ПЛАТФОРМА 1.

Інноваційні методи іншомовної підготовки фахівців.

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COMPARING DUOLINGO AND SMALLTALK2ME: ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING PLATFORMS

In the modern era, there exists software aimed at facilitating English language acquisition in an efficient and engaging manner. Among these, Duolingo stands out as one of the most popular services, offering a gamified approach to mastering English proficiency (*Terms and conditions of service*, 2023). Comparable to navigating through levels in a video game, learners progress sequentially, completing tasks and challenges along the way.

Each level within Duolingo comprises lessons and specific goals, mirroring the structure of video games. Notably, learners are constrained from accessing more advanced levels until they have completed the prerequisites, akin to unlocking levels in gaming. Additionally, once a lesson is initiated, completion is necessary to retain progress, similar to save points in gaming (Makhovych & Makhovych, 2023, p. 54).

Duolingo's compatibility across various platforms, including Android, iOS, and web browsers, ensures accessibility for a broad user base. Moreover, the platform offers the "Duolingo English Test," a comprehensive assessment tool evaluating language skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This assessment addresses the limitations of traditional speaking evaluations, such as inter-rater variability and scalability issues (*Duolingo English test*, n.d.).

Despite Duolingo's popularity, alternative platforms like SmallTalk2Me harness advanced algorithms to augment traditional learning methodologies. SmallTalk2Me, a web-based and mobile-friendly service, goes beyond presenting learning materials by also evaluating your proficiency.

But there are lots of other services that provide different ways of learning English. In our AI-driven era there will be always an instrument that do something better than regular human-programmed service.

SmallTalk2Me is a website-service that allows the student not only to learn something that is written on the screen or heard by audio but it also can estimate the level of written and even spoken sentences.

According to information given by developers the accuracy of estimating The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) level (A1, A2, B1…) is 95% which is an impressive result. It should be noted that human accuracy is about 85%. Other advantages include recognizing different accents which is big feature of SmallTalk2Me (*SmallTalk2Me – AI-powered simulator to improve spoken English*, n.d.).

The questions and tasks at SmallTalk2Me are created by language experts and certified specialists who are experienced in teaching English as a second language and preparing students for TOEFL/IELTS and Cambridge exams. The Small Talk Speaking Test uses an assessment that follows the same standards as the Cambridge

English Exams and the Cambridge English Scale, which cover a wide range of English language proficiency (Manggiasih et al., 2023). This means that learners can use this service as an effective resource to train and prepare for these exams (*SmallTalk2Me – AI-powered simulator to improve spoken English*, n.d.).

Duolingo and SmallTalk2Me have their own advantages and disadvantages for individuals who are learning English. Duolingo excels with its gamified learning approach, comprehensive assessment tool in the form of the "Duolingo English Test," and cross-platform compatibility. However, it falls short in providing detailed feedback on speaking proficiency and may exhibit inconsistencies across different platforms. On the other hand, SmallTalk2Me boasts accurate proficiency estimation, accent recognition, and alignment with standardized exams like the Cambridge English Exams. However, SmallTalk2Me is limited to English language instruction only .

In conclusion, both Duolingo and SmallTalk2Me offer unique advantages and disadvantages, catering to different learning preferences and goals. Users should consider their individual needs and priorities when choosing between these platforms for English language acquisition.

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INTERACTION OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS

Today, the problem of finding innovative technologies for the training of future specialists has become actualized. Scientists have proven that the effectiveness of modern education depends on the implementation of democratic principles, values of partnership and cooperation between the teacher and students. That is why, in order to activate the educational activity of students, special attention should be paid to the organization of pedagogical interaction in the educational