generators? How might it be useful for SDL?

Video (11:22): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Du-ofrqaSk>



63

Wanted:
Billions of Self-Directed Learners

<https://www.peoplematters.in/article/training-development/the-era-of-self-directed-learning-hrs-new-role-and-strategy-24348>



64

Benefits of Self-Directed Learners

<https://discoverpraxis.com/reasons-not-to-go-to-college/>

THE BENEFITS OF SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING

- ✓ Teaches you to take initiative and create value
- ✓ Builds self-confidence
- ✓ Teaches perseverance and flexibility
- ✓ Kindles intrinsic motivation
- ✓ Promotes self-awareness
- ✓ Helps you find a career you find personally fulfilling
- ✓ Allows you to learn skills more holistically
- ✓ Teaches social skills
- ✓ Lets you explore a wider range of interests
- ✓ Gives you the practical experience to execute what you've learned



65

May 29, 2024
Self-directed Learning

<https://helpfulprofessor.com/self-directed-learning-examples/>

SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING	
Self-directed learning (SDL) refers to when an individual identifies their learning needs and sets their own educational objectives.	
DEFINITION	EXAMPLES
In its broadest meaning, SDL describes a process in which individuals take the initiative, with or without the help of others, in diagnosing their learning needs, formulating learning goals, identifying resources for learning, choosing and implementing appropriate learning strategies, and evaluating learning outcomes" (Knowles, 1975, p. 18).	<p>Child exploration A toddler enters an unfamiliar room and immediately begins exploring the surroundings and learning about them.</p> <p>Reading self-help books Mike enjoys reading self-help books about how to become inspired and motivated to reach your fullest potential.</p>

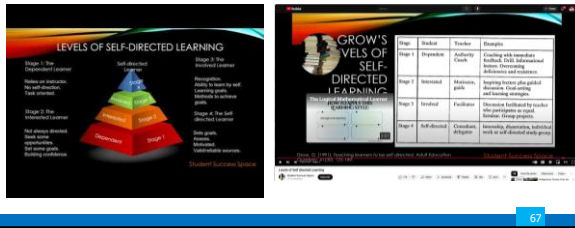
HELPFULPROFESSOR.COM

66

66

Levels of Self-directed Learning

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W01958z91Uo>



67

AI Driven Self-Directed Learning Benefits of AI in Personalized Learning

<https://www.paradisosolutions.com/blog/ai-and-self-directed-learning/>

AI and Self-Directed Learning

Bringing the Knowledge Gap Faster Than Ever

AI Driven Self-Directed Learning

Benefits of AI in Personalized Learning

Here are the benefits of AI in personalized learning, summarized in short points:

- Tailored Content:** AI customizes learning paths to meet individual learner needs.
- Pace Control:** Allows learners to progress at their own speed, adjusting difficulty in real-time.
- Immediate Feedback:** Provides instant insights on performance to correct mistakes promptly.
- Engagement:** Keeps learners motivated by adapting content to be more relevant.
- Empowerment of Educators:** Automates routine tasks, letting teachers focus on mentorship and support.
- Enhanced Learning Retention:** Personalized approaches foster better understanding and retention of material.
- Global Accessibility:** Breaks down geographic and economic barriers, democratizing education.

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Activity #6 (Personal, then Paired, and then Small Group): What have you learned so far?

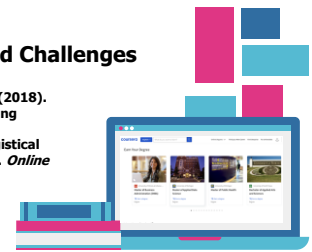
<https://www.orangemantra.com/blog/ai-in-education/>



69

Study #1 MOOCs Design Considerations and Challenges

Zhu, M., Bonk, C. J., & Sari, A. (2018). Instructor experiences designing MOOCs in higher education: Pedagogical, resource, and logistical considerations and challenges. *Online Learning, 22*(4), 203-241.



70

Study Purpose & Research Questions

The purpose of this study is to **provide suggestions** for future MOOC instructors and instructional designers in higher education through exploring MOOC design considerations and challenges from the instructor's perspective.

1. What are the **design considerations** of instructors when designing MOOCs?
2. What **challenges** do instructors perceive when designing MOOCs?
3. How do instructors **address the challenges** that they perceive related to MOOCs?

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Method

Sequential mixed methods design (Creswell & Clark, 2017)

Data Collection:

- Survey
- Interview
- Course review

Participants:

- 143 survey participants (10% response rate)
- 12 interviewees

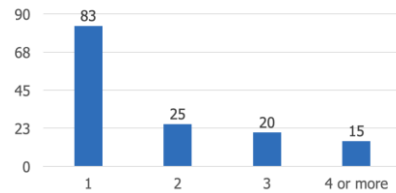
72

12 Interviewees

No.	Countries	Subject areas	Platforms
1.	The U.S.	Language and Literacy	Coursera
2.	The U.S.	Education	Coursera
3.	The U.S.	Education	Canvas
4.	The U.S.	Chemistry	Coursera
5.	UK	Medicine and Health	FutureLearn
6.	UK	Language and Literacy	FutureLearn
7.	Hong Kong (China)	Math	Coursera
8.	Mainland China	Math	Coursera
9.	Canada	Psychology	Coursera
10.	Australia	Medicine and Health	Open2Study
11.	Sweden	Computer Science	edX
12.	India	Management	edX

Research Context

The Number of MOOCs the Instructor has Designed



73

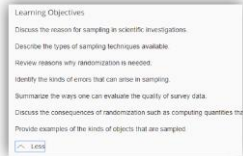
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Findings QR1

RQ #1. What are the design considerations of instructors when designing MOOCs?

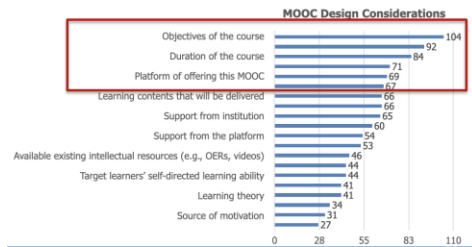
- Learning objectives
- Assessment
- Time for designing MOOC
- Engaging learners

An example of learning objectives:



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Findings QR1: Survey results



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Findings QR1: Interview results

Engage learners

One instructor from US mentioned:

"I engaged people in the forum. So each week I would write a message that would be the new welcome page for the week that would say, 'hey come to the forum and ask questions about this or come to the forum introduce yourself'... Of course, I tried to get students to feel like I was engaged with them during the videos by asking them questions and telling them to do things during the video."

Welcome to Sampling People, Networks and Records! You're joining thousands of learners have you in the class and look forward to your contributions to the learning community.

To begin, I recommend taking a few minutes to explore the course site. Review the material assignments you'll need to complete to pass the course. Click **Discussions** to see forums with fellow students taking the class.

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Findings QR2

RQ #2. What challenges do instructors perceive when designing MOOCs?

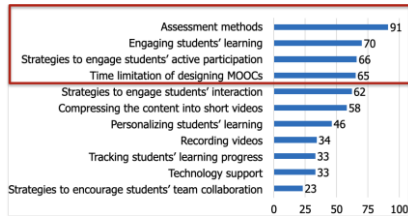
- Assessment methods
- Engaging students' learning
- Time limitation



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Findings QR2: survey result

Design challenges faced by the MOOC instructors



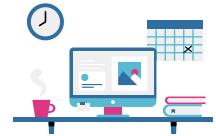
79

Findings QR2: Interview results

Time limitation

One instructor from education subject mentioned:

"I think one of the challenges is time. It does take a lot of time to get the videos done. I did not get a course release when I was doing, and it was a side project at the same time as my regular load."



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Findings QR3

RQ #3. How do instructors address the challenges that they perceive related to MOOCs?

- Explore other MOOC examples.
- Seek help from the platform, colleagues, institutions, etc.

Most Popular Certificates



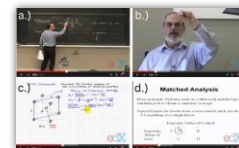
81

RQ3 Interview Results

Explore other MOOC examples

One MOOC instructor from the US mentioned:

"When I started making the MOOC, I could see MOOCs that other people had made. So I could see what other people did in terms of having videos with questions embedded in the videos, which I really liked."

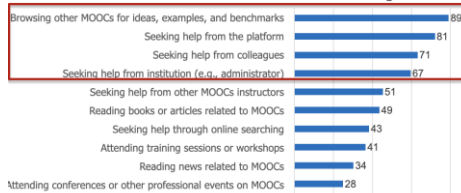


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82

Findings QR3: Survey results

Ways to Address Challenges



83



Study #2. Scaffolds for Self-Directed Learning: A Study of Nepali Teachers Supporting Nepali Adolescents' Success in MOOCs

Li, Z., Zhu, M., Kadirova, D., & Bonk, C.J. (in press). *Towards self-directed learning: How do Nepali adolescents learn with MOOCs*. *Distance Education*.

Li, Z., Kadirova, D., Bonk, C.J., & Zhu, M. (in review). Community in open: Supports, challenges, and impacts of local learning communities of adolescent MOOC learners. *Online Learning*.

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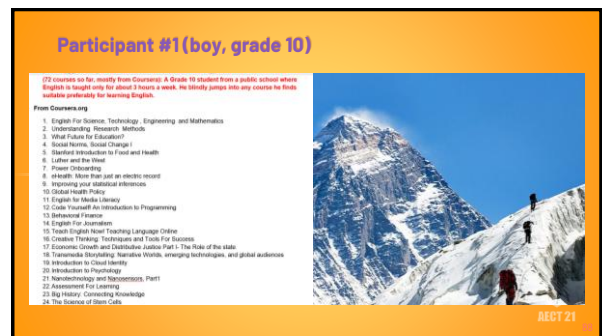
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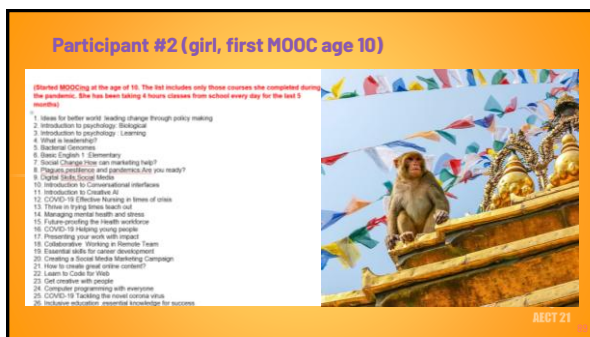
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Self-directed Learning (SDL)

Sze-Yeng and Hussain (2010) defined self-directed learning as "a learner's autonomous ability to manage his or her own learning process, by perceiving oneself as the source of one's own actions and decisions as a responsibility towards one's own lifelong learning."



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Scaffolds | Teacher Support

"The first key feature that distinguishes scaffolding from other forms of instructional support is that is **temporary support** that is provided as students are engaging with problems" (Belland, 2014, Collins et al, 1989, Wood et al, 1976, in Belland, 2017).

- ✓ According to Belland (2017), scaffolding forms include **one-to-one scaffolding**, **peer**, and computer-based scaffolding.
- ✓ Vygotsky stated (1978) that scaffolds include various guides and strategies that serve as a support system for students in the process of obtaining knowledge which they are not able to acquire on their own.



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Theoretical Framework

Based on Garrison's (1997) self-directed learning model, SDL has three overlapping aspects:

1. Self-management (task control)
2. Self-monitoring (cognitive responsibility)
3. Motivation (both entering motivation and task motivation)



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All Participants of the Study

1. Convenient sampling

2. Recruitment: contact teacher

- Nepali students who took and completed at least one MOOC
- Nepali teachers who used MOOCs in their teaching, and whose students took and completed MOOCs



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Participants

Participant	Job title	Years of using MOOCs	School Type	Number of Students Completed MOOCs
Teacher #1	Science Teacher	4 years	Private	15-20
Teacher #2	EFL Teacher	7 years	Private	more than 20
Teacher #3	EFL Teacher, Principal	3 years	Private	more than 20
Teacher #4	EFL Teacher	1 year	Private	more than 20
Teacher #5	EFL Teacher	1 month	Public school; ACCESS	2 completed
Teacher #6	EFL Teacher	1 month	Public school; ACCESS	2 completes
Teacher #7	EFL Teacher, Principal	8-9 years	Private	more than 20



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RQ 1

Sources of support | parental; teacher's fading support; external support

"They did on their own pace but initially **we guided them**, initially we guided them and every week what we follow up them initially but later on they did by themselves." (T#1, line-134-136)

"...the school has been promoting these kinds of activities, please, to let your children be with the computer. If they ask for, and **it was really very difficult to convince the parents as well**." (T#3, line 390-396)



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RQ 1

Sources of support | parental; teacher's fading support; external support

"And we've been brought up in a society where you you're either doctor or engineer or the sort of son was you could not be either one of them, so you were unsuccessful. **So learning about so many different fields through massive open online courses was really a huge eye opener** and has made me believe in many different subjects and many different fields and on with growing my interest in those fields that's all."



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RQ 1

Sources of support | parental; teacher's fading support; external support

- Local schools provide both physical space and awards to facilitate and support students' learning with MOOCs.

"We used to have **six computers in our class** so and our we me with my friends we were **more than 20 in the class**, so we need to manage six at one time to take those mooc courses. And in the beginning, everyone was fully interested in taking those courses and sometimes if the if the time goes, and then we are we used to have time limit of 20 minutes or 30 minutes to do those courses..."



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RQ 1

Sources of support | parental; teacher's fading support; external support

I still remember **our school's page posted about my certificates** my and our groups certificates through the engagement of MOOCs in Facebook and thousands of people saw that and many people messaged me about how they can engage in that."



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RQ 2

Substantial gains | teachers learning from MOOCs, benefits, positive outcomes

"So somehow, very I tell prospective, that **global prospective or dimension**, you know, entered in their learning unknowingly as well." (T#7, line 808-810)

"So, I think it will develop to develop their life skills, I think." (T#5, line 565-566)

"... and in this course, especially English language is involved. If they do this course, **they will learn this language more than they learn from the school, because that is depending on their self learning**" (T#6, line 570-574)



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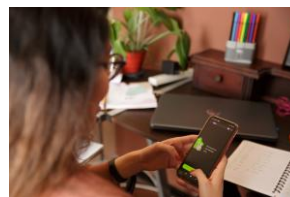
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SDL Definition From Students' Point of View



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Study #3: Li & Bonk (2023, Online First)
Self-directed language learning in Duolingo

102

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Activity #7 (Paired): Have you attempted to learn a language online? How did it go? Any strategies that worked?



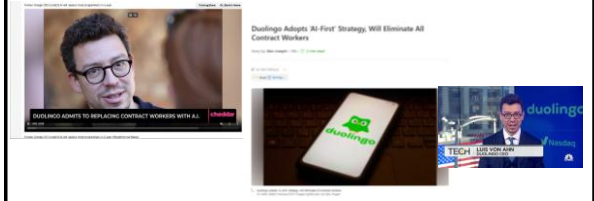
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April 29, 2025

Duolingo Adopts 'AI-First' Strategy, Will Eliminate All Contract Workers

Jibin Joseph, MSN

Former Google CEO predicts AI will replace most programmers in a year
Video (0:33): <https://curtbonk.com/duolingo2025.html>



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Duolingo

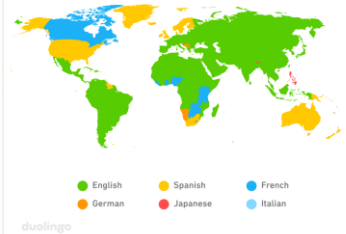
- Duolingo is a free language-learning platform, which has become one of the most popular tools for language learning (Jašková, 2014).
- It includes a language-learning website and a mobile application, offering free lessons among 40 languages for more than 500 million learners (Blanco, 2021)

Number of countries studying most popular languages in 2021

ENGLISH	SPANISH	FRENCH	GERMAN	JAPANESE
120	31	24	7	5
ITALIAN	KOREAN	IRISH	SWAHILI	SWEDISH
2	2	1	1	1

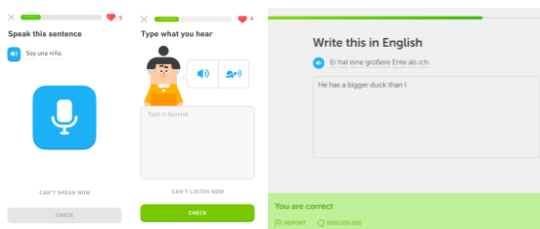
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Most popular language studied on Duolingo in each country in 2024



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Platform Overview



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¡Hola!

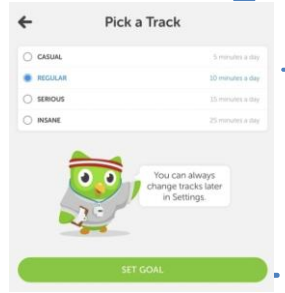
01

Key Features

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Goal Setting

- Based on microlearning.
- Is goal-oriented.
- Range from 5 min/day to 20 min/day.
- Flexibility to personalized.
- Teachers may track students' performance if use "Schools"

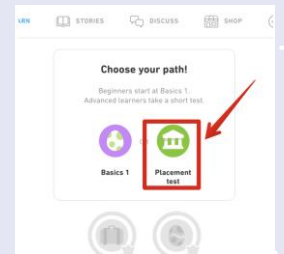


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Placement test

Offered at the beginning that enables users to **assess** their level of proficiency in the target language.

The test only takes few minutes to complete and will provide an approximate estimation of a user's skills.



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Four Types of Questions



Vocabulary: You'll see a picture of the item and be asked to name it in either your native or target language.



Translation: You'll be asked to translate a word or sentence out of English and into the other language, or vice versa.



Listening: You'll hear an audio clip of a word or sentence and be asked to type it in. You'll see "Type what you hear" above it. (Note that you won't be translating for these questions — for instance, if you hear the sentence in Spanish, type it in Spanish, not English.) To play the clip more slowly, click the smaller turtle icon beneath the main speaker button.



Speaking (optional): You'll be asked to repeat or translate sentences using the microphone on your computer or mobile device.

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Example Items: Vocabulary

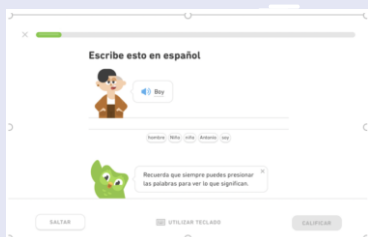
Your learner may get vocabulary questions asking them to identify a picture in response to the question. They can hover over each picture to hear an English speaker pronouncing the word.



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Example Items: Translation

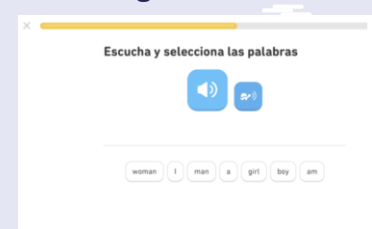
The test includes translation items. Learners are asked to translate an English word or sentence into their native language.



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Example Items: Listening

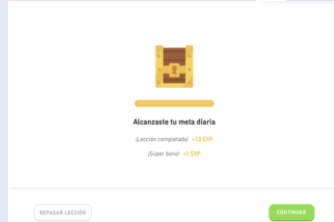
Learners will hear a sentence in English. They can choose to hear it again by clicking on the speaker button or hear it in slow-motion by clicking on the turtle.



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Example Items: After the Test

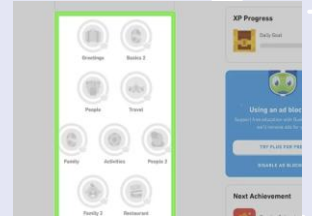
After completing the test, the learner should see a treasure chest. Beneath the treasure chest there is information about the number of experience points they have been awarded for taking the test.



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Access the Skill Tree

- The skill tree is where you'll do most of your learning.
- It's split into different units, and each unit contains multiple lessons.
- As you progress through the language, more units will be available to you.



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Gamification

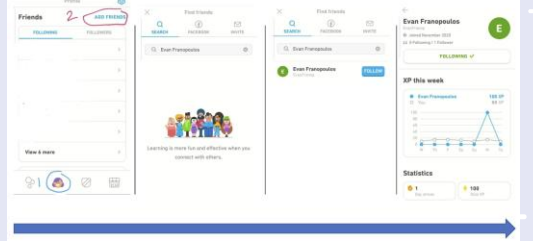
Duolingo applies **gameful learning** to keep the **learner motivated** and consistently engaged in a **positive and casual learning environment**.

Its learning process is structured as a learning game that has game features, such as **reward, badges, and leader-board**, to allow users to learn as playing.



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The Friends Feature



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04

Our Research



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Overview of the Study

This study investigated the types of self-directed learning (SDL) skills that learners apply when learning a language out of the classroom with systems like Duolingo. It also explored how the design and delivery of Duolingo can support and facilitate student SDL.

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Context of the Study

- Learning with technology (e.g., Duolingo) in an out-of-classroom context is often challenged by the absence of instructors and lack of guidance.
- Therefore, it demands a much higher level of self-directed learning (SDL) ability for the learners to be successful.
- White (1995) suggests that learners need to have strong independence, autonomy, and control to self-manage learning and make their own decisions in distance language learning.

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Garrison's (1997) Framework of SDL

- **Self-management** is the task control ability that is associated with external activities, such as time, resources, and goal management.
- **Self-monitoring** is the cognitive and metacognitive process of establishing learning strategies and learning paces.
- **Motivation** can initiate and sustain learning efforts towards cognitive goals (Garrison, 1997).

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Research Questions

- How do Duolingo learners self-manage their learning goals, time, resources, and support?
- What strategies are employed by Duolingo learners to overcome challenges and frustrations related to learning foreign languages with Duolingo?
- What motivating factors underpin the decisions of learners to learn a foreign language with Duolingo?
- How does the design and delivery of Duolingo foster learners to be self-directed learners?

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Study Design

The 10 research participants represented a wide range of age and ethnic groups.

Participants of this study were screened and identified through the previous survey that was distributed through the Duolingo forum, an online language community using Discord, as well as through postings on Facebook pages, emails, and WeChat groups. The interviewees' demographics are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Duolingo Interview Demographic and Language Learning Information

Interviewee	Gender	Country	Native Language	# of years using Duolingo	Language learned through Duolingo
P1	M	Mexico	Spanish	More than 5 years	English, French
P2	M	United States	English	1 - 3 years	Japanese
P3	F	China	Chinese	Less than 6 months	Japanese
P4	F	Costa Rica	Spanish	6 months - 1 year	Portuguese
P5	F	China	Chinese	1 - 3 years	French
P6	F	Indonesia	Indonesian	6 months - 1 year	French, German, Spanish
P7	M	Germany	German	6 months - 1 year	Chinese
P8	F	United States	English, French, Spanish	6 months - 1 year	Arabic
P9	M	United Kingdom	English	6 months - 1 year	Chinese, Indonesian, Spanish
P10	F	Singapore	Malay	Less than 6 months	Japanese

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Self-monitoring

- Learners self-monitor their learning process through feelings of knowing, content evaluation, and the judgment of the adequacy of information available. Learners can spontaneously recognize the content they learned in Duolingo when they unconsciously encounter the language in daily life. However, they fail to recall the entire knowledge base that they learned with accuracy or completion.
- Learners highly rely on technology to monitor their learning through habit reinforcement and tracking.

"Well, what I can do now is when somebody is talking in French, I know that is French. I can identify some really simple French dialogue when somebody says it."

Interviewee #5



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Goal Management

- Goals specify the amount of effort required to succeed and the self-satisfaction anticipated (Schunk, 1990).
- Goal setting leads to task assessment and considerations of the appropriate learning strategies from a metacognitive perspective (Ridley et al., 1992).
- In MALL, timescales influence the dynamic nature of the learning ecology and so influence the learning goals.
- Setting realistic and achievable goals is more likely to lead to a successful SDL.

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Self-management

- **Specific goals** can lead to **improved performance**, and learners' learning goals can be self-initiated or technology-defined.
- **Distractions** from daily living may **make time management difficult**, both physically and psychologically.
- A single MALL tool like **Duolingo is not enough** to master a language in all dimensions; as a result, they seek and manage **other resources** to complement their learning.
- **Both human and material resources** can be used to complement Duolingo learning.

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Self-management



Interviewee #2

"I think my biggest suggestion, as I mentioned a little earlier, is **just don't use Duolingo as your only resource**. Because particularly nowadays or for any language, there are so many other resources out there and there are certain things that each of them does better or worse than the others."



Interviewee #9

"My opinion on that is since Duolingo is a non-human system, I think to have **a human tutor** at the end of a section would actually be a nice relief, a nice change of pace."

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Time Management

- The majority of interviewees (n=8) stated that **daily life activities are a constraint** to their time management.
- The significant obstacle is due to **work demands**, which have an impact on learners' physical and emotional ability to complete their learning goals on a consistent basis.

"Because **my schedule** can be busy. Sometimes, especially during the exam period in schools, I really have no time. I'm just busy completing my markings."

- Interviewee #10

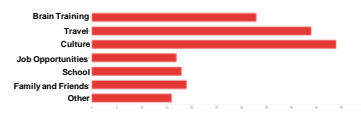


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Finding: Motivation

Language learners are mostly driven by intrinsic motivators that relates to **culture, travel, and brain training**.

Q3. What motivated you to learn a foreign language?



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Finding: Motivation

- The idea is that I would **really like to go to Europe someday**. (P5)
- So in the last month, the idea came up of going from Hamburg with the train to Moscow and then transit to the trains. And then make some stops in Siberia and then end at Beijing and enjoy the visit in China. (P7)
- But for people, who are more like my mother, when she talks about it, she is just like, "oh, well, I'm learning it. I don't expect to be conversational and I'm just learning it to **keep my mind sharp**." (P8)



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Motivation

- **Learners are mostly driven by intrinsic needs and interests**, such as culture, **travel**, and brain training.
- Learners use tools like Duolingo to gain a **sense of achievement** and fulfillment through maintaining streaks, progressing learning, organizing events, and socializations.

"Because sometimes you just lay on your bed, watch some operas or reality shows and do nothing, **but then your Duolingo pops and you'll learn French for five minutes**, and you feel really good about yourself. I don't think people will interpret this way, but it helped me to build up this positive energy for life."



Interviewee #5

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Discussion

- This study found that **nine of the ten interviewees were strongly driven by intrinsic motivators**, such as social engagement and personal interests, though extrinsic motivation such as for school or obtaining a VISA may also exist.
- It suggests that curriculum developers and instructional designers may **seek a way to bridge students' language learning requirements with the students' innate interests and needs, such as socialization.**
- By doing so, it might **close the gap** between students' highly desired learning of languages often pursued informally with their **academic needs** in formal classroom settings.

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THANKS

Do you have any questions?
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Dr. Curtis J Bonk cjbonk@indiana.edu

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Related Publications

7. Li, Z., Bonk, C. J., & Zhou, C. (2024). Supporting learner's self-management for self-directed language learning: A study within Duolingo. *Interactive Technology and Smart Education*, 21(3), 381-402.
8. Li, Z., & Bonk, C. J. (2025). Self-directed language learning with Duolingo in an out-of-class context. *Computer Assisted Language Learning*, 38(3), 569-591. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09588221.2023.2206874>

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IST CONFERENCE, 2023

Study #4. Investigating South American Massive Open Online Course (MOOCs) Instructors' Designs Supporting Self-Directed Learning (SDL)

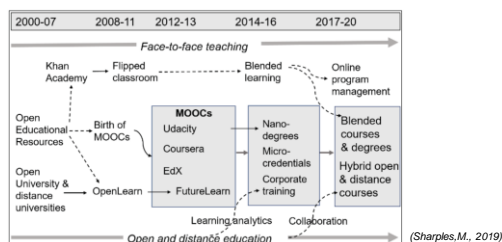
Xiaoying Zheng, Zixi Li, Dr. Curtis J. Bonk, Dr. Meina Zhu, Dr. Thomas Reynolds

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Massive Open Online Course (MOOCs)

CONTEXT



(Sharples, M., 2019)



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Garrison's (1997) SDL Framework

LITERATURE REVIEW

1. **Self-management** refers to the ability of task control, including goal setting and the management of time, resources, and support.
2. **Self-monitoring** refers to the cognitive and metacognitive process to construct learning approaches and strategies while setting the learning pace.
3. **Motivation** refers to both entering motivation and task motivation, which can initiate and sustain learning efforts towards cognitive goals.



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MOOCs & SDL

LITERATURE REVIEW

1. MOOC learning significantly differs from traditional classroom learning regarding the roles and duties of both instructors and learners (Zhu et al., 2020).
2. **Successful MOOCs learning requires self-directed learning (SDL) skills** (Kim et al., 2021; Zhu et al., 2020).
3. As the **opportunities to learn from free and open online resources have become increasingly common**, there has been increased research interest in self-regulated learning (SRL) and SDL when accessing MOOCs (Alonso-Mencia et al., 2020).



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Research Gaps

LITERATURE REVIEW

1. **Less than 1%** of the scientific literature on MOOCs has been centered in the South American region (Veletsianos & Shepherdson, 2016).
2. Existing research on MOOCs in South America has primarily employed **quantitative research methods** (Sánchez & Reyes-Rojas, 2019; Veletsianos & Shepherdson, 2016; Zhu, Sari, & Bonk, 2018).
3. While the majority of MOOCs research focused on students' learning, recent research indicated that designing MOOCs is **challenging for instructors** because of MOOCs' massiveness and openness (Sari et al., 2020).



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Research Questions

LITERATURE REVIEW

1. What strategies do MOOCs instructors in South America use to **facilitate learners' self-management skills**, such as goal setting, time, and resource management?
2. What strategies do instructors use to **support learners' self-monitor skills**, such as self-evaluating learning and monitoring process?
3. What strategies do instructors use to **maintain learners' motivation**?
4. What are some **frustrations and challenges** for instructors when they design MOOCs?

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Participants Recruitment

METHOD

1. **366 MOOCs instructors from institutions in South America** were identified from major MOOCs websites (i.e., Coursera, EdX, FutureLearn).
2. A **bilingual survey** in English and Spanish was distributed through emails to these instructors to collect demographic information, understanding towards SDL, and screen participants.
3. The criteria for selecting these participants were that they should have **designed at least one MOOC**.
4. **44 survey responses** were collected, and **11 instructors** accepted the interview invitation.

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Participants Demographics

METHOD

Name	Gender	Country	# of MOOCs taught
Alejandro	Male	Colombia	1
Bruno	Male	Argentina	more than 5
Christopher	Male	Colombia	2
Daniela	Female	Colombia	1
Echa	Female	Colombia	2
Felipe	Male	Brazil	1
Gavino	Male	Colombia	2
Hernán	Male	Brazil	4
Ignacio	Male	Colombia	1
Jorge	Male	Chile	3
Keiman	Male	Chile	1



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1. Self-Management

TENTATIVE FINDINGS

Key finding 1:

The most common way to support self-management is breaking down a long video (e.g., 30 mins) into **short videos** (e.g., 5 mins).

Quote 1: "**Shorter videos instead of longer videos is better** because you can ask questions about the specific topic, not the 30 minutes talking to the camera." (Bruno)

Quote 2: "If you do videos that are 20-min long, that's sad, but they are not going to last. **If you do 5 videos of 3 minutes each**, in comparison to one of 20 minutes, or something like that, it's gonna be different." (Echa)

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Self-Management

TENTATIVE FINDINGS

Key finding #2: Many of them **did not help with goal setting** for students, but said students to do so. About half of them mentioned **writing clear learning objectives** is important so that students know what to expect and give students directions.

Quote: "No, I definitely did not design the MOOC with that in mind. And I guess within class, it's very seldom that you find the student that wants to go beyond the core class requirements....I should incorporate complimentary MOOCs that they like to take to direct them to online material that might be of their interests." (Keiman)



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Self-Monitoring

TENTATIVE FINDINGS

Key finding: Reflection questions, progress bar that shows completion, quizzes, and peer-to-peer evaluations, and forums are designed for students to self-monitor their learning.

Quote 1: "...progress bars, like a roadmap, of course, completion. So you know where you are in each way you can saw. Yes, I think most of those tools we have." (Felipe)

Quote 2: "Oh, in terms of monitoring their learning, what we have is a single material. I have a quiz associated with it, and they only progress in the course if they fer 80% of the quiz correct." (Hernán)



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Motivation

TENTATIVE FINDINGS

Key finding: About half of the interviewees mentioned that they make efforts to motivate students by **designing interactive elements** (e.g. peer-to-peer interaction, pop-out quizzes in the video), but the gamification features are limited.

Quote 1: "They started like, okay, 'did you know that?' And you needed to click (the answers) in order to **let it (the feedback) pop out**, and then get more information....They made it **definitely more interactive** than just a reading a book or an article." (Alejandro)

Quote 2: "We manage motivation with a **lot of visual aids**, just like dynamics, not like try to make like **short videos**, show something to **make a question**, something have to interact and come back and give answer to the question, see if you fei it right or not." (Daniela)



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Professional Development

TENTATIVE FINDINGS

Key finding: Almost all the teachers **received a certain level of training or facilitation from their home institutions on editing videos**. They indicated that working in a team with instructional designers or technicians is crucial.

Quote 1: "The university has a **recording studio**, with two employees working there. They recorded the video and did small editing, so that's a very good support." (Hernán)

Quote 2: "I **had a lot of supports on the recordings**, and tutoring my materials of my actual physical course, and then like how to translate the specific activities to make it adapt to MOOCs." (Jorge)



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Interesting Perspectives

TENTATIVE FINDINGS

1. Students need to feel the **content is relevant** to their life can be motivated, which aligns with previous studies on **major motivations to take MOOCs**.
2. Some **instructors collaborate with European instructors** to teach MOOCs, **teaching styles** differ from South American styles and so need students to adapt.
3. Some South-American-based MOOCs platforms are **more adapted to their culture** (i.e., aesthetic, gamification features, etc.).

One instructor mentioned he felt lonely because not many people in South America worked on designing MOOCs and he could not find more accessible support when designing MOOCs.



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Fill in Research Gaps

SIGNIFICANCE

- **Less than 1%** of the scientific literature on MOOCs has been centered in the South American region (Veletsianos & Shepherdson, 2016).
- Existing research on MOOCs in South America has primarily employed **quantitative research methods** (Sánchez & Reyes-Rojas, 2019; Veletsianos & Shepherdson, 2016; Zhu, Sari, & Bonk, 2018).
- While the majority of MOOCs research focused on students' learning, recent research indicated that designing MOOCs is **challenging for instructors** because of MOOCs' massiveness and openness (Sari et al., 2020).



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Thank you!

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Study #5. SDPD

Exploring Self-Directed Professional Development (SDPD): From Tango Enthusiasts to Tango Instructors

Zixi Li, Xiaoying Zheng, Carrie Feng, and Curtis J. Bonk (2023)

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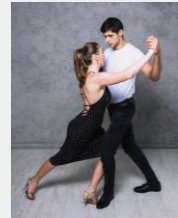
Self-directed professional development (SDPD)

- Professional development is an educational practice that improves **job performance** (Mizell, 2010).
- Not** all the teachers in different fields receive adequate PD support from education systems (Mushayikwa & Lubben, 2009).
- Teachers are likely to initiate self-directed professional development (SDPD), when minimal PD is provided by formal education systems.
- Existing studies focus on SDPD in formal education, such as high school math teachers' SDPD; scant research is conducted with amateurs.

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Why Argentine tango?

- 1 Learning dance is increasingly popular.
- 2 Argentine tango is hard to teach because it requires improvisation and critical thinking while lacking instructor training programs.
- 3 Researcher is an insider of the community.



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Self-directed professional development (SDPD)

- SDPD is a type of **self-directed learning (SDL)** that is performed by instructors toward their PD (Tembe, 2011).
- SDPD on teaching is one of the critical channels for teachers as they take the **initiative** and have a **desire** to learn (Van Eekelen et al., 2006).
- However, the spotlight has been always on professional teachers, leaving out the valuable experience of **highly-motivated amateur teachers**, who have even less institutional support compared to formal teachers.

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Research Question

- How do tango instructors **self-manage** their goals, time, and resources toward self-directed professional development?
- What **self-monitoring** strategies are employed by tango instructors to overcome challenges and frustrations related to their professional development?
- What **motivating factors** underpin the decisions of tango instructors to self-directed grow their professions as instructors?

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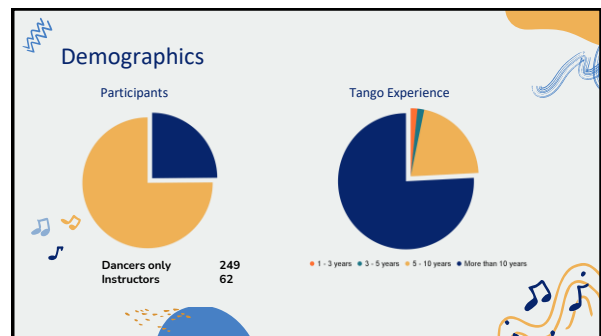
Overview

This study is based on an explanatory sequential mixed methods design (Ivankova et al., 2006; Creswell & Plano Clark, 2007) to investigate SDPD from tango instructors' perspectives. The data collection process included:

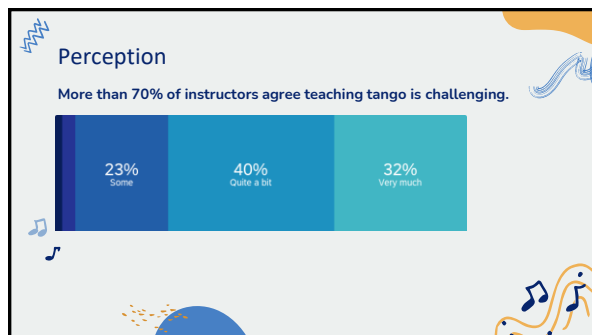
- 1) an online survey with tango teachers distributed through Qualtrics;
- 2) one-to-one interviews with 21 instructors through Zoom;

The survey data was analyzed using descriptive statistics. Individual interviews were analyzed through thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2012).

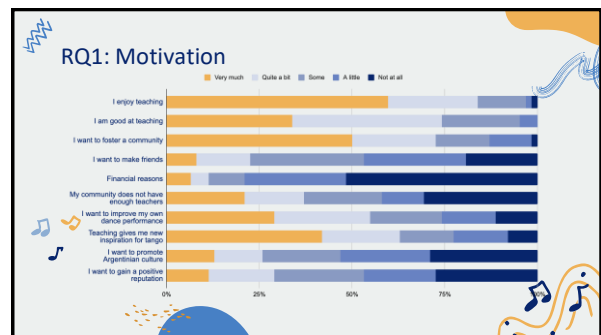
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RQ1: Motivation

The major motivation to teach tango are the enjoyment of teaching and community building.

- "There is a joy around teaching, it's really fulfilling. People are really happy to learn something new. You're really happy when you're like you set a class, and then you see, like from the beginning to the end, and people have changed."
- "I teach because I want to expand our community and share my love of Argentine Tango. Yet, I feel unworthy of teaching but for the realization that it is necessary to step up to teach, encourage, and share in order to grow our small tango community."

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RQ1: Motivation

Interview data revealed that motivation could be changed over time. Impressively, 13 of the 21 participants claimed that their entering motivation to start teaching is different from their motivation to continue teaching.

- "I think at the beginning, like it was [I] just wanted to be part of the club. You know what I mean, like, I really wanted to be, like I thought these people who were practicing tango teachers and professionals were just, I don't know just amazing and cool and beautiful, and fun and gentle and skillful people that I wanted to be like them. I wanted to kind of have access to that world. I wanted to dance with them, you know. I wanted to just really be part of that world."
- "Nowadays, it's definitely changed. I think I've grown to enjoy sharing my knowledge and teaching other people and helping other people along in their journey and the social side of it"

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RQ2: Self-management

Tango instructors primarily use their prior teaching experiences, and self-reflection as a student, as well as other teachers in the community as resources to self-manage their learning and resolve challenges.

- In fact, 16 of 21 instructors have prior teaching and coaching experiences in formal schooling, nursing, sports, other dance forms, etc.

"We know when we have met a good teacher, we know we have a bad teacher, and it's almost independent of the subject, right? And I would say that those things I feel almost all independent of this specific thing taught. I think that there are some stuff that transfer is over as well as like, they're both kinda heady topics, even though tango is like a movement-based dance, there's a lot of like theory that the students get."

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RQ2: Self-management

- Another finding regarding teaching resources revealed from the interview data but not indicated through the survey was instructors' self-reflections based on their tango learning experiences.

"I like taking classes with other teachers. It's always learning. I learn [teaching] by taking classes with them. I'm a student; and as a student, I judge their teaching, like is it clear to me? Am I understanding it? And then I might think, "well, I would do it differently", or "I like that, that works" So from taking classes with other teachers, I also learn how to teach."

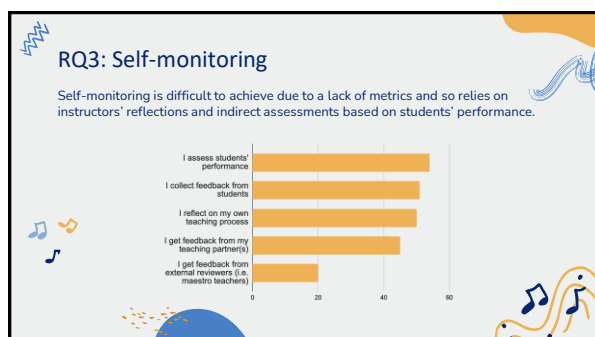
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RQ2: Self-management

- Eight interviewees also confirmed that a community of teachers that provides them opportunities to discuss teaching both serves as a critical self-management resource that supports teaching improvement as well as plays an important role in motivating instructors.

"I'll talk to other teachers like I will frequently sit down and talk to them. I try to get my information vetted, so I talked to colleagues but I don't have any formal education in teaching."

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RQ3: Self-monitoring

- Interview participants also indicated that it is difficult to self-evaluate if their teaching is improved or not because there is a fast student turn-around in a leisure learning context and there are no objective metrics for self-assessment.

"When I teach, I teach different groups. So at this time, next weekend, it is people who have been dancing for ten years, and maybe next time it might be a beginner's course. So it's difficult to evaluate if I get better." Julia also offered, "I don't know. I'm sure that depends on the person [and] on the student. I don't think there's something super-objective to say about that."

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RQ3: Self-monitoring

- Twelve interviewees suggest that they assess their teaching as critical self-reflection.

"I know my teaching has improved when changes were made, when I've no longer taught the same thing [in] the same way. Or I know my teaching has improved when I'm teaching different things than I usually taught."

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RQ3: Self-monitoring

- Nine interviewees suggested that they knew their teaching was improved by observing students' performance.

"Assessing progress and setting goals is a moving target. I know I'm getting better when I see my students improving in terms of their awareness, their enthusiasm, their independence, I like empowering them as learners, so that they're looking to dig deeper. To me that's the most exciting thing."

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Manuscript in Review

Li, Z., Feng, C., Zheng, X., & Bonk, C. J. (2025, online first). Exploring self-directed professional development (SDPD): From hobbyists to acknowledged tango teachers. *Professional Development in Education*, 1-25. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19415257.2025.2495359>

Li, Z., Zheng, X., Feng, C., Bonk, C. J. (in press). Investigating self-directed learning in adult tango dancers: The strategies to pursue passion. *Adult Education Quarterly*.

Li, Z., Zheng, X., Bonk, C. J., & Feng, C. (in review). Dancing at a distance: Exploring emergency remote teaching through the eyes of Argentine tango teachers. *Research in Dance Education*.

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Thank you!

Have more questions?

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Study #6 (Meina Zhu & Curt Bonk) MOOCs Instructional Design to Facilitate Participants' Self-Directed Learning

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Key Terms

Self-directed learning (SDL) (Garrison, 1997)

- (1) self-management
- (2) self-monitoring
- (3) motivation

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Research Purpose

- The purpose is to inform instructors or instructional designers and MOOC providers of the current practices of designing MOOCs to facilitate learners' SDL.



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Research Questions

- How do MOOC instructors perceive participant SDL skills?
- How do MOOC instructors perceive their facilitation of participant SDL skills?
- How do instructors design and deliver MOOCs to facilitate participant SDL skills?
 - How is technology being used by MOOC instructors to support the development of participant SDL skills?
 - What technology features or functions do MOOC instructors want to have to improve their facilitation of MOOC participant SDL skills?

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Data Collections

Survey:

- Volunteer sampling (Creswell & Clark, 2017)
- 198 instructors responded to the survey (10% response rate)

Interview:

- Homogeneous purposeful sampling (Creswell & Clark, 2017; Patton, 2002)
- Maximal variation sampling (Creswell & Clark, 2017)
- 22 interviewees

MOOC review:

- Reviewed 22 interviewees' MOOCs



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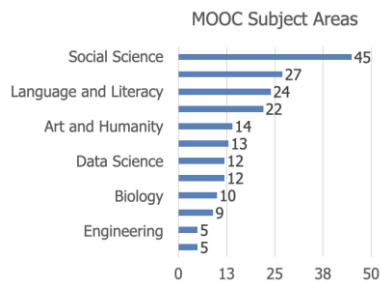
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Research Participants

Pseudonym	Country	Subject area	Platform	Gender	No. of O/B	No. of M	Mode of the M	
Lucas	US	Social science	edX	M	0	1	I without T	
Brandon	US	Education	Udacity	M	0	5 or more	Self-paced	
Logan	US	Literacy and	Coursera	M	5 or more	5 or more	I with T	
Emma	US	Language	Coursera	F	2	1	Self-paced	
Jason	US	Language	edX	M	1	1	I with T	
Jackson	US	Science	Coursera	M	5 or more	1	Self-paced	
Samuel	US	health	FutureLearn	M	4	3	Self-paced	
Hannah	US	Education	Blackboard	F	5 or more	1	I with T	
Ashley	US	Education	edX	F	0	5 or more	I with T	
Andrew	UK	Art	FutureLearn	M	0	3	I with T	
Emily	UK	Medicine and	FutureLearn	F	2	2	I with T	
Aiden	UK	health	FutureLearn	M	0	1	Self-paced	
Henry	UK	Social science	FutureLearn	M	0	1	Self-paced	
Joseph	UK	Medicine and	FutureLearn	M	1	1	Self-paced	
Joshua	UK	health	Literacy and	FutureLearn	M	2	2	I with T
Mason	Australia	language	Coursera	M	5 or more	1	I with T	
Ethan	Australia	Business	Coursera	M	3	1	I without T	
Ben	Australia	Social science	edX	M	1	1	I with T	
Paul	France	Computer Science	Coursera	M	1	1	I with T	
Fernando	Belgium	Research	Blackboard	M	5 or more	3	I with T	
Jacob	Netherlands	methods	Science	Coursera	M	0	1	I with T
Dylan	Israel	Science	Coursera	M	5 or more	3	I without T	

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Research Context



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RQ1 Finding: Perceptions of SDL

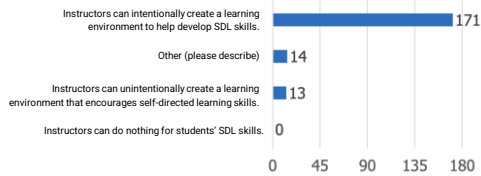
A majority of the MOOC instructors thought that these **skills or attributes are not static**, and that **SDL as a set of skills can be educated** or **students' personal attributes that can be changed**.



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RQ2 Finding: Perceptions of Facilitation of SDL

Most of MOOC instructors thought that they **can intentionally or unintentionally facilitate students' SDL**.



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RQ2 Finding: Perceptions of Facilitation of SDL

Ashely emphasized the importance of both instructors' facilitation and students' SDL skills. She said:

"The participant has a lot of flexibility on how they approach the content. I mean, obviously, we have things like assignments. We have things like online forums. And there're ways that we scaffold the learning experience. But there still is a lot of choice for the learner."



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RQ3 Finding: Strategies to Facilitate SDL

Students' intrinsic motivation plays an important role. However, extrinsic motivation provided by the MOOCs might help transfer extrinsic motivation to intrinsic motivation.

Motivations	Strategies
Entering motivation	MOOC instructors helped students identify the needs and goals of learning and sense of achievement.
Task motivation	MOOC instructors motivated students through instruction, learning materials, feedback, and learning community.

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RQ3 Finding: Strategies to Facilitate SDL

Both internal feedback and external feedback were provided to help students' self-monitoring.

Self-monitor	Strategies
Internal feedback	<p>Cognition: MOOC instructors provided quizzes for self-assessment, tutorial on technology use, learning advice, navigation of the course, progress indicators, resources, and instructional modeling, etc.</p> <p>Meta-cog: MOOC instructors encouraged students to reflect and think critically by providing reflection questions and building learning community.</p>
External feedback	MOOC instructors, teaching assistants, and peers were involved in providing external feedback.

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RQ3 Finding: Strategies to Facilitate SDL

They helped students' self-management concerning setting learning goals, time management, resources and support management although among the three elements of SDL, MOOC instructors had less control over students' management.

Self-management	Strategies
Enactment of learning goals	Providing discussion questions, reflections, survey, and appreciation students' learning goals.
Time management	Providing time frame, progress indicator, short learning units, and flexible timeline.
Management of resources and support	Providing flexible learning resources, peer-assessment, accessibilities, clear expectations, and short learning units.

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RQ3.a Finding: Tech Use for SDL

Synchronous communication technologies

Google Hangouts



YouTube Live



Asynchronous communication technologies

Discussion forum



Flickr



Blog



Slackbot



Multimedia (e.g., video and graphics)

Feedback technologies

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Discussion

- **SDL can be Changed**
- **MOOC Instructors can Facilitate SDL**
- **Strategies to Facilitate SDL:** A variety of strategies can be used to facilitate student SDL skills in terms of motivation, self-monitor, and self-management.
- **Tech for SDL:** Tech plays a vital role in facilitating SDL skills.
- **Tech expectations:** Adaptive learning systems, artificial intelligent systems, and learning analytics were expected to have to support SDL.

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Do we have time for another study?



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Study #7. Zhu, Bonk, & Berri

MOOC Learners and SDL

Zhu, M., Bonk, C. J., & Berri, S. (2022). Fostering self-directed learning in MOOCs: Motivation, learning strategies, and instruction. Online Learning



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Research Questions

1. What motivated individuals to enroll in MOOCs?
2. What were the learning strategies that helped learners' SDL in MOOCs?
3. What were the design and instructional elements of MOOCs that facilitated learners' SDL?

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Study #7 Participants

MOOC Learners and SDL

Zhu, M., Bonk, C. J., & Berri, S. (2022). Fostering self-directed learning in MOOCs: Motivation, learning strategies, and instruction. Online Learning

Table 1
Participant Interviews: Demographic Information

Pseudonym	Gender	Countries	Occupations
Abdulahman	M	Turkey	Teacher
Ali	M	Yemen	Student
Alina	F	The UK	Student
Betty	F	Albania	Engineer
Chang	M	Canada	Artist
Dan	M	Mexico	Professor
Helen	F	Indonesia	Administrative assistant
Jacob	M	The US	Retired management consultant
Jane	F	The US	Educator
Joe	M	The UK	Retired engineer
Melena	F	Germany	Student
Mostapha	F	Egypt	Student
Sandy	F	The US	Student
Sarah	F	The US	Between jobs
Sophia	F	The Netherlands	Retired office manager

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RQ1. Intrinsic Motivation

Jacob, a retired management consultant from the US, expressed his motive behind enrolling in MOOCs as strictly intrinsic, "there's no reward. **I'm retired.** It's really just [that] **I get very interested in topics. I realize holes in my knowledge and try to fill the holes.**"



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RQ1: Extrinsic Motivation

Besides educational purposes, some participants enrolled in MOOCs to help with their career development. For example, Sarah, who received her Ph.D. degree and was in between jobs at the time, selected topics such as anatomy, MatLab software, oncology, biology, and neuroscience. Sarah explained the purpose for taking these types of MOOCs was:

To acquire and improve my knowledge as a medical physicist...I consider my resume when selecting MOOC. I choose courses related to my professional field to add them to my curriculum; otherwise, there would be a period without being in contact with my profession.

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RQ1. Extrinsic Motivation

Besides educational purposes, some participants enrolled in MOOCs to help with their career development. For example, Sarah, who received her Ph.D. degree and was in between jobs at the time, selected topics such as anatomy, MatLab software, oncology, biology, and neuroscience. Sarah explained the purpose for taking these types of MOOCs was:

To acquire and improve my knowledge as a medical physicist...I consider my resume when selecting MOOC. I choose courses related to my professional field to add them to my curriculum; otherwise, there would be a period without being in contact with my profession.

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RQ2. Learning Strategies

RQ2: What were the Learning Strategies that Helped Learners' SDL in MOOCs?

Dan considered the progress bar to be a good indication of his progress, and it also created a healthy competition among the learners. Seeing where he was at in the course compared to the other learners gave him a push. He stated, "All the progress bar with milestones, with a small quiz that doesn't count for the evaluation, but they're good for you to check if I'm really learning. And, for example, I like when you have these kinds of nice competition[s], right. Everyone starts a MOOC at the same time, but you see that these weeks you progress faster than other members in the MOOC."

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RQ2: Learning Strategies

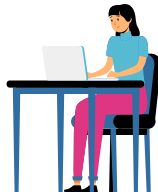
Note taking: Dan stated that his main learning strategy was notetaking: "I always have my little notebook for the MOOC that I'm working on or I'm studying. And whatever videos or whatever exercise that I was doing, I was always taking notes..."



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RQ2: Learning Strategies

To help her self-monitoring, Melena noted how enriching her knowledge and knowing new things that she did not know before, along with doing well on the quizzes and tests, were vital indications of her progress. She explained, "Usually, there is a test after each week. Performing it, I can see in which topic I have the biggest gaps, or I got it well. Moreover, if I apply it in other areas of my life and it can also be seen then."



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RQ 3: Design Element

One participant, Helen, believed that authentic examples, resources, and visuals that some instructors demonstrated in their courses helped maintain her curiosity. In our interview, she explained:

When I studied the brain, the professor showed the real brain. Like, she took us to the laboratory and showed us how the brains, how they did it, they did things in the laboratory. So, I find it fascinating. I find it very interesting. Even though for the test I try to read, but for understanding and looking at the real thing, the visualization is very good.

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Activity #8 (Paired): What are some ways to foster SDL?



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Top 10 Strategies to Facilitate SDL in MOOCs

1. Helping students set their own learning goals.
2. Building learning community.
3. Offering immediate feedback.
4. Embedding quizzes for self-assessment.
5. Providing progress indicators.
6. Providing reflection questions.
7. Designing short learning units.
8. Providing flexible timelines.
9. Highlighting estimated time frames.
10. Making available optional learning materials.



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Zhu, M., & Bonk, C. J. (2022). Guidelines and strategies for fostering and enhancing self-directed online learning. *Open Learning: The Journal of Open, Distance and e-Learning*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/02680513.2022.2141105>

15 guidelines for promoting SDL in MOOCs and similar large scale open education environments:

- (1) Helping students set their own learning goals.
- (2) Encouraging learners to make plans.
- (3) Offering flexible timelines.
- (4) Highlighting estimated time frames.
- (5) Embedding tasks and activities to form a learning community.
- (6) Supplying timely and constructive feedback.
- (7) Embedding quizzes for self-assessment.
- (8) Crafting visuals showing work progress and tasks completed.
- (9) Providing reflection questions.
- (10) Designing time-sensitive learning units.
- (11) Making available optional learning materials and self-selection options.
- (12) Creating a structured learning environment, including weekly overviews.
- (13) Making sure that lectures are recorded with captions added.
- (14) Inserting application exercises for putting the course material into practice.
- (15) Using gamification to support SDL.

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#1. Helping students set their own learning goals

Set a weekly goal

Learners who set a goal are 75% more likely to complete the course. You can always change it.

☒ Learn 2 days a week Recommended

☐ Learn 3 days a week

☐ Learn 5 days a week

Your goal will be tracked Monday - Sunday

[Set goal](#) [Not now](#)



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#2. Encouraging learners to make plans

Set your schedule

✓ Your goal is set!

You're more likely to reach your goal if you dedicate some time in your schedule for learning. Choose the days that work for you:

Mo ☒ Tu ☒ We ☐ Th ☐ Fr ☐ Sa ☐ Su

Start time

8:30 AM

End time

9:00 AM

[Add to Google Calendar](#)

[Other calendar](#)

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#3. Offering flexible timelines

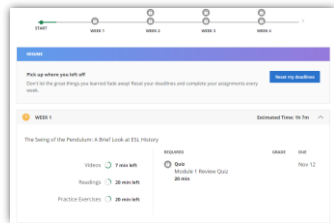
You've already completed 77% of your course! Reset your deadlines so you can finish the rest.

[Reset my deadlines](#)

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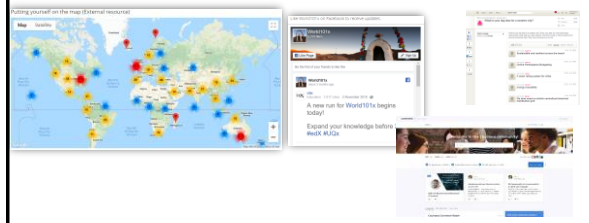
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#4. Highlighting estimated time frames



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#5. Embedding tasks and activities to form a learning community



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#6. Supplying timely and constructive feedback

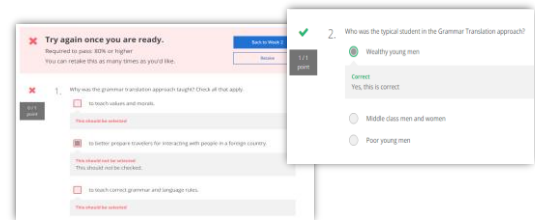
Quiz

I had to delete the code for graph before I could get values for posterior_Mean and posterior_sd. Can't I get all values, and graph simultaneously. I first saw th...

Staff reply

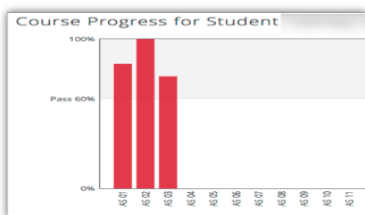
207

#7. Embedding quizzes for self-assessment



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#8. Crafting visuals showing work progress and tasks completed



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#9. Providing reflection questions



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#10. Designing time-sensitive learning units

- ✔ **Video:** Introduction to Regression 6 min
- ✔ **Video:** Introduction: Basic Least Squares 6 min

Related Publications

Zhu, M., Bonk, C. J., & Doo, M.-Y. (2020). Self-directed learning in MOOCs: Exploring the relationships among motivation, self-monitoring, and self-management. *Educational Technology Research and Development* (ETR&D), 68(5), 2073-2093. DOI 10.1007/s11423-020-09747-8

Zhu, M., & Bonk, C. J. (2019). Designing MOOCs to facilitate participant self-monitoring for self-directed learning. *Online Learning*, 23(4), 106-134. doi:10.24059/olj.v23i4.2037

Zhu, M., & Bonk, C. J. (2020). Technology tools and instructional strategies for designing and delivering MOOCs to facilitate self-monitoring of learners. *Journal of Learning for Development*, 7(1), 31-45.

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Related Publications

Doo, M. Y., Zhu, M., & Bonk, C. J. (2023). Influences of self-directed learning on learning outcomes in MOOCs: A meta-analysis. *Distance Education*, 44(1), 86-105. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01587919.2022.2155618>

Doo, M.-Y. & Zhu, M. (2023). A meta-analysis of effects of self-directed learning in online learning. *Journal of Computer Assisted Learning*. <http://doi.org/10.1111/jcal.12865>

Zhu, M. (2021). Enhancing MOOC learners' skills for self-directed learning. *Distance Education*. 42(3), 441-460 Doi: 10.1080/01587919.2021.1956302.

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Related Publications

Bonk, C. J., & Zhu, M. (2023, online first). On the trail of self-directed online learners. *ECNU Review of Education*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/20965311231169795>

Zhu, M., & Bonk, C. J. (2022, online first). Guidelines and strategies for fostering and enhancing self-directed online learning. *Open Learning: The Journal of Open, Distance and e-Learning*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/02680513.2022.2141105>

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The SDL Checklist (in press)

Self-Directed Learning (SDL) Evaluation Checklist
You Can Optionally Leave Comments in Each Box or at the End of the Checklist Form.

Name: _____

1. ☐ **Course Overview** _____
1.1 ☐ **Phase and Goals** Are learners encouraged to make strategic course plans and self-individual learning goals within the course including the targeted knowledge and activities, tests and evaluations, assignments, etc. that they plan to complete?

2. ☐ **Weekly Course Overview** Does the course contain weekly overviews and other support materials of upcoming activities and assignments that are checked into manageable parts to help with learning?

3. ☐ **Introduction Material** Are video introductions, course catalogs, frequently asked questions (FAQs), and a table of contents (TOC) provided?

4. ☐ **Time Management** _____
4.1 ☐ **Course Resources** Does the course include text and activity resources to help learners self-identify their personal learning goals and strategies for self-orientation, but also measurement and achievement over time?

5. ☐ **Time Management Guide** Does the system inform the learner approximately how much time is needed in the learning activity, and/or provide, or offer course and external additional supports for activities and assignments?

6. ☐ **Content Clustering** Is the content clustered into brief or time-linked units to provide easier access across from a variety of devices and settings (e.g., support resources, video, desktop, tablet, learning in the classroom, etc.)?

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The SDL Checklist (in press)

7. ☐ **Self-Directed Learning Order** Are short learning units and activities designed, including final self-assessment offers, to provide a "to-do" list and any optional resources, so as to foster motivation and help with time management?

8. ☐ **Estimated Time Frames** Are the estimated time frames highlighted for particular units and learning activities within those plans?

9. ☐ **Progress Indicators** Are progress indicators and other summative visual cues, markers, or indicators marked in the course or system as meaningful aids or available to help with self-monitoring and help with time management?

10. ☐ **Course Resources** _____
10.1 ☐ **Resource Overview** Does the course offer text and video-based resources and access different kinds of resource materials including problem sets, other materials, *formative* resources (e.g., tests, activities and other digital experiences, reports, notes, etc.)?

11. ☐ **Integrated Learning** Is the content and associated materials and activities presented in a way to complete and interconnected only, including being any concepts in class, resources, and activities used in the course?

12. ☐ **Intelligence and Resource Acquisition** Are resources (e.g., resources, activities, assignments, and examples) utilized or provided in the course to help participants and extend the learning experience?

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The SDL Checklist (in press)

13. ☐ **Course Flexibility** _____
13.1 ☐ **Course Flexibility Options** Does the course provide flexible timelines and other mechanisms to give the learner more power and autonomy in making their personal learning progress decisions?

14. ☐ **Course Material Content Options** Does the course make available optional learning materials and self-selection options for those who want to explore areas tangential to the course or explore deeper within particular topics of interest?

15. ☐ **Interactive and Engaging Pathways** _____
15.1 ☐ **Identification Techniques** Does the course or module incorporate the use of getting projects or activities to support SDL, e.g., *hands-on*, *courses*, *problem sets*, *research*, *tests*, *projects*, and *performance indicators*, *paths*, *tools*, and *resources*?

16. ☐ **Opportunities for Learner Interaction** Does the course offer opportunities for peer interaction such as peer-based team reviews and assessments, peer- or team-based assignments, or asynchronous discussion boards?

17. ☐ **Instructional Feedback** Does the course address learner success and their needs including timely feedback received and options added, resources available in multiple languages, culturally diverse materials provided, and course materials made easily accessible and available online (e.g., print, video, audio, text to speech, etc.) and other methods related to universal design for learning (Universal Design, 2005)?

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[illegible]

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Related Publications

Bonk, C. J., Zhu, M., & Li, Z. (2023). Self-direct to learn, self-direct to live: A checklist to successfully navigate this self-directed learning world. *GOTEC Research-to-Practice*. GOTEC Learning Resources.

<https://gotec.cehd.gmu.edu/assets/docs/gotec/Bonk%20Zhu%20Li%20-%20Self-Direct%20to%20Learn.pdf> (Note: SDL Checklist available: [https://curtbok.com/pdfs/Self-Directed-Learning-\(SDL\)-Evaluation-Checklist.pdf](https://curtbok.com/pdfs/Self-Directed-Learning-(SDL)-Evaluation-Checklist.pdf))

224

Recent Publications

1. Li, B., Kou, X., & Bonk, C. J. (2023). Embracing the disrupted language teaching and learning field: Analyzing YouTube content creation related to ChatGPT. *Languages*, 8, 197. <https://doi.org/10.3390/languages8030197>
2. Li, B., Bonk, C. J., & Kou, X. (2023). Exploring the multilingual applications of ChatGPT: Uncovering language learning affordances in YouTube Videos. *International Journal of Computer-Assisted Language Learning and Teaching (IJCALLT)*, 13(2), 1-22. <http://doi.org/10.4018/IJCALLT.326135>

225

Recent Publications

3. Li, B., Wang, C., Bonk, C. J., & Kou, X. (Online First). Exploring inventions in self-directed language learning with generative AI: Implementations and perspectives of YouTube content creators. *TechTrends*.
4. Li, B., Bonk, C. J., Wang, C., & Kou, X. (2024). Reconceptualizing the self-directed language learning in the era of generative AI: An exploratory analysis of language learning. *IEEE: Transactions on Learning Technology*, 17, 1515-1529.

226

June 17, 2023, YouTubers using ChatGPT
How to MAXIMIZE the use of ChatGPT's current functions to learn Chinese in 2023 (The Ultimate Guide)
[ShuoshuoChinese 说说中文](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TzFepHKifGo)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TzFepHKifGo>

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June 17, 2023, YouTubers using ChatGPT

Is ChatGPT Better Than Human Chinese Teachers

Now? Rita Mandarin Chinese

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TzFepHKlKfGo>

The collage includes a screenshot of a YouTube video player showing a discussion about ChatGPT's role in language learning, alongside two portrait photos of Rita, the creator of the 'Rita Mandarin Chinese' channel.

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June 17, 2023, YouTubeUsing ChatGPT

Can ChatGPT Replace a Cantonese Teacher? How to Use ChatGPT to Learn Cantonese |Dope Chinese with Gloria

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x5ySAg3qksI4>

This thumbnail shows a woman in a white top holding a smartphone. The screen displays a chat window with a green header and several messages. The title 'Can ChatGPT REPLACE Cantonese Teachers?' is overlaid in large, bold letters.

This thumbnail displays a list of search results or prompts related to learning Cantonese using ChatGPT. The items include phrases like 'How can I learn...', 'Can you teach me...', and 'What are some...'. A small inset image of a woman is visible on the right side of the list.

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<i>RQ1: What is the focus of the discussion and demonstrations by the YouTube content creators of ChatGPT in language education?</i>	
1c. What are common topics & themes present in these discussions and demos?	
Menu	chat
Introduce ChatGPT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National American television coverage • Ask 3 questions and it gives you answers • Explain the concept in 30 seconds
Roles of ChatGPT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video 1 (2:24) • Video 2 (1:54) • Video 3 (1:54) • Video 4 (1:54) • Video 5 (1:54) • Video 6 (1:54) • Video 7 (1:54) • Video 8 (1:54) • Video 9 (1:54) • Video 10 (1:54) • Video 11 (1:54) • Video 12 (1:54) • Video 13 (1:54) • Video 14 (1:54) • Video 15 (1:54) • Video 16 (1:54) • Video 17 (1:54) • Video 18 (1:54) • Video 19 (1:54) • Video 20 (1:54) • Video 21 (1:54) • Video 22 (1:54) • Video 23 (1:54) • Video 24 (1:54) • Video 25 (1:54) • Video 26 (1:54) • Video 27 (1:54) • Video 28 (1:54) • Video 29 (1:54) • Video 30 (1:54) • Video 31 (1:54) • Video 32 (1:54) • Video 33 (1:54) • Video 34 (1:54) • Video 35 (1:54) • Video 36 (1:54) • Video 37 (1:54) • Video 38 (1:54) • Video 39 (1:54) • Video 40 (1:54) • Video 41 (1:54) • Video 42 (1:54) • Video 43 (1:54) • Video 44 (1:54) • Video 45 (1:54) • Video 46 (1:54) • Video 47 (1:54) • Video 48 (1:54) • Video 49 (1:54) • Video 50 (1:54) • Video 51 (1:54) • Video 52 (1:54) • Video 53 (1:54) • Video 54 (1:54) • Video 55 (1:54) • Video 56 (1:54) • Video 57 (1:54) • Video 58 (1:54) • Video 59 (1:54) • Video 60 (1:54) • Video 61 (1:54) • Video 62 (1:54) • Video 63 (1:54) • Video 64 (1:54) • Video 65 (1:54) • Video 66 (1:54) • Video 67 (1:54) • Video 68 (1:54) • Video 69 (1:54) • Video 70 (1:54) • Video 71 (1:54) • Video 72 (1:54) • Video 73 (1:54) • Video 74 (1:54) • Video 75 (1:54) • Video 76 (1:54) • Video 77 (1:54) • Video 78 (1:54) • Video 79 (1:54) • Video 80 (1:54) • Video 81 (1:54) • Video 82 (1:54) • Video 83 (1:54) • Video 84 (1:54) • Video 85 (1:54) • Video 86 (1:54) • Video 87 (1:54) • Video 88 (1:54) • Video 89 (1:54) • Video 90 (1:54) • Video 91 (1:54) • Video 92 (1:54) • Video 93 (1:54) • Video 94 (1:54) • Video 95 (1:54) • Video 96 (1:54) • Video 97 (1:54) • Video 98 (1:54) • Video 99 (1:54) • Video 100 (1:54)
Hands-on Demonstration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video 101 (1:54) • Video 102 (1:54) • Video 103 (1:54) • Video 104 (1:54) • Video 105 (1:54) • Video 106 (1:54) • Video 107 (1:54) • Video 108 (1:54) • Video 109 (1:54) • Video 110 (1:54) • Video 111 (1:54) • Video 112 (1:54) • Video 113 (1:54) • Video 114 (1:54) • Video 115 (1:54) • Video 116 (1:54) • Video 117 (1:54) • Video 118 (1:54) • Video 119 (1:54) • Video 120 (1:54) • Video 121 (1:54) • Video 122 (1:54) • Video 123 (1:54) • Video 124 (1:54) • Video 125 (1:54) • Video 126 (1:54) • Video 127 (1:54) • Video 128 (1:54) • Video 129 (1:54) • Video 130 (1:54) • Video 131 (1:54) • Video 132 (1:54) • Video 133 (1:54) • Video 134 (1:54) • Video 135 (1:54) • Video 136 (1:54) • Video 137 (1:54) • Video 138 (1:54) • Video 139 (1:54) • Video 140 (1:54) • Video 141 (1:54) • Video 142 (1:54) • Video 143 (1:54) • Video 144 (1:54) • Video 145 (1:54) • Video 146 (1:54) • Video 147 (1:54) • Video 148 (1:54) • Video 149 (1:54) • Video 150 (1:54) • Video 151 (1:54) • Video 152 (1:54) • Video 153 (1:54) • Video 154 (1:54) • Video 155 (1:54) • Video 156 (1:54) • Video 157 (1:54) • Video 158 (1:54) • Video 159 (1:54) • Video 160 (1:54) • Video 161 (1:54) • Video 162 (1:54) • Video 163 (1:54) • Video 164 (1:54) • Video 165 (1:54) • Video 166 (1:54) • Video 167 (1:54) • Video 168 (1:54) • Video 169 (1:54) • Video 170 (

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4. Li, B., Bonk, C. J., Wang, C., & Kou, X. (2024). Reconceptualizing the self-directed language learning in the era of generative AI: An exploratory analysis of language learning. *IEEE Transactions on Learning Technology*, 17, 1515-1529.

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4. Li, B., Bonk, C. J., Wang, C., & Kou, X. (2024). Reconceptualizing the self-directed language learning in the era of generative AI: An exploratory analysis of language learning. *IEEE Transactions on Learning Technology*, 17, 1515-1529.

232

4. Li, B., Bonk, C. J., Wang, C., & Kou, X. (2024). Reconceptualizing the self-directed language learning in the era of generative AI: An exploratory analysis of language learning. *IEEE Transactions on Learning Technology*, 17, 1515-1529.

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Recent Publications

5. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (2024). Exploring the utility of ChatGPT for self-directed online language learning. *Online Learning*, 28(3), 157-180.

6. Wang, C., Li, Z., & Bonk, C. J. (2024, online first). Understanding self-directed learning in AI-assisted writing: A mixed methods study of postsecondary learners. *Computers & Education: Artificial Intelligence*, 10, 1-10.

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5. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (2024). Exploring the utility of ChatGPT for self-directed online language learning. *Online Learning*, 28(3), 157-180. (276 survey respondents, 11 interviews in the USA)

In this study, we investigated the SDL practices facilitated by GenAI tools like ChatGPT following Garrison's (1997) SDL framework. Aligning with each dimension of Garrison's framework, namely, motivation, self-management, and self-monitoring, we examined the following research questions accordingly:

1. What motivates learners to utilize self-directed learning with ChatGPT?
2. How do language learners select and apply self-management strategies when utilizing ChatGPT in their language learning routines?
3. How do language learners employ self-monitoring strategies when using ChatGPT for language learning?



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5. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (2024). Exploring the utility of ChatGPT for self-directed online language learning. *Online Learning*, 28(3), 157-180. (384 survey responses and 10 semi-structured interviews)

Participant pseudonyms	Gender	Current education level	Target language	Frequency of using ChatGPT for language learning
Audelia	Female	Graduate degree	Spanish	Weekly
Bernett	Male	Graduate degree	Spanish	Daily
Chastler	Male	Graduate degree	Spanish	Weekly

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Danielle	Female	Undergraduate	Italian	Weekly
Elliot	Male	Graduate degree	Spanish	Weekly
Fallus	Female	Undergraduate	Spanish	Weekly
Giovanni	Male	Undergraduate	Spanish	Daily
Howard	Male	Undergraduate	French	Weekly
Travis	Male	Graduate degree	Brazilian Portuguese	Weekly



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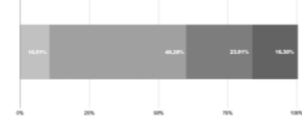
5. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (2024). Exploring the utility of ChatGPT for self-directed online language learning. *Online Learning*, 28(3), 157-180. (276 survey respondents, 11 interviews in the USA)

Figure 1

Frequency of Using ChatGPT to Facilitate Language Learning

How often do you use ChatGPT to facilitate your language learning?

☐ Daily ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Rarely ☐ Never



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Table 3

Guiding Themes, Codes, and Examples of Excerpts

Themes	Codes	Examples of excerpts
Motivation	Intrinsically motivated by people who use ChatGPT in the surrounding environment	"I talked to a friend who uses AI in place of actually studying in a serious one-on-one when learning a language. And she was talking about how her experiences are really positive, and she's learned a lot from it. And so I decided to kind of explore that and like, see how it goes."
	Motivated by ChatGPT's convenience for supporting independent learning	"But if I have a question when I'm stuck, I can ask ChatGPT. I don't have to rely on a study partner who may or may not know the answer."
	ChatGPT makes learning efficient by offering contextualized and precise prompt answers	"It's more contextual, like you can tell him, 'Hey I have a friend. We've not yet close. I want to use this, how do I say it?' I like it's like context behind it."
Self-management	Motivated by ChatGPT's rich linguistic affordances	"I can always ask how this grammar was explained, or why is this and not that or why is this word instead of that word?"
	Set habitual learning routines	"I usually use it in the morning before I start working, and I'll usually use it for like 15 or 15 min or so [he] have a short conversation before I work."
	Prompt questions to align with learning goals	"I have found that the more detailed your questions is, the better your answer and your

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Exploring the Utility of ChatGPT for Self-Directed Online Language Learning

		excerpt is."
Self-monitoring	Validate information with other resources throughout the learning process	"I actually have a dictionary to consult if the word is correct. I tend to rely mostly outside experts. I tend to use those two, [and] those things the most."
	Know what aspects of linguistic learning need to be improved	"So what I do with it mostly is try to calibrate some of what I learn... the way I use ChatGPT is to look for better ways to learn something."
	Compare the learning outcome with past learning experiences	"It's really easy to find like I learned something... that's a lot of a victory that I'm doing well, and I'm learning something."
	Language multiple resources or tools for assessment	"I'll just start talking to the family members who speak Spanish, and just respond to that shows me where I'm at at that point."

5. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (2024). Exploring the utility of ChatGPT for self-directed online language learning. *Online Learning*, 28(3), 157-180. (384 survey responses and 10 semi-structured interviews)

Descriptive Statistics on Motivation Items

Statement items	Mean	SD	Variables
Exploring the Utility of ChatGPT for Self-Directed Online Language Learning			
I enjoy learning new information related to language through ChatGPT	4.23	0.78	0.01
There is motivation to learn a language with ChatGPT	4.01	0.93	0.06
I hope to keep new ideas related to language learning brought up by ChatGPT	3.94	0.99	0.09
There is a need to learn a language with ChatGPT	3.43	1.22	1.49
I need to know the deeper reason for the language feedback by ChatGPT	3.43	1.13	1.28
I like to share my ChatGPT language learning experiences with others	3.37	1.17	1.17



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5. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (2024). Exploring the utility of ChatGPT for self-directed online language learning. *Online Learning*, 28(3), 157-180. (384 survey responses and 10 semi-structured interviews)

Figure 5

Percentage of Learners' Responses to the Statement on the Study Plan



Figure 6

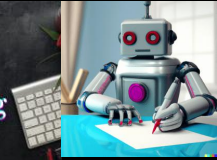
Percentage of Learners' Responses to the Statement on Self-Directing Language Learning Progress



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What is an AI Assisted Writing



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6. Wang, C., Li, Z., & Bonk, C. J. (2024). Understanding self-directed learning in AI-assisted writing: A mixed methods study of postsecondary learners. *Computers & Education: Artificial Intelligence*, 6. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.caeai.2024.100247> *Computers & Education: Artificial Intelligence*, 10, 1-10. (384 survey responses and 10 interviews)

Demographic Information of Participants

Participant pseudonyms	Age	Gender	Current education level	Target language	Frequency of using ChatGPT for language learning
Alexis	21	Female	Undergraduate degree	Spanish	Weekly
Bennett	21	Male	Undergraduate degree	Spanish	Daily
Chandler	21	Male	Undergraduate degree	Spanish	Weekly
Danielle	20	Female	Undergraduate	Italian	Weekly
Elliot	28	Male	Undergraduate degree	Spanish	Weekly
Fallon	40	Female	Undergraduate	Spanish	Weekly
Gianna	25	Male	Undergraduate	Spanish	Daily
Harriet	24	Male	Undergraduate	French	Weekly
Iris	31	Male	Undergraduate degree	Portuguese	Weekly

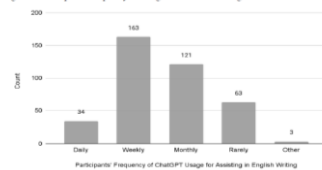


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6. Wang, C., Li, Z., & Bonk, C. J. (2024, online first). Understanding self-directed learning in AI-assisted writing: A mixed methods study of postsecondary learners. *Computers & Education: Artificial Intelligence*, 10, 1-10.

Figure 1. Participants' frequency of using ChatGPT for writing



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6. Wang, C., Li, Z., & Bonk, C. J. (2024, online first). Understanding self-directed learning in AI-assisted writing: A mixed methods study of postsecondary learners. *Computers & Education: Artificial Intelligence*, 10, 1-10.

Table 1. Mean score and standard deviation of the specific components of participants' writing facilitated by ChatGPT

Items	Mean	SD
1. I use ChatGPT to help brainstorm ideas for writing.	4.22	0.96
2. I use ChatGPT to help with outlining.	4.00	1.14
3. I use ChatGPT to help translate my ideas and thoughts into written words.	3.99	1.08
4. I use ChatGPT to improve my writing, sentence structure, or grammar.	4.10	1.10
5. I use ChatGPT to check the cohesion or connection among sentences.	3.82	1.22
6. I use ChatGPT to improve the structure of my writing.	4.05	1.04
7. I use ChatGPT to improve the content or flow of my writing.	3.85	1.11
8. I use ChatGPT to check if my writing matches my goals or the requirements of an assignment.	3.60	1.17



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6. Wang, C., Li, Z., & Bonk, C. J. (2024, online first). Understanding self-directed learning in AI-assisted writing: A mixed methods study of postsecondary learners. *Computers & Education: Artificial Intelligence*, 10, 1-10.

Table 2. Mean score and standard deviation of the survey items related to participants' motivation

Items	Mean	SD
1. I have motivation to learn writing with ChatGPT.	3.85	1.08
2. I have a need to learn writing from ChatGPT.	3.28	1.34
3. I enjoy learning new information related to writing through ChatGPT.	3.97	0.94
4. I need to know the deeper reasons for the writing feedback provided by ChatGPT.	3.29	1.24
5. I like to share my ChatGPT learning experience about writing with others.	3.24	1.1



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6. Wang, C., Li, Z., & Bonk, C. J. (2024, online first). Understanding self-directed learning in AI-assisted writing: A mixed methods study of postsecondary learners. *Computers & Education: Artificial Intelligence*, 10, 1-10.

Table 3. Mean score and standard deviation of the survey items related to self-orientation

Items	Mean	SD
1. I want to use my own study plan while using ChatGPT for learning English writing.	3.57	1.15
2. I seek assistance when facing English writing problems.	3.74	1.15
3. I manage my time well while using ChatGPT to assist my English writing.	4.01	0.95
4. I set my own writing learning goals while using ChatGPT.	3.46	1.25
5. I have high expectations for my writing performance while using ChatGPT.	3.66	1.07
6. I apply a variety of strategies to use ChatGPT to facilitate my English writing.	3.67	1.05
7. I am engaged while learning writing with ChatGPT.	3.89	0.97
8. I can direct my own English writing learning progress while using ChatGPT.	4.06	0.86
9. I am not distracted by other online activities (e.g., WhatsApp, Instagram, Facebook, etc.) while using ChatGPT to learn English writing.	3.25	1.36
10. I compare the writing materials provided by ChatGPT based on my needs.	4.06	0.97
11. I am responsible for my own learning about writing with ChatGPT.	4.13	0.76

6. Wang, C., Li, Z., & Bonk, C. J. (2024, online first). Understanding self-directed learning in AI-assisted writing: A mixed methods study of postsecondary learners. *Computers & Education: Artificial Intelligence*, 10, 1-10.

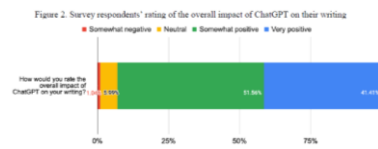
Table 4. Mean score and standard deviation of items related to participants' self-monitoring

Items	Mean	SD
1. I critically evaluate new ideas related to writing learning provided by ChatGPT.	2.10	0.91
2. I ask follow-up questions regarding writing learning with ChatGPT.	2.09	1.00
3. I am able to integrate the writing knowledge I learned with my work or life.	2.16	0.90

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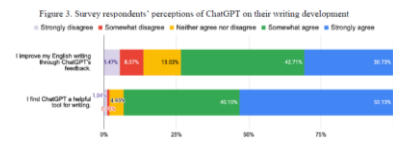
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6. Wang, C., Li, Z., & Bonk, C. J. (2024, online first). Understanding self-directed learning in AI-assisted writing: A mixed methods study of postsecondary learners. *Computers & Education: Artificial Intelligence*, 10, 1-10.



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6. Wang, C., Li, Z., & Bonk, C. J. (2024, online first). Understanding self-directed learning in AI-assisted writing: A mixed methods study of postsecondary learners. *Computers & Education: Artificial Intelligence*, 10, 1-10.



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Recent Publications on Duolingo

7. Li, Z., Bonk, C. J., & Zhou, C. (2024). Supporting learner's self-management for self-directed language learning: A study within Duolingo. *Interactive Technology and Smart Education*, 21(3), 381-402.

8. Li, Z., & Bonk, C. J. (2025). Self-directed language learning with Duolingo in an out-of-class context. *Computer Assisted Language Learning*, 38(3), 569-591. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09588221.2023.2206874>

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Manuscripts Currently in Review

9. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (in press). Exploring ethical AI use in self-directed and formal learning: Learner perspectives through a FATE lens. *AI Enhanced Learning*.

10. Li, B., Zhang, Z., Lowell, V. L., Wang, C. & Bonk, C. J. (in review). Development and validation of the AI-SDL-PA Scale: Measuring personal attributes in AI-integrated self-directed language learning. *System*.

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9. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (in press). Exploring ethical AI use in self-directed and formal learning: Learner perspectives through a FATE lens. *AI Enhanced Learning*.

Table 1. Demographic information of participants.

Participant pseudonym	Age	Gender	Current education level	Student status
Amelia	26	Female	Undergraduate	Full-time
Breanna	26	Male	Undergraduate	Full-time
Chandler	46	Male	Undergraduate	Full-time
Charles	28	Female	Undergraduate	Part-time
Elliot	39	Male	Undergraduate	Full-time
Fallon	48	Female	Undergraduate	Full-time
Harvard	47	Male	Undergraduate	On
Harvard	24	Male	Undergraduate	Full-time
Iris	42	Male	Undergraduate	Full-time
Jordan	22	Male	Undergraduate	Full-time

All 10 individual interviews were conducted and recorded through Zoom. Each interview approximately took 30 minutes to complete and then were transcribed verbatim.



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9. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (in press). Exploring ethical AI use in self-directed and formal learning: Learner perspectives through a FATE lens. *AI Enhanced Learning*.

Table 2. Guided themes and subthemes for ethical considerations of AI in education.

Themes	Subthemes
AI usage in education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Informal Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Align with self-directed learning goals Formal Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructional practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructional materials and guidance Learning experience
Ethical considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All things <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accuracy of information Adaptation to different subjects Cultural inclusiveness Long-term ethical impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time for preparation Waste of creating substitutes Other Facilitate different ethical considerations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment method Ethical standards apply from subject to subject Approved and prohibited from instruction
Suggestions and strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Validate information with different resources Schools need to train AI content



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9. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (in press). Exploring ethical AI use in self-directed and formal learning: Learner perspectives through a FATE lens. *AI Enhanced Learning*.

Per Elliot,

"I personally haven't used it for my studies like for papers or anything. My brother is an undergrad in [an institute of technology] and there was a whole case about plagiarism. And all that kind of stuff kind of scared me and him both, that [is why] we don't use any of this. But I've seen people use it and try to say, can you [correct] a few mistakes with this and that, and people do use it. People will keep using it. There's going to be like tools to catch it."

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9. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (in press). Exploring ethical AI use in self-directed and formal learning: Learner perspectives through a FATE lens. *AI Enhanced Learning*.

Per Chandler,

"I think it deteriorates the learning experience to an extent, because it is so easy, and especially for certain subjects, it will basically do the work for you. Like, I find that ChatGPT is particularly adept at math, for instance, and other tasks like that, basically you could feed it [with] any problem that you're likely to have in a test and be able to get a correct answer most of the time. So, if you're doing something like that where the learning process is really involved, and your learning is built on trial and error. I would say, you're shortchanging yourself. And this is an ethical problem."

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9. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (in press). Exploring ethical AI use in self-directed and formal learning: Learner perspectives through a FATE lens. *AI Enhanced Learning*.

Per Elliot,

"I don't like to do things like that, because nobody's forcing me to do a master's. I'm doing it on my own, and if I'm doing it on my own, then I shouldn't be doing shortcuts or things like that. So, I rather not do it then. So that's what I believe in."

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9. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (in press). Exploring ethical AI use in self-directed and formal learning: Learner perspectives through a FATE lens. *AI Enhanced Learning*.

Per Fallon,

"I have one professor who's like, I want you to use it, I want you to use it. And I want you to learn of it but it's a plagiarism problem... but I think that you just testing the field this semester, and maybe he'll change up next. I don't know. He just wanted to see how well we would adapt to it I think..."

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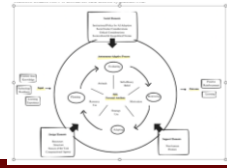
9. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (in press). Exploring ethical AI use in self-directed and formal learning: Learner perspectives through a FATE lens. *AI Enhanced Learning*.

Per Danielle,

Cause I was actually really averse to the idea of ever touching it until **my professor had us do it** because I'm like, **I don't even wanna be accused remotely** of using this thing for cheating. I don't want to be anywhere near it. So I was a little bit nervous about it. And I was sort of like, oh, okay, so it's really just "if you don't use it to cheat. It's not cheating," that makes sense. **And then, as I was sort of more open-minded to the tool after having to use it like, "okay, I can use this for language learning."**

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10. Li, B., Zhang, Z., Lowell, V. L., Wang, C. & Bonk, C. J. (in review). Development and validation of the AI-SDL-PA Scale: Measuring personal attributes in AI-integrated self-directed language learning. *System*. A total of 566 global participants were recruited using purposive sampling, targeting individuals who had utilized ChatGPT for language learning through carefully chosen platforms and channels that cater to this group. This study's participants represent a relatively young, predominantly female, and highly educated sample of language learners who had experience using ChatGPT.



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10. Li, B., Zhang, Z., Lowell, V. L., Wang, C. & Bonk, C. J. (in review). *System*.

Attitude	
A1	Perceiving usefulness and positive perspective towards ChatGPT
A2	Using ChatGPT increases my productivity in learning
A3	Having a positive attitude towards using ChatGPT as a learning tool
A4	Using ChatGPT enhances my effectiveness in my learning
A5	Using ChatGPT improves my learning performance
A6	My overall perspective towards ChatGPT is positive
A7	Even if it was valuable addition to my learning method
A8	My experience regarding the effectiveness of ChatGPT in supporting my learning are generally good
A9	ChatGPT has good functionality for my learning purposes
Perceived ease of use and positive user experience with ChatGPT	
U1	Learning how to perform tasks using ChatGPT was easy
U2	Interacting with ChatGPT does not require a lot of my mental effort
U3	I find ChatGPT to be easy to use
U4	My interaction with ChatGPT is clear and understandable
U5	I find ChatGPT to be flexible to various needs
U6	I find it is easy to remember how to perform tasks using ChatGPT

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10. Li, B., Zhang, Z., Lowell, V. L., Wang, C. & Bonk, C. J. (in review). *System*.

Strategy Use - Behavior Strategy	
B1	If I was not satisfied with the answer produced by ChatGPT, I will prompt it to make details
B2	If I was not satisfied with the answer produced by ChatGPT, I ask for clarification
B3	If I was not satisfied with the answer produced by ChatGPT, I ask follow-up questions
B4	I changed the way I ask questions based on ChatGPT's responses to help me learn better
B5	I gave ChatGPT enough background information to help it understand and answer my questions better
B6	I break down a complicated task into smaller parts when asking ChatGPT
B7	I switch between different ways of asking to get the best results
B8	I changed the way I use ChatGPT based on my learning habits
Strategy Use - Cognitive/Meta Cognitive Strategy	
C1	I check and think about the answer ChatGPT gives me to make sure they are correct and make sense
C2	I don't accept all information from ChatGPT as true without thinking it through
C3	I compare ChatGPT's responses with other information sources to ensure it's correct
C4	I think carefully about the answer ChatGPT gives me
C5	I pay attention to how well I'm learning with ChatGPT and change my approach if needed
Strategy Use - Metacognitive	
M1	I actively reflect and adjust my learning strategies to optimize my learning experience with

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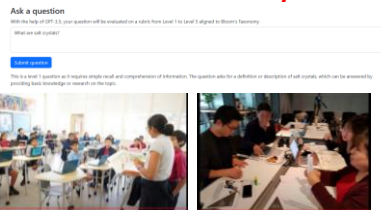
11. Kim, P., Wang, W., & Bonk, C. J. (2025). Generative AI as a coach to help students enhance proficiency in question formulation. *Journal of Educational Computing Research*, 63(3), 565-586.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/07356331251314222>

12. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (in review). Generative AI for teachers' self-directed professional development: A mixed-methods study. *TechTrends*.

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Ask SMILE

Example of asking a Level 1 question (i.e., remembering) and system feedback in the Ask.SMILE system



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11. Kim, P., Wang, W., & Bonk, C. J. (2025). Generative AI as a coach to help students enhance proficiency in question formulation. *Journal of Educational Computing Research*, 63(3), 565-586. <https://doi.org/10.1177/07356331251314222> Following the launch of the generative AI Web application, AskSMILE, for evaluating the level of questions asked, 2,559 educators generated 25,973 question-feedback sets over a three-month period; an average of over 10 questions generated per participant.

Ask a question

Enter your question here

Submit

Figure 1. Example of asking a Level 1 question (i.e., remembering) and system feedback in the AskSMILE system

Ask a question

Enter your question here

Submit

Figure 2. Example of asking a Level 2 question (i.e., understanding) and system feedback in the AskSMILE system

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Table 2: Question Level Statistics

	Value	Percent
Number of Observations (N)	25,973	100%
Level 1 Remembering Questions	7,073	27.2%
Level 2 Understanding Questions	4,401	16.9%
Level 3 Applying Questions	2,574	9.9%
Level 4 Analyzing Questions	3,832	14.9%
Level 5 Evaluating/Creating Questions	8,093	31.1%
Mean Level of Questions	3.056	
Standard Deviation (SD)	1.627	

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Table 3: Cross-tabulation of Average Level and First Level of User Questions Generated

First Level	Average Question Level					Total
	1	2	3	4	5	
1	486	208	176	45	0	915
2	13	247	110	78	1	449
3	0	29	152	58	0	239
4	0	23	39	242	14	318
5	0	15	76	117	430	638
Total	499	522	553	540	445	2559

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12. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (in review). Generative AI for teachers' self-directed professional development: A mixed-methods study. *TechTrends*.

Note: We used a mixed-method approach to collect and analyze 298 completed survey responses, five individual semi-structured interviews, and documents (e.g., ChatGPT chat history regarding SDPD usage).

Table 4. Distributions of types of educational activities that teachers engage in with ChatGPT

What specific types of educational activities do you engage in with ChatGPT? (Please select all that apply)	Count	Percentage
Creating inquiries for classroom pedagogies, class activities, and lesson plans (e.g., learning materials, PowerPoint slides)	187	28.48%
Formulating practice questions or quizzes	154	23.97%
Creating contextualized educational content (e.g., learning materials, PowerPoint slides)	131	20.78%
Providing explanations or clarifications on various subjects	106	12.37%
Encouraging critical thinking and problem-solving	84	7.47%
Supporting special needs students with individualized activities	59	4.68%
Offering writing assistance or feedback to students	37	4.68%
Facilitating language learning and resources	34	4.49%
Facilitating classroom discussion through AI-generated insights	47	5.48%
Other	12	1.61%

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12. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (in review). Generative AI for teachers' self-directed professional development: A mixed-methods study. *TechTrends*.

Table 5. Distributions of motivation to use ChatGPT for SDPD

Items	Mean	Standard Deviation
I enjoy learning new information related to teaching through ChatGPT.	3.96	1.07
I want to learn new ideas related to teaching brought up by ChatGPT.	3.94	1.07
I have the motivation to use ChatGPT to improve my teaching practice.	3.87	1.07
I like to share my ChatGPT-enhanced teaching experiences with others.	3.34	1.22
ChatGPT helps me to learn from my mistakes and improve my teaching by using ChatGPT.	3.52	1.14
I need to know the deeper reasons for the instructional feedback provided by ChatGPT.	3.23	1.27
I have a need to use ChatGPT to improve my teaching.	3.06	1.27

Note: Researchers converted the categorical responses into numeric levels. ("Not at all" = 1, "A little" = 2, "Some" = 3, "Quite a bit" = 4, "Very much" = 5).

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12. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (in review). Generative AI for teachers' self-directed professional development: A mixed-methods study. *TechTrends*.

Table 6. Distribution of self-management activities while using ChatGPT for SDPD activities.

Items	Mean	Standard Deviation
I manage my time well while using ChatGPT to improve teaching.	4.81	1.05
I am organized while improving teaching with ChatGPT.	4.76	1.05
When I learn ways to improve my teaching through ChatGPT, I can apply a variety of learning strategies.	4.65	1.07
I have high expectations for my teaching performance while using ChatGPT to improve teaching.	4.42	1.19
I seek assistance when facing problems using ChatGPT for teaching.	3.95	1.33
I carry out my own personal professional development plan while using ChatGPT to improve my teaching.	3.94	1.28
I set up my personal professional development goals while using ChatGPT for teaching-related activities.	3.73	1.26

Note: Researchers converted the categorical responses into numeric levels. ("Not at all" = 1, "A little" = 2, "Some" = 3, "Quite a bit" = 4, "Very much" = 5).

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12. Li, Z., Wang, C., & Bonk, C. J. (in review). Generative AI for teachers' self-directed professional development: A mixed-methods study. *TechTrends*.

Table 7. Distribution of self-monitoring while using ChatGPT for SDPD activities.

Items	Mean	Standard Deviation
I am responsible for my learning with ChatGPT for improving teaching.	4.19	0.89
I have high learning standards when I use ChatGPT to improve teaching.	4.04	1.04
I can direct my own learning progress while using ChatGPT to improve teaching.	3.83	0.96
I review the online teaching materials provided by ChatGPT based on my needs.	3.82	1.18
I am not distracted by other online tools and activities (e.g., WhatsApp, Instagram, Facebook, etc.) while using ChatGPT for teaching-related activities.	3.52	1.38

Note: Researchers converted the categorical responses into numeric levels. ("Not at all" = 1, "A little" = 2, "Some" = 3, "Quite a bit" = 4, "Very much" = 5).



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Remember...
"I cannot do this alone."
 "I cannot do this alone."
 "I cannot do this alone."
 "I cannot do this alone."



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Activity #9 (Personal or Paired): Anyone want to show anything? Any wow tools or resources to foster SDL?



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Thank You! Q&A

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(With help from Dr. Meina Zhu, Wayne State University,
meinazhu1@gmail.com and Zixi Li, Doctoral Student, IU, lixixi@iu.edu)
 Bonk, C. J., & Zhu, M. (2023, online first). On the trail of self-directed online learners. *ECNU Review of Education*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/20965311231169795>

Zhu, M., & Bonk, C. J. (2022, online first). Guidelines and strategies for fostering and enhancing self-directed online learning. *Open Learning: The Journal of Open, Distance and e-Learning*. DOI:
<https://doi.org/10.1080/02680513.2022.2141105>

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Activity #10 (Personal or Paired): Anyone have a comment or a question?



Any Questions or Comments?

Slides at: [TrainingShare.com](https://trainingshare.com) (go to "Archived Talks")
 Papers: [PublicationShare.com](https://publicationshare.com)

Free book: <http://tec-variety.com/>

Free Course: <https://colcommons.org/welcome/course/details/8>

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 Email: cjbok@indiana.edu; <http://curtbonk.com/>



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