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ChatGPT & Gemini in University English Lesson Planning: Potential and Pedagogical Alignment

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Advanced chatbots like ChatGPT and Gemini present exciting new avenues for educators, sparking curiosity about their potential in streamlining lesson planning for university-level English skills instruction. This study delves into this potential, with the researcher using ChatGPT and Gemini to generate a sample of 30 lesson plans tailored to diverse English courses for English Teaching Education majors at Vinh University. Taguette qualitative analysis software was used to scrutinize the AI-generated plans, specifically examining their alignment with established TESOL methodologies and best practices. Initial findings reveal that these chatbots demonstrate a remarkable capacity to produce lesson plans mirroring common pedagogical structures and activities. Moreover, the plans often position teachers as facilitators, aligning with constructivist approaches. However, the integration of technology-enhanced learning specifically for language skills development appears to be an area where refinement is needed. This study offers TESOL practitioners valuable insights into the strengths and potential limitations of effectively integrating AI tools within their university English classrooms.

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