

Day 10 - GenAI for Personalised Learning

[Music]

Hello everyone, and a very warm welcome back to '5 Minutes of Digital Inclusion'! I'm absolutely delighted you've joined me again. Today, we're diving into a truly exciting and transformative area: our objective is to explore how Generative AI, or GenAI, can help us create truly personalised learning experiences.

So, what exactly is GenAI personalisation in learning? Well, GenAI has the potential to revolutionise education by adapting content to individual learning styles and needs. Imagine a learning environment where resources automatically adjust to suit each student's pace, preferences, and goals.

Now, you've probably heard of some common large language models, or LLMs, like ChatGPT, Google Gemini, Claude, and Microsoft's Co-pilot. For research and study, NotebookLM, Perplexity, and Anthropic are proving incredibly useful. However, do remember to be aware if your data is used for training.

Next up, let's explore **NotebookLM**, a fantastic platform from Google. It allows you to upload up to 50 different resources – in various formats like YouTube videos, plain text, and Google Docs.

Once your content is uploaded, NotebookLM provides an instant overview. You can add notes, retrieve an audio interview – incredibly handy for auditory learners – and even create a mind map to visualise connections between your materials.

What's more, you can simply ask questions about your content or use suggested prompts. If I've uploaded a paper on climate change, I might ask, 'What are the main arguments against renewable energy sources?' Once it's given you the information, you can save it to your notes or copy it to add to a document.

On the right-hand side, there are even more clever things it can do, such as creating a study guide, a briefing document, FAQs, or a timeline.

The audio overview is a neat AI-generated podcast: [male podcast speaker] 'Assumptions I had about learning, you know what I mean?' [female podcast speaker] 'For sure.' [male podcast speaker] 'So we've got a really interesting mix...'

And here's where it gets truly interactive – it has an 'interactive mode' which allows you to interrupt and ask questions! Imagine listening to an AI-generated podcast on inclusive education, you can pause and ask, [human speaker] 'I'd like to know what I should include in my framework for Inclusive education.' [male podcast speaker] 'Oh, that's a really interesting point.' [female podcast speaker] 'It is. It sounds like you're thinking practically about this.' It's incredibly powerful for deeper understanding, wouldn't you agree?

And let's not forget language barriers. GenAI translation tools can help bridge this gap. If I have this English text – perhaps a primary source document – and I want to make it accessible to a Spanish-speaking student, I can simply paste it into a translation tool. The tool provides an accurate translation, making the content accessible to a wider audience.

Now, speaking of useful GenAI tools, have you explored Agents? These are essentially your personal AI assistants within LLMs. Think of them as customisable shortcuts designed to streamline tasks and provide tailored expertise.

Let's take a look at **Gemini Gems**. They're brilliant for streamlining repetitive tasks. For example, you could create a 'Recipe Helper' Gem that generates dinner ideas based on ingredients, or a 'Meeting Summariser' Gem to quickly analyse and summarise notes. It saves you time on common prompts.

Gems can also be customised to provide specific expertise. Imagine having a 'Career Coach' Gem that remembers your preferences, or a 'Coding Helper' Gem for a particular programming language. They can even assist with complex decision-making.

The true beauty lies in personalisation and customisation. You can save preferred instructions and add context to a Gem, making its responses highly relevant. You can even set them to act in different roles, like a 'Critical Thinking Partner' for breaking down philosophical arguments, or a 'Literature Review Assistant' for identifying key themes across research papers. All of this significantly boosts your efficiency and productivity, allowing you to skip repetitive typing and focus on more creative or complex academic work.

Research already shows personalised learning has the potential to increase student engagement, improve motivation, and ultimately lead to better learning outcomes.

What do you think? How might you start experimenting with GenAI in your own learning or teaching? Share your thoughts below, and I look forward to seeing you next time for more '5 Minutes of Digital Inclusion'! Cheerio for now!

[Music]