AI in the Classroom

The rise of artificial intelligence technologies like ChatGPT has led to considerations of the ethical consequences of the use and potential overuse of AI in the classroom. AI has the capability to completely transform the ways in which students learn and interact with their work. Whether to permit the use of AI in the classroom can have profound consequences.

On the one hand, some argue that AI use should not be allowed in the classroom because it creates an overreliance on technology that might stagnate students' learning and skill development. AI technologies are incredibly powerful. While they can help students with a variety of learning tasks, students could overuse these technologies such that they do not cultivate the skills necessary to solve problems on their own. The use of AI in the classroom might become so pervasive that students rely on the technology for most tasks and decisions. As a result, some argue, using AI in the classroom may be harmful, with students never developing the skills necessary to solve problems and reason on their own. The resulting lack of skills could have profound effects on students' autonomy.

On the other hand, the use of AI in the classroom can create a tremendous opportunity for personalized learning and provide tools that enrich students' learning experiences. From this perspective, we could harness the power of AI technologies and their ability to recognize patterns to improve education. We could use AI to uncover trends in student learning that we may not have noticed otherwise and create personalized learning plans for each student. Some argue, therefore, that the use of AI in the classroom could unlock new levels of learning and personal development, enabling students to pursue the most meaningful paths for them in their educational journeys.

<u>Discussion Questions</u>

1. Should AI technologies be used to support education in the classroom? Why or why not?
2. How do we determine the line between productive use of AI and its overuse? Who should decide?
3. Is the use of AI different from the use of other technologies in the classroom? If so, in what way?

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