

# Using Voice and AI assistants for language learning

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Links for *Using Voice and AI assistants for language learning* webinar

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/using-voice-ai-assistants-language-learning>

## Introduction

For more about me, see <https://sites.google.com/site/joshunderwood/>

I find the the EU Digital competence for educators framework useful -

<https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/digcompedu>

## Advances in voice-recognition & AI

Nordrum, A. (2017, January 04). CES 2017: the year of voice recognition

<http://spectrum.ieee.org/tech-talk/consumer-electronics/gadgets/ces-2017-the-year-of-voice-recognition>

Try voice-typing with <https://dictation.io/>

Listen to Google Assistant phone to book a hair appointment, which one was the

human? <https://www.cnbc.com/2018/05/08/googles-assistant-will-soon-place-phone-calls-to-book-appointments.html>

## AI Assistants

Amazon Alexa

[https://www.amazon.com/b/?ie=UTF8&node=9818047011&ref=fs\\_ods\\_fs\\_aucc\\_cp](https://www.amazon.com/b/?ie=UTF8&node=9818047011&ref=fs_ods_fs_aucc_cp)

Google Home Assistant

[https://store.google.com/us/category/home\\_entertainment?hl=en-US](https://store.google.com/us/category/home_entertainment?hl=en-US)

## Getting learners talking

This week's topic on British Council Teaching for Success: Learning & Learners

MOOC - <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/english-language-teaching-learning/4/todo/31430>

Try getting dumpling to jump - <https://www.dumplingthepug.com/>

IATEFL 2018: Safe Speaking Environments – What? Why? How? By Zoltan Dornyei

<http://www.cambridge.org/elt/blog/2018/04/09/iatefl-safe-speaking-environments/>

Also see:

Alemi, M., Meghdari, A. & Ghazisaedy, M. The Impact of Social Robotics on L2

Learners' Anxiety and Attitude in English Vocabulary Acquisition Int J of Soc

Robotics (2015) 7: 523. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12369-015-0286-y>

Investigate NAO - <https://www.softbankrobotics.com/emea/en/robots/nao>

Han, J. (2012). Emerging technologies: Robot assisted language learning. Language Learning & Technology, 16(3), 1-9 <http://www.lltjournal.org/item/2777>

### **Some ways teachers are using Amazon Echo dots**

We're using it for spelling, checking facts, math...

<http://www.coolcatteacher.com/amazon-alexa-classroom/>

...set a countdown timer, choose a student at random, talk about the weather, etc...

<https://www.erintegration.com/2016/12/26/amazon-echo-dot-and-alexa-in-the-classroom/>

### **More opportunities & making AI & voice-enabled skills**

*What could you use with your students?*

Alexa Skills:

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/b?node=10068517031&ref=alxvm\\_uk\\_go\\_1593](https://www.amazon.co.uk/b?node=10068517031&ref=alxvm_uk_go_1593)

Google Assistant Actions <https://assistant.google.com/explore>

Google Voice Experiments: <https://experiments.withgoogle.com/>

*What could you and your students make?*

Interactive Spoken Stories: <https://experiments.withgoogle.com/story-speaker>

Skill Blueprints: <https://blueprints.amazon.com/>

Making Quizzes: <https://developers.google.com/actions/templates/trivia>

Cognimates - AI for Scratch: <https://mitmedialab.github.io/cognimates-website/about/>

### **Looking to the future**

Critical engagement - why are the voices all female? Bias? Informing design, becoming a designer...

<https://www.theguardian.com/careers/2017/may/29/sexist-robots-can-be-stopped-by-women-who-work-in-ai>

<https://www.posthumanai.com/>

The evolution of English - English for machines? New standards in Global English, <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/understanding-language> See week four for discussion of the future of English/Englishes

How does teaching & learning change if facts we used to have to learn are instantly available? Watch the IOE debate What if... we really wanted to prepare young people for the age of artificial intelligence? <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ioe/news-events/events-pub/apr-2018/what-if-prepare-young-people-artificial-intelligence-age>

### **AI & the future of teachers?**

Ivanov, S. (2016) Will robots substitute teachers? Paper presented at the 12th International Conference "Modern science, business and education", 27-29 June

2016, Varna University of Management, Bulgaria. Yearbook of Varna University of Management, Vol. 9, pp. 42-47. <https://www.slideshare.net/stanislavhivanov/will-robots-substitute-teachers>

A.I. Is the New T.A. in the Classroom by Rose Luckin and Wayne Holmes:  
<https://howwegettonext.com/a-i-is-the-new-t-a-in-the-classroom-dedbe5b99e9e>

Try building a relationship with 'Him' <https://himthesite.com/>

### **Interested in finding out more?**

Alelo Webinar Series on the Future of AI in Education and Training

<https://www.alelo.com/2018/05/alelo-webinar-series-on-the-future-of-ai-in-education/>

Intelligence Unleashed: An argument for AI in Education

Rose Luckin and Wayne Holmes, UCL Knowledge Lab., Mark Griffiths and Laurie Forcier, Pearson - Foreword by Sir Michael Barber

<https://www.pearson.com/corporate/about-pearson/innovation/smarter-digital-tools/intelligence-unleashed.html>