AI for Gamification and Learning of Key Terms and Concepts

No matter what course you teach, chances are you need your students to learn key subject-specific vocabulary. Students often struggle to master these terms, impacting the quality of their academic speaking, writing, and overall ability to communicate deeply in an academic fashion. Why not make learning terms more fun? By leveraging AI, we can "gamify" the learning experience and engage students at their "just right" level of learning.

Part 1: Generative AI and Acquisition of Key Concepts

The following activity was used in Grade 10 English class where students were learning elements of opinion articles. The activity allows students the freedom and flexibility to practice learning key concepts at their own pace and level of learning.

Instructions:

1. **Open** the Conventions - Opinion Articles.
2. **Copy** and paste the entire document into ChatGPT.
3. **Enter** the following prompt into ChatGPT:
    - *I am a grade 10 student. I want you to give me examples of each opinion article convention and ask me to determine which convention is the best answer. Don't tell me the answer until I respond. I want to do one question at a time. Please do not go in order.*
4. **Enhance** your understanding of these ideas through 10 minutes of practice.
5. **Remember** that *YOU* are in control of your learning.
6. **Copy** and paste the link to your AI learning in your Learner Portfolio.
7. **Engage** in a whole class discussion with your teacher when finished.

Sample Work

Chat GPT Excerpt 1:

Can you generate a quiz for me that includes 10 of those terms? I would like you to include the definition and give an example. Ask the user to input the correct word. Go one at a time. Please provide feedback after each question. Let's begin!

Certainly, Andrew! Creating a quiz that incorporates these terms can be an effective way to reinforce understanding of authorial choices in opinion articles. Here's how the quiz will work: I'll provide a definition and an example for each term. Your task is to input the correct term that matches the definition and example. After each question, I'll provide feedback on your answer.

Question 1:

Definition: This is the element that establishes the author's credibility or moral character. It may involve citing expertise or experience.

Example: "As a climate scientist with over 20 years of experience, I can attest that global warming is a pressing issue."

Your Answer:

ethos

Excellent, Andrew! You're correct; the term is "Ethos." The example demonstrates how the author establishes credibility by mentioning their expertise in climate science, thereby gaining the reader's trust.

Chat GPT Excerpt 2:

What else do you have besides fill in the blank activities. Please be creative!

Certainly, Andrew! Let's get creative with the learning process. How about we try a "Who Am I?" game? In this game, I'll describe a term from the perspective of the term itself, and you'll have to guess which term it is.

Who Am I? Round 1:

I'm the backbone of any persuasive text. Without me, your arguments would fall flat. I rely on facts, statistics, and logical flow to make a point. Who am I?

Your Answer:

Feel free to input your answer, and I'll provide feedback before moving on to the next round. Would you like to proceed with this format?

logos. This is fun. I like this. Try to make it a bit harder.

Excellent, Andrew! You're correct; the term is "Logos." I'm glad you're enjoying the game. Let's up the difficulty a bit for the next round.

Part 2: Student Reflection

This step is critical and can not be skipped. We must learn to reflect, consider current writing, and determine the next steps to drive learning further. These skills are vital as we approach university.

1. **Review** the work you've done today.
2. **Record** a short video reflection of today's work and post it to your LP.
3. **Implement** the sentence stems to capture your thinking.
4. **Ensure** you include a "next steps" action plan to propel your learning further.
5. **Communicate** any confusion or misunderstandings to your teacher so they can schedule a face-to-face learning conversation with you in the next class.
6. **Upload** the short video to your Learner Portfolio.

Sample Student Reflection:

At first, I did not feel comfortable with the rhetorical conventions. I somewhat understood, but I needed some concrete examples to understand deeply. **Having experienced** 10 minutes of practice with AI, I now have much more confidence with these terms. **As a next step**, I need to look at real media texts on my phone and see if I can identify elements of rhetoric and the way writers are manipulating my thoughts.

Part 3: Your Turn!

Try to engineer a prompt to meet the learning outcomes for your teaching and learning context. Experiment with Chat GPT, experiment with gamification, and let us know how it goes! Drop comments on our YouTube channel and let's dialogue.