



## Use of Artificial Intelligence Platforms in Middle School Level Arabic Language Learning

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### **Abstract**

*The research investigates the integration of AI platforms in teaching Arabic at the middle school level, examining both its benefits and challenges. Employing a mixed-methods approach, combining qualitative and quantitative techniques such as observation, interviews, and documentation, the study gathers insights from various stakeholders including the principal, Arabic teacher, and ten students. Results indicate the effectiveness and user-friendliness of AI platforms in Arabic learning, identifying key factors influencing their utilization. Educators benefit from factors like network accessibility, device availability, training opportunities, and AI applications, while students' support factors include educators, parental involvement, device access, internet availability, and AI tools. Challenges faced by educators encompass limited internet access, infrastructure issues, and student awareness gaps. However, the advantages for educators are significant, including enhanced content delivery, innovative teaching methods, and time efficiency. The study underscores the importance of educators embracing technological advancements to enrich learning experiences. Recommendations emphasize the necessity for educational institutions to furnish adequate resources, offer training programs, and promote awareness among both educators and students to fully harness the potential of AI platforms like Google, thereby optimizing educational outcomes.*

**Keywords:** Arabic Language Learning, Character, Modern Era

### **Introduction**

The increase in internet use has slowly changed lifestyles and daily activities, making distances and places feel closer as a result of developments in internet

technology. Interaction and communication with individuals in different locations, even distant countries, has now become easier through social media. The growth of internet users continues to increase over time, even reaching rural areas which now have internet access, considering that the internet has become an essential need in everyday life. The increase in wifi use is not only limited to coffee shops, but has also spread to residential areas. This phenomenon causes a significant increase in the number of internet users from year to year.<sup>1</sup>

Internet use is growing in line with the development of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) which has had a significant impact on the education sector, especially in facing the 21st century education era which is marked by the industrial revolution 4.0. With increasing openness and globalization, ICT is becoming a major force in changing the way of education throughout the world. One of the biggest impacts of ICT in education is the emergence of new innovations, the most striking of which is the concept of electronic learning or e-learning.<sup>2</sup>

E-learning is a form of learning that integrates technology, especially computer networks and the internet, in the learning process.<sup>3</sup> Through e-learning, pupils and students can access learning materials from anywhere and at any time, without being limited by space and time. This opens up new opportunities for broader and more inclusive access to education.

E-learning innovation involves the use of various electronic media, such as audio, video, computer devices, and combinations of these. Learning materials can be presented in a variety of interesting formats, allowing users to learn in a more interactive and adaptive way according to their individual learning styles. Apart from that, e-learning also facilitates communication and collaboration between

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<sup>1</sup> Tugino, Muhammad Munadi, and Khuriyah, "Pengaplikasian Teknologi Digital Dalam Pembelajaran PAI Dan Bahasa Arab," *INNOVATIVE: Journal Of Social Science Research* 3 (2023): 78.

<sup>2</sup> MMEI Bali et al., "Innovative Learning Media Based on E-Learning in the New Normal Era," in *Proceedings of the 11th Annual International Conference on Industrial Engineering and Operations Management*, 2021, <http://www.ieomsociety.org/singapore2021/papers/1210.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> M. Gao, "Design and Implementation of Educational Assistance System Integrating MOOC Learning Behavior," 2024, <https://doi.org/10.1109/ICICACS60521.2024.10498328>.

teachers and students, as well as between fellow students, through online platforms.<sup>4</sup>

The application of e-learning does not only cover higher education levels, but also extends to primary and secondary education levels. This creates new opportunities for curriculum development that is more dynamic and relevant to the demands of the times. Although e-learning brings great benefits, challenges such as accessibility and the digital divide need to be addressed so that all levels of society can experience its benefits (Tomczyk et al., 2020). With the continued development of technology, it is hoped that the education sector can continue to innovate and utilize ICT optimally to improve the quality and accessibility of education throughout the world.

Arabic is one of the foreign languages that is widely used in the world. Arabic is also said to be the language that unites Muslims in the world because many worship activities use Arabic as the reading language. A child who is taught to recite the Koran and pray by his parents or teacher will definitely teach them to memorize and master Arabic as a guide in mastering prayer reading. Therefore, Arabic is very interesting and important to teach to students.<sup>5</sup>

The application of learning methods through online media in Indonesia has received support from regulations, such as Minister of Education and Culture Regulation Number 68 of 2014 which regulates the role of teachers in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and computer skills in implementing the 2013 curriculum. As educators, teachers are expected to have professional responsibility in developing educational competencies in accordance with the latest developments in Science and Technology (IPTEK), in line with Republic of Indonesia Law no. 14 of 2005 concerning teachers and lecturers. Online learning,

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<sup>4</sup> Askhat Kuatbekov et al., "E-Learning as a Basis for the Development of Media Competences in Students," *Journal of Information Science* 49, no. 4 (August 2023): 1111–25, <https://doi.org/10.1177/01655515211040656>.

<sup>5</sup> Syamsul Hidayat and Amien Ashiddiqi, "Metode I'Rāb Al-Qur'an Dan Konvensional Sebagai Pembelajaran Bahasa Arab Bagi Non Arab Di Ponpes Al Madinah Boyolali," *Profetika: Jurnal Studi Islam* 19, no. 2 (2019): 123–35, <https://doi.org/10.23917/profetika.v19i2.8119>.

which requires an internet connection, gives students the flexibility to learn adaptively, wherever and whenever it suits their needs.<sup>6</sup>

Arabic is the sacred language of the Islamic religion and is the language of the Koran, the holy book for Muslims. In this era of globalization, Muslim children face challenges in maintaining their religious identity. Learning Arabic can help consolidate their religious identity and understand Islamic teachings in more depth.

Various applications available on the artificial intelligence platform can be used by educators as a means for online learning. This perspective is in line with the view of Rahmanto & Bunyamin who stated that "AI is a learning platform that can be used to foster an educator's sense of creativity in using learning platforms". One very well-known artificial intelligence platform is Chat Generative Pre-trained Transformer (ChatGPT), because it is a very interesting innovation and is designed to provide support to educators and students in the learning process.<sup>7</sup>

Artificial intelligence platforms have the ability to assist educators in creating and organizing student assignments efficiently, as well as enabling unlimited communication with students without being constrained by space and time constraints. This application requires reliable internet access as an absolute requirement, and can be accessed by all class members who join. The class concept applied is similar to classes in the real world. Those who already have artificial intelligence applications, including ChatGPT, can become members of the class and take advantage of the product and productivity suite for free.

In the modern era, society is increasingly realizing the importance of developing good character in children. Character education includes moral, ethical, attitudes and behavior aspects that are desired to form responsible, empathetic and moral individuals. Learning Arabic, as part of religious learning, can contribute to

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<sup>6</sup> Sampiril Taurus Tamaji, "Manajemen Sarana Dan Prasarana Dalam Pembelajaran Bahasa Arab Di Smp Al-Izzah Internasional Islamic Boarding School Batu," *Al-Fakkaar* 2, no. 1 (2021): 22–39, <https://doi.org/10.52166/alf.v2i1.2335>.

<sup>7</sup> Nathaniel E Helwig, Sungjin Hong, and Elizabeth T Hsiao-wecksler, "Lingkungan Bahasa Arab Di Pedomondokan Santri Mahasiswa Pondok Pesantren Membaus Sholihin," *Jurnal Studi Keislaman* 3, no. September 2016 (2016): 232–60.

character development by introducing ethical and moral values in the teachings of the Islamic religion.<sup>8</sup>

The use of communication technology in the context of academic activities is very crucial, especially when the technology is directed to support various educational and learning activities. This is the key to achieving effectiveness and efficiency in the educational process. Therefore, at the Junior High School (SMP) level, conventional system approaches and e-learning systems are used. The combination of the two systems was carried out because the implementation of the e-learning system was still not fully adequate in supporting the student learning process. In the context of learning Arabic in junior high schools, various applications on the Google platform are used, including the use of artificial intelligence platforms such as ChatGPT and Perplexity AI.<sup>9</sup>

## Method

This research is an attempt to combine two previously existing research approaches, namely qualitative and quantitative approaches. In accordance with the concept defined by John W. Cresswell, mixed research involves combining qualitative and quantitative aspects in the research approach.<sup>10</sup> Sugiyono also stated that mixed research methods are an approach that integrates quantitative and qualitative research methods to achieve more comprehensive, accurate, reliable and objective data.<sup>11</sup> In this research, a purposive sampling method was applied, where sample selection was carried out by selecting subjects based on certain considerations. without any specific goal. The use of purposive sampling is expected to provide samples that match the research criteria.

This research focuses on exploring the understanding and perceptions of junior high school students in the Surabaya area regarding the use of AI platforms in

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<sup>8</sup> Nur Hidayat, "Kurikulum Mata Pelajaran Bahasa Arab," *Manhaj: Jurnal Penelitian Dan Pengabdian Masyarakat* 3 (2018): 70–91.

<sup>9</sup> Ahmad Muthohhar, "Korelasi Antara Kemampuan Berbahasa Arab Dengan Kelancaran Membaca Al-Quran Di SMP Islam Al-Falah Kota Jambi," *Ad-Dhuha: Jurnal Pendidikan Bahasa Arab Dan Budaya Islam* 3, no. 1 (2022): 1–20.

<sup>10</sup> Hani Subakti et al., *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*, 2023.

<sup>11</sup> Pendidikan Pendekatan Kuantitatif, "Metode Penelitian Kuantitatif Kualitatif Dan R&D," *Alfabeta, Bandung*, 2016, <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Hery->

learning Arabic.<sup>12</sup> The population that is the subject of the research includes all junior high school students in the area, which is estimated to number around 500 students. In this research, the sampling technique used is purposive sampling, which allows researchers to select samples that have certain characteristics or characteristics that are in accordance with the research objectives.

Taking into account the limitations of time and resources, this research selected 100 students as a representative sample of this population group. The sampling process was carried out carefully to ensure diversity and representativeness of the sample to the population as a whole. It is hoped that this sample can provide a comprehensive view regarding the use of AI platforms in learning Arabic among junior high school students in Surabaya.

This research aims to investigate the extent to which students utilize and experience benefits from the use of AI platforms, as well as to analyze the factors that support or limit such use. Thus, it is hoped that the research results can make a significant contribution to our understanding of the application of technology in the context of Arabic language education at the junior high school level.

## **Results and Discussions**

The term "new media" has been used since the 1960s, referring to the application of communication technology that includes characteristics such as editable, networked, compact, interactive and user-generated content. The main characteristics of new media are that content can be edited and is networked, allowing participation from various users. The concept of user-generated content reflects that control over internet content is no longer centralized in certain stakeholders, but can be generated and uploaded by anyone. The term new media refers to Information and Communication Technology (ICT) which has developed rapidly at the end of the 20th century, bringing about a new era known as new media. New media is a form of media that involves interaction between humans and computers, with a main focus on the use of digital technology, computers and

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<sup>12</sup> A.Y. Muaad et al., "Artificial Intelligence-Based Approach for Misogyny and Sarcasm Detection from Arabic Texts," *Computational Intelligence and Neuroscience* 2022 (2022), <https://doi.org/10.1155/2022/7937667>.

networks. In a simple definition, new media includes all forms of media that utilize electronic devices, especially through devices such as smartphones and the internet.

One of the distinctive characteristics of new media is that there is more intensive interaction between users and technology. In contrast to traditional media which is one-way, new media allows active participation from users in the communication process. Examples of new media include websites, blogs, online social networks, online forums, and other platforms that use computers as the main media.

The web and blogs provide a space for individuals and organizations to share information, ideas, and views quickly and easily. Online social networks, such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, facilitate social interactions virtually, allowing users to connect, share content, and communicate with each other. Online forums provide a platform for discussion and exchange of information among communities with specific interests or goals.

In new media, messages are not only conveyed from sender to recipient, but interaction and response also occur in real-time. This creates a faster and more engaged communication dynamic. Users can provide feedback, comment, and actively participate in creating content. Overall, new media opens the door to more democratic communication, where every individual has the potential to become a producer and consumer of content, and engage in global dialogue through cyberspace.<sup>13</sup>

Computer and internet technology form the basis for the concept of new media.<sup>14</sup>In a simple way, new media combines the words "new" which means new and "media" which refers to the tools used by sources to convey their messages to recipients. One of the main features of new media is its ability to create illusions,

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<sup>13</sup> MPOC, lia dwi jayanti, and Jennifer Brier, "ANALISIS KESULITAN BELAJAR BAHASA ARAB SISWA KELAS VII DI SMP IT INSAN MULIA BATANGHARI LAMPUNG TIMUR," *Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC)* 21, no. 1 (2020): 1–9.

<sup>14</sup> Muhammad Mushfi El Iq Bali et al., "Innovative Learning Media Based on E-Learning in the New Normal Era," in *Proceedings of the International Conference on Industrial Engineering and Operations Management* (11th Annual International Conference on Industrial Engineering and Operations Management, Singapore, Singapore: IEOM Society International, 2021), <https://doi.org/10.46254/AN11.20211210>.

such as real face-to-face communication experiences, known as parasocial interactions. According to Littlejohn, McLuhan put forward the idea that media, especially electronic media and communications technology, have a significant impact and can change their users, which is known as "media theory". Television, personal media such as iPods, and cyberspace each have an influence on society, regardless of the content consumed or sites visited. From this concept, new media theory was then applied in the form of communication technology known as the internet.<sup>15</sup>

New media has advantages and benefits that include speed of interaction, efficiency, lower costs, and the ability to access the latest information more quickly.<sup>16</sup> On the other hand, the weakness of new media lies in its dependence on internet connection networks. The quality and smooth delivery of information depends on the speed and stability of the internet network. In addition, an internet connection is a constant requirement wherever new media is used. Online media or new media is included in the mass communication category, because the messages conveyed through this platform can reach a wide audience.<sup>17</sup>

The Internet, as a new communications technology, has the potential to help us select and organize information more efficiently.<sup>18</sup> In a general context, the internet offers greater flexibility in determining time and distance compared to previous media. In its role as a communication medium, the internet has a crucial role as a channel for sending messages from the source to the recipient of the message. The main characteristic of the internet as a communication medium is its transactional nature, which means there is intense and continuous interaction

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<sup>15</sup> Rizal Nur Rochman, Maman Abdurrahman, and Mad Ali, "ANALISIS KEGIATAN FORUM MGMP BAHASA ARAB DALAM PENGEMBANGAN KOMPETENSI PEDAGOGIK GURU BAHASA Mempunyai Peran Sangat Penting Dalam Merancang Dan Mengembangkan Proses Dalam Undang-Undang Republik Indonesia Nomor 14 Tentang Guru Dan Dosen Dalam Melaksanakan," *LISANUL ARAB: Journal of Arabic Learning and Teaching* 11, no. 1 (2022): 1–8.

<sup>16</sup> Abdul Basit, Hanifah Muyasaroh, and Shakila Ahmad, "Strengthening Moslem Society's In New Media To Improving Tolerance and Pluralism In Indonesia," *Advances in Humanities and Contemporary Studies* 5, no. 1 (2024): 39–46.

<sup>17</sup> M. Gagnon et al., "What Can We Learn from the English-Language Media Coverage of Cannabis Legalization in Canada?," *Substance Use and Misuse* 55, no. 8 (2020): 1378–81, <https://doi.org/10.1080/10826084.2020.1741639>.

<sup>18</sup> M. Alamri and S. Lajmi, "Design a Smart Platform Translating Arabic Sign Language to English Language," *International Journal of Electrical and Computer Engineering* 14, no. 4 (2024): 4759–74, <https://doi.org/10.11591/ijece.v14i4.pp4759-4774>.



between individuals. In each interaction, feedback between individuals also occurs actively.<sup>19</sup>

In the new media era, individual intervention becomes very significant, where users can consider the pros and cons of each use of information and communication technology.<sup>20</sup> As the internet develops, individuals have the freedom to choose and access various types of content according to their needs and preferences. This gives users the power to control the information they receive, as well as actively participate in the communication process. However, along with this freedom comes challenges related to security and privacy that must be addressed wisely.

One of the main advantages of computer and internet technology is its very broad capacity.<sup>21</sup> The internet, as an innovative medium that is in great demand, is able to overcome distance limitations in conveying messages. Users can connect with people in various parts of the world without any geographical barriers. Moreover, the development of this technology has eliminated dependence on wired connections, enabling fast and efficient transmission of information. This is not only beneficial in the context of global communications, but also opens the door to various online applications and services that support various aspects of life, including education, business and entertainment.

### **The Relationship between the Google Platform and New Media Theory**

Google Platform is included in the new media category because it is a new digital media that requires internet access to access.<sup>22</sup> The use of an artificial intelligence (AI) platform in the learning process was chosen because this model optimally utilizes technology as an educational tool, which is expected to be accepted by

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<sup>19</sup> Muhammad Zaidar, Iain Pontianak, and Kalimantan Barat, "Pembelajaran Bahasa Arab Dalam Pengembangan Karakter Anak Di Era Modern : Kajian Konseptual," *Islamic Insights Journal* 05, no. 01 (2023): 42–55.

<sup>20</sup> L. Meghan Mahoney and Tang Tang, *Strategic Social Media: From Marketing to Social Change* (John Wiley & Sons, 2024),

<sup>21</sup> Stephen Rice et al., "The Advantages and Limitations of Using ChatGPT to Enhance Technological Research," *Technology in Society* 76 (2024): 102426.

<sup>22</sup> Charis Papaevangelou, "Funding Intermediaries: Google and Facebook's Strategy to Capture Journalism," *Digital Journalism* 12, no. 2 (February 7, 2024): 234–55, <https://doi.org/10.1080/21670811.2022.2155206>.

students and help them develop creativity, innovation and competitiveness, in line with the demands of the industrial revolution 4.0 era. And by studying a foreign language one can certainly hone a child's ability to master a lot of vocabulary and make sentences well. His logic will be honed and increasingly tested and he will have the desire to experiment with the words he masters to make sentences. He will continue to find out new words and arrange these words into good sentences then test them again both in written and spoken form.

As part of the learning media that is often applied in the teaching process, ChatGPT and Perplexity AI function as supporting applications for conventional, blended and online learning.<sup>23</sup> These two applications can also act as a flexible Learning Management System (LMS) and can be implemented in various learning materials, including science, social, and topics related to information and communication technology. The main focus of this application is to simplify the process of sharing files between teachers and students. In the context of developing online learning methods, ChatGPT and Perplexity AI are aimed at becoming special solutions as online learning platforms or online classes. This aims to facilitate teachers in creating, distributing and grouping assignments without dependence on the use of paper.

Google Meet has become the main choice in providing a safe environment for online education, especially during the pandemic.<sup>24</sup> This platform is recognized as a potential solution to continue teaching and learning activities during the period of restrictions. Features such as the availability of ChatGPT and Perplexity AI provide teachers and co-teachers with safety tools and direct communication capabilities, which are crucial as the city of Dubai faces contamination status. The advantage of Google Meet lies in its ease of access, where this platform can be accessed via smartphones and laptops, making it easier for students at The British

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<sup>23</sup> Benjamin Ayua Ambe et al., "Electronic Media Learning Technologies and Environmental Education Pedagogy in Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria," *Social Sciences & Humanities Open* 9 (2024): 100760.

<sup>24</sup> Ajay Kumar Singh and Mukesh Kumar Meena, "Online Teaching in Indian Higher Education Institutions during the Pandemic Time," *Education and Information Technologies* 29, no. 4 (March 2024): 4107–57, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10639-023-11942-y>.

University in Dubai (BUiD) to take classes comfortably using their personal devices.

One other superior factor is the continuity of the links provided in each class session. The ability to use the link repeatedly allows students to connect with their teachers at any time of the day. This provides great time flexibility for students, allowing them to organize their study schedule according to their individual needs. Thus, Google Meet not only provides an effective solution for online learning, but also offers the convenience and flexibility required in the context of distance education. The final factor was that students felt more confident, and less afraid when interacting via ChatGPT and Perplexity AI, compared to WhatsApp groups or Schoology groups.<sup>25</sup>

The use of various types of media in learning not only makes it more interesting for students, but can also avoid boredom, especially in the context of Arabic lessons. In this case, Google Forms are often used for attendance and exam purposes. Arabic is one of the foreign languages that is studied by many people in the world. For Muslims, Arabic is not only an everyday language, more than that, Arabic is the language of the Koran, which is a language that is often practiced by Muslims at all times. These include praying, reciting the Koran, praying and so on. Therefore, a child will be trained to know Arabic from the basics to a higher level.

### **Utilization of the Google Platform in Learning Arabic in Middle Schools**

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) platforms in Arabic language learning focuses on collecting assignments. Before teaching and learning activities begin, the requirements that apply are that teachers and students must have an AI platform to simplify the learning process. Applications that students must have involve ChatGPT and Perplexity AI on the Google platform. Educators are expected to have an AI platform to form classes in certain subjects in online learning. Students can be invited via email or given a class code to join. This application can be downloaded for free on Android or iOS based smartphone

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<sup>25</sup> N. Callaos et al., "Cybernetic Relationships between Technological Innovations, Ethics, and the Law," vol. 2023-September, 2023, 465–76, <https://doi.org/10.54808/WMSCI2023.01.465>.

devices, but it is recommended for beginners to listen to the explanation or tutorial to better understand and avoid confusion in its use.

On the AI Platform, all online learning activities can be carried out, including attendance, introduction to material, explanations, assignments, assignment collection and evaluation.<sup>26</sup> This platform becomes a kind of virtual classroom for educators and students, allowing interaction even without face to face. Attendance can be filled in when opening the AI application via the "forum" feature. Educators send materials and assignments via AI, with estimated time for completing assignments to make it easier to monitor student tardiness or absences. Assessment and feedback is provided in real-time, allowing educators to provide immediate response to student performance.

The use of AI platforms remains relevant in offline learning because of its convenience and innovation, especially in giving assignments to students. Study materials are also often sent via AI platforms, taking advantage of the advantages of document storage which allows students who are late to still be able to access and record the material without needing to borrow notebooks from classmates. The existence of the AI Platform also helps overcome the reasons for not recording material due to absence from class.<sup>27</sup>

Arabic language learning continues to focus on developing students' abilities to pronounce and understand Arabic vocabulary. The aim is to facilitate understanding of sentences or reading Arabic texts. Learning targets include students' ability to recognize daily vocabulary, understand, demonstrate, analyze the meaning of the text provided, and present the results of the analysis of ideas in the form of assignments.

In its implementation, teachers utilize the screen sharing feature on Google Meet. This feature allows students to read the material taught that day, such as mufrodat

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<sup>26</sup> Siu-Cheung Kong, Man-Yin William Cheung, and Olson Tsang, "Developing an Artificial Intelligence Literacy Framework: Evaluation of a Literacy Course for Senior Secondary Students Using a Project-Based Learning Approach," *Computers and Education: Artificial Intelligence* 6 (2024): 100214.

<sup>27</sup> Zhi Li, Zachary A. Pardos, and Cheng Ren, "Aligning Open Educational Resources to New Taxonomies: How AI Technologies Can Help and in Which Scenarios," *Computers & Education* 216 (2024): 105027.

(vocabulary) and muhadatsah (conversation) material. The meeting begins with the teacher reading all the learning material, and then involving students in reading the material presented. After the presentation of the material, an assessment session is carried out by giving students the opportunity to repeat the material or speak.

The use of Google Meet brings significant benefits in assessing students' skills (anger).<sup>28</sup> The relatively small number of participants helps reduce noise, creating a more focused learning environment. However, it should be acknowledged that network issues can be an obstacle, which can disrupt the smooth learning on AI platforms. However, this approach provides a balance between interactive learning and evaluating students' skills, thus allowing teachers to provide more personalized feedback and support to each student. The use of AI platforms remains crucial in Arabic language learning to present materials to students. Using this platform makes it easier for teachers to convey material without having to spend a lot of time on the writing and explanation process. Apart from that, students can also more easily understand the material with a clear explanation of the hijaiyyah letters. This is different from when teachers write on the blackboard, where sometimes the writing is difficult for students to read, causing delays in the learning process. The variety of media used also makes learning more interesting and can reduce boredom, especially in Arabic lessons. Learning media also functions as motivation for students in learning.

### **Arabic Language Learning in Understanding Vocabulary Using AI**

In the AI Platform, there is no notification feature to notify educators if material or assignments have been sent. Educators and students must manually check the classroom on the Arabic subject schedule to find out if materials or assignments have been sent. In learning Nahwu (Grammar), the main goal is that students are invited to understand the rules of Arabic Nahwu by memorizing and applying these rules when reading and writing texts in Arabic. Nahwu material is delivered

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<sup>28</sup> Javier Perez-Aranda, Samuel Medina-Claros, and Ricardo Urrestarazu-Capellán, "Effects of a Collaborative and Gamified Online Learning Methodology on Class and Test Emotions," *Education and Information Technologies* 29, no. 2 (February 2024): 1823–55, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10639-023-11879-2>.

by educators via the AI Platform by taking pictures of the nahwu material from books and uploading them to the AI Platform. Tasks are then given to students to record the material or complete the task, either using a notebook or directly on the AI Platform. This approach is considered innovative because it involves practicing using the device's Arabic keyboard.

Kitabah (Writing) learning focuses on writing skills. One of the four language skills is writing. With the AI Platform, students have the freedom to express their writing and practice writing skills using the Arabic keyboard. Using a keyboard helps students overcome embarrassment or fear that their writing may not be good or difficult for educators to read. Writing with your finger or using a special smartphone pen are also alternatives that students can use. Another advantage of using an AI platform is the ease of editing and deleting incorrect words or sentences without worrying about the appearance of the writing or worksheet being dirty due to scribbles.

### **Challenges and Opportunities in Arabic Language Learning for AI Platform Development**

Arabic is one of the oldest languages in the world which has experienced many developments in all aspects of social society and science.<sup>29</sup> For children, Arabic is a language that is not foreign to them, especially for children who are Muslim. In developing children's character, Arabic is one of the lessons that influences their character development.

In implication, there are many challenges in learning Arabic, especially for developing children's character in this modern era. One of the challenges that arise in learning Arabic in this modern era includes: 1) Structure and complexity, Arabic has a different structure and grammar from other languages. Children may have difficulty understanding and mastering these complex grammar rules. 2) Pronunciation and intonation, sounds and intonation in Arabic can be a challenge, especially if children are used to different sounds and intonation patterns in their

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<sup>29</sup> Sahkholid Nasution et al., "Learning Arabic Language Sciences Based on Technology in Traditional Islamic Boarding Schools in Indonesia," *Nazhruna: Jurnal Pendidikan Islam* 7, no. 1 (2024): 77–102.

mother tongue. 3) Limited curriculum and resources, the choice of curriculum and Arabic learning resources for children may be limited in some places. This can be an obstacle in providing an adequate learning environment.<sup>30</sup>

Apart from the three things above, technology and media also have a big influence on children's learning and character development. Children today are widely exposed to technology and media which can disrupt their focus and dedication towards learning Arabic. This can present challenges in creating a maintained and purposeful learning environment.

Apart from challenges, there are also many opportunities that arise and can be taken in learning Arabic in developing children's character, including: 1) Technology as a learning tool. While technology can be a challenge, it also brings opportunities to enhance Arabic language learning. Applications, e-learning platforms, and digital resources can be used to create engaging, interactive, and accessible learning experiences and can also make learning easier. 2) Globalization and connectivity. The modern era provides opportunities for children to connect with Arabic language communities around the world through the internet and social media. This allows them to communicate with native speakers around the world, share experiences, and increase cultural understanding. 3) Application of the characteristics of an interesting learning approach. Interesting learning approaches, such as project-based learning, role-playing learning, or problem-based learning, can be applied in Arabic language learning to encourage children's character development. This approach involves active interaction, collaboration, and problem solving, which can help build character skills.<sup>31</sup>

Apart from that, Arabic language education and children's character development have important implications in the modern era that can influence children's learning experiences. This implication can see the results of all the processes that children have experienced so that what they have obtained can be seen. Are the

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<sup>30</sup> B. L. Kalobo and Wendy Setlalentoa, "Navigating Challenges in Gifted Education: A Teacher's Perspective on Overcoming Barriers," *Athens Journal of Education*, 2024, 1–20.

<sup>31</sup> Maikel Hendrik, "Character Education Learning Strategies in Developing Students' Literacy Skills," *International Journal of Multidisciplinary Sciences* 2, no. 1 (2024): 43–48.

results achieved in accordance with what has been targeted or there must be other developments to achieve maximum results? In the context of globalization and technological advances, Arabic language education can play a key role in shaping children's character with positive values and strengthening their identity as individuals.

There are several important implications of Arabic language education in developing children's character in this modern era, including: As a reinforcement of religious identity. Arabic language education can help children understand, appreciate and internalize the values of the Islamic religion. Through studying Arabic, they can understand the Koran, hadith and Islamic literature which is the basis of their religion. This helps strengthen their religious identity and develop a sense of responsibility towards the moral teachings of Islam.

Development of good morals. Arabic has rich words and phrases that express good morals and moral ethics. Through Arabic language education, children can learn values such as honesty, patience, humility, justice and mutual help. Emphasis on developing good morals helps shape children's moral and responsible character.

Foster tolerance and understanding between cultures. In the multicultural modern era, it is important for children to understand and appreciate cultural and religious diversity. Arabic language education can help them broaden their horizons about the Arab and Islamic world. It promotes understanding, tolerance, and reduces negative prejudice against certain religious cultural groups.

Increase global competence. Arabic is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world. By learning Arabic, children can gain skills that are very valuable in this global era to become one of their provisions in communicating and learning. They have the opportunity to engage in international dialogue and collaboration, expand their educational and career opportunities in the Arab world and in the



Muslim world and even throughout the world, and also contribute positively to relations between countries and between nations.<sup>32</sup>

## **Conclusion**

The use of the AI Platform in learning Arabic in junior high school involves several steps and stages taken to access the media and understand the material taught by the teacher via the AI Platform. This platform provides significant assistance for educators and students in carrying out the learning process, especially in delivering material in class, sending material and assignments via the AI Platform, and assessing student assignments carried out on the platform. Using the AI Platform in Arabic language learning in junior high schools has practical advantages and can be accessed for free once installed. Users only need to have a Google or Gmail email account, then enter the Gmail password to log in.

The AI platform is used in three focuses of Arabic language learning, namely the learning process involves three main aspects, namely mufrodāt (vocabulary) learning, nahwu (grammar) learning, and Kitābah (writing) learning. These learning materials are delivered by educators via the AI Platform, including sending assignments if any. Students can do these assignments either in notebooks or directly on the AI Platform. This approach allows educators to assess students' assignments efficiently on the AI platform, while making the learning process easier. Learning Arabic is also important in relation to human appreciation for cultural heritage. The Arabic language has a rich history, beautiful literature, diverse art, and important cultural heritage.

Through learning Arabic, children can dig deeper into Arab cultural heritage, understanding the values, customs and traditions that shape Arab identity. This helps them develop an appreciation for cultural diversity and helps them broaden their horizons and views of the world. Overall, learning Arabic in developing children's character in this modern era provides broad benefits. By learning Arabic, children can strengthen religious values, develop communication skills, increase cognitive intelligence, appreciate cultural heritage, and improve their

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<sup>32</sup> Tetiana Kyselova and Vera Axonova, "Dialogue for Peace: The Production of Knowledge and Norms between International Practices and Local Ownership in Ukraine," *Peacebuilding*, January 23, 2024, 1–19, <https://doi.org/10.1080/21647259.2024.2306040>.

career opportunities in the future. It provides a solid foundation for children's character development in an increasingly connected and complex society.

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