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AI in EFL Academic Writing: Potentials and Challenges in Vietnamese Higher Education

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Abstract

This presentation examines the opportunities and challenges of integrating AI-based technologies into academic writing within English as a Foreign Language (EFL) context in Vietnamese higher education. Drawing on semi-structured interviews with lecturers and survey data from over 200 EFL students, the study highlights how AI tools are reshaping writing practices, learner engagement, and perceptions of academic integrity. Findings indicate that while students recognise AI's potential for enhancing language accuracy, idea generation, and confidence in writing, concerns persist regarding over-reliance, fairness, and ethical boundaries. Lecturers emphasise the importance of fostering critical awareness and guiding students in responsible AI use, ensuring that technology supports rather than replaces essential writing skills. The presentation will discuss implications for teaching practices, policy development, and future research, inviting dialogue on how educational communities can balance innovation with integrity in an AI-driven learning landscape.

Keywords: Gen AI, EFL, academic writing, higher education