**Integrating AI-Driven English Learning Solutions at Yessenov University:**

**A Practical Perspective**

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In the fall semester of the 2023-2024 academic year, the Department of World Languages at the Caspian State University of Technology and Engineering named after Shahmardan Yesenov introduced an innovative AI-driven English learning solution, neo+, into their curriculum. This integration marks a significant step towards enhancing the quality of English education provided to students.

Neo+ is a proven learning solution designed to combine online self-study with personalized one-on-one coaching, helping learners achieve their English fluency goals. It offers young adults the flexibility to study on their mobile devices at any time, engaging in short sessions of 30 to 45 minutes several times a week. For those eager to progress faster, more frequent study sessions are also possible. This flexibility ensures that students can fit their language learning into their busy schedules effectively.

The adaptability of neo+ is one of its key strengths. Upon starting, students take an online Placement Test to identify their current skill level. This allows the platform to tailor the learning experience to meet the specific needs of each learner, ensuring they can achieve the desired fluency level for their program. This targeted approach is backed by a price guarantee, emphasizing the value and effectiveness of the solution.

The neo Study App is a powerful tool within this learning solution, delivering English language instruction in a way that resonates with young learners. Powered by DynEd’s comprehensive lessons and certification program, the app benefits from over 30 years of data gathered from more than 25 million learners worldwide who have successfully improved their English skills through these programs. The app’s proven methodology guarantees improved fluency for students at every certification level.

A notable feature of neo+ is its alignment with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). To advance from one CEFR level to the next, learners must complete a series of Mastery Tests within each level. Upon mastering the necessary language concepts, learners can take the Certification Test, which, when passed, earns them a DynEd certificate. This rigorous yet efficient process ensures that students can move through each certification level in approximately 3.5 months, gaining internationally recognized validation of their English proficiency.

While the introduction of neo+ brought numerous benefits, the experience also highlighted some challenges. Contrary to concerns about over-reliance on the AI tool, motivating students to use the app for studying proved to be a challenge. Some students found the repetition required by the app – repeating one lesson five times – boring or too easy, leading to reluctance in its use. This underscores the need for continued engagement strategies to ensure effective use of AI tools in education.

Teachers at Yessenov University who were involved in the process found that AI integration significantly reduced their workload, particularly with evaluations. The automation of homework checking and assessments allowed teachers to focus more on interactive speaking practice, enhancing the quality of classroom interactions. The use of AI also helped in reducing language-related insecurities among students, providing a supportive and less intimidating learning environment.

The potential of AI in education is substantial, but its success depends heavily on the individual learner's motivation and engagement. While AI tools can provide varied and interactive learning experiences that differ from traditional books, their effectiveness is contingent on their features and the learner's willingness to engage with them.

To maximize the benefits of AI in language learning, it is essential to ensure that these tools are used in ways that genuinely engage students. Personalized learning paths, interactive and gamified lessons, and consistent feedback can help in maintaining student interest and motivation. However, educators must remain vigilant and provide the necessary support and encouragement to help students overcome any reluctance or boredom associated with AI learning tools.

In conclusion, the integration of neo+ at Yessenov University highlights the institution’s commitment to providing high-quality, modern English language education. By leveraging advanced AI technology and a proven learning framework, the university is not only enhancing students' language skills but also their confidence and ability to communicate in English. As Yessenov University continues to embrace technological advancements in education, the positive impact on student learning outcomes becomes increasingly evident. The interest and proficiency in English among students have risen significantly, reflecting the effectiveness of the neo+ platform in fostering a dynamic and engaging learning environment. The future of English education at Yessenov University looks promising, with ongoing developments aimed at further enhancing the learning experience for all students.