THE ROLE OF FEEDBACK IN ONLINE WRITING PLATFORMS

INSTITUTE OF DENAU

Faculty of Philology

Student of group 405

Shaydullayeva Laylo

ANNOTATION

This article examines the role of feedback in online writing platforms and its impact on learners' writing development. With the rapid growth of digital education, online platforms have become essential tools for improving writing skills. Feedback, as a key pedagogical element, helps learners identify errors, refine their ideas, and enhance overall writing quality. The study explores different types of feedback, including teacher feedback, peer feedback, and AI-generated feedback, and analyzes their effectiveness in online environments. It also discusses the benefits and challenges associated with feedback, such as motivation, engagement, accuracy, and overdependence on automated systems. The findings indicate that timely, clear, and constructive feedback significantly improves learners' performance and confidence. The article concludes by emphasizing the importance of combining human and technological feedback to create a balanced and effective learning environment.

Keywords; online writing platforms, feedback, peer feedback, teacher feedback, AI feedback, writing skills, digital learning, language development

In recent years, the advancement of technology has significantly transformed the field of education, particularly in language learning. Online writing platforms have emerged as powerful tools that allow learners to practice and improve their writing skills in flexible and interactive environments. These platforms include educational websites, learning management systems, and AI-powered tools that provide instant feedback to users. Feedback is a fundamental component of the writing process. It refers to the information provided to learners

regarding their performance, which helps them understand their strengths and weaknesses. In traditional classrooms, feedback is usually given by teachers; however, in online environments, it can also come from peers and automated systems. The importance of feedback in writing cannot be overstated. Writing is a complex skill that requires continuous practice, revision, and reflection. Without feedback, learners may struggle to identify their mistakes or improve their writing quality. In online platforms, feedback becomes even more crucial as it replaces face-to-face interaction and guidance. This article aims to explore the role of feedback in online writing platforms. It analyzes different types of feedback, their advantages and limitations, and their impact on learners' motivation and performance. By examining these aspects, the study provides insights into how feedback can be effectively used to enhance writing skills in digital learning environments. Feedback has been widely studied in the field of applied linguistics and education. Researchers agree that feedback plays a vital role in language learning, particularly in writing. It not only helps learners correct their errors but also promotes deeper understanding and critical thinking. One of the key distinctions in feedback research is between teacher feedback and peer feedback. Teacher feedback is often considered more reliable and authoritative, as it is provided by experienced professionals. It usually focuses on grammar, structure, and content organization. However, it can be limited by time constraints, especially in large classes. Peer feedback, on the other hand, involves learners evaluating each other's work. This type of feedback encourages collaboration and active learning. It allows students to develop analytical skills and become more aware of writing conventions. Nevertheless, peer feedback may lack accuracy if learners are not sufficiently trained. In recent years, AI-generated feedback has gained popularity due to its speed and accessibility. Tools such as Grammarly and ChatGPT provide instant corrections and suggestions. While these tools are highly efficient, they may not fully capture the context or intention of the writer. Overall, the literature suggests that each type of feedback has its strengths and limitations.

A combination of different feedback sources is often recommended for optimal learning outcomes.

Online writing platforms offer various types of feedback, each serving a different purpose. Teacher feedback remains one of the most valuable forms, as it provides detailed and personalized guidance. Teachers can address specific issues in a student's writing and offer suggestions for improvement. Peer feedback is another important component of online learning. It promotes interaction and collaboration among learners. By reviewing each other's work, students gain new perspectives and become more critical of their own writing. This process enhances both writing and analytical skills. AI-generated feedback has revolutionized online writing platforms. It provides immediate responses, allowing learners to correct their mistakes in real time. These tools can identify grammatical errors, suggest vocabulary improvements, and even evaluate the tone of writing. However, they may lack the depth and contextual understanding of human feedback. Feedback offers numerous benefits in online writing environments. First, it helps learners identify and correct their mistakes. This is essential for improving accuracy and clarity in writing. Second, feedback enhances learners' understanding of language rules and conventions. By receiving explanations and examples, students can apply their knowledge more effectively. Another significant benefit is the development of critical thinking skills. Feedback encourages learners to reflect on their writing and consider alternative approaches. This process leads to deeper learning and better problem-solving abilities. Moreover, feedback plays a crucial role in motivation. Positive and constructive feedback can boost learners' confidence and encourage them to continue improving. It creates a sense of achievement and reinforces their efforts. Despite its advantages, feedback in online writing platforms also presents several challenges. One of the main issues is the quality of feedback. Not all feedback is equally effective; vague or overly critical comments can confuse or discourage learners. Another challenge is the timing of feedback. Delayed feedback may reduce its impact, as learners may not remember

their original thought process. In contrast, immediate feedback, while beneficial, may sometimes lead to overreliance on automated systems.

Overdependence on AI tools is a growing concern. While these tools are helpful, excessive reliance on them may hinder learners' ability to think independently. Students may focus more on correcting errors than on developing ideas and creativity. Additionally, cultural and individual differences can affect how feedback is received. Some learners may perceive feedback as criticism, while others may view it as an opportunity for growth. Understanding these differences is essential for effective communication. The analysis shows that feedback is a crucial element in online writing platforms, influencing both learning outcomes and learner engagement. Each type of feedback-teacher, peer, and AI-generated-offers unique advantages. Teacher feedback provides depth and expertise, peer feedback fosters collaboration, and AI feedback ensures immediacy and accessibility. However, no single type of feedback is sufficient on its own. A balanced approach that combines different sources of feedback is the most effective strategy. For example, AI tools can be used for initial corrections, while teachers and peers can provide more detailed and contextual feedback. The findings also highlight the importance of feedback quality. Effective feedback should be clear, specific, and actionable. It should guide learners on how to improve rather than simply point out errors. Furthermore, the role of motivation cannot be ignored. Feedback should be delivered in a supportive and encouraging manner to enhance learners' confidence and engagement. This is particularly important in online environments, where learners may feel isolated.

In conclusion, feedback plays a vital role in the development of writing skills in online platforms. It provides learners with the guidance and support needed to improve their performance and achieve their learning goals. Different types of feedback, including teacher, peer, and AI-generated feedback, contribute to a comprehensive learning experience. While feedback offers numerous benefits, it also presents challenges that must be addressed. Ensuring the

quality, timing, and appropriateness of feedback is essential for its effectiveness. Educators and platform developers should work together to create systems that integrate multiple feedback sources and support learner autonomy. Ultimately, the success of online writing platforms depends on how effectively feedback is implemented. By combining technological innovation with human interaction, it is possible to create a dynamic and supportive learning environment that enhances writing skills and fosters lifelong learning.

REFERENCES

1. H. Douglas Brown (2007). Principles of Language Learning and Teaching. Pearson.
2. Zoltán Dörnyei (2005). The Psychology of the Language Learner. Lawrence Erlbaum.
3. David Crystal (2003). The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language. Cambridge University Press.
4. Janet Holmes (2013). An Introduction to Sociolinguistics. Routledge.
5. Ken Hyland (2003). Second Language Writing. Cambridge University Press.
6. Dana Ferris (2011). Treatment of Error in Second Language Student Writing. University of Michigan Press.
7. John Hattie (2009). Visible Learning. Routledge.
8. Helen Timperley (2007). The Power of Feedback. Review of Educational Research.
9. Deborah Tannen (1990). You Just Don’t Understand. Ballantine Books.
10. Claire Kramsch (1998). Language and Culture. Oxford University Press.
11. Grammarly (2023). Official Website.
12. ChatGPT (2024). OpenAI.
13. Rod Ellis (2009). Corrective Feedback and Teacher Development.
14. Susan M. Gass (2013). Second Language Acquisition. Routledge.