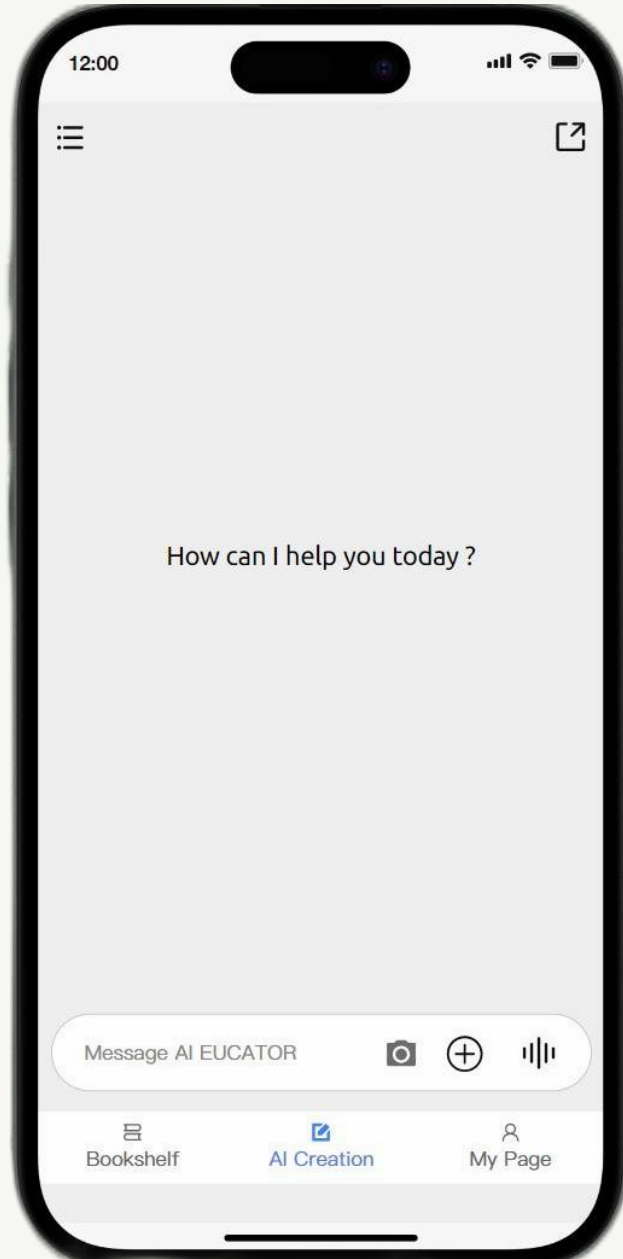


AI EDUCATOR

Xu Chen 2257453

Group 43 Project Member :
Yongtai Li 2144072
Zichen Qiu 2252705
Sirui Zhang 1929648

Mainly Contribution:



Introduction



Topics (Generative AI in X) :

The domain is **English language education**, specifically focusing on the teaching process of English reading comprehension in educational institutions.



a increasing workload

b birth rate growth



Relation to Human - Centric Computing:

The project takes HCC as its methodological cornerstone, constructing a "tools as extensions" human-computer collaboration through the path of "explicit identification of user needs → cognitive alignment of interaction design → value-added empowerment through technology".

→ Exemplifies a user-centered design approach

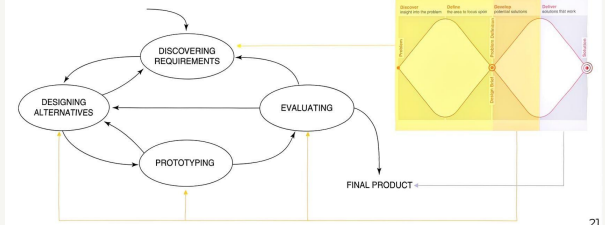


Fig 1 Iteration Design Lifecycle model



Specific Problem and its importance:


English teachers often face the challenge of creating high - quality reading comprehension questions. Manually generating such questions is a time - consuming task. Teachers need to search for appropriate reading materials, design questions that test different cognitive levels, and ensure the questions are relevant to the curriculum and the students' proficiency levels. This process can be extremely labor - intensive [1].



c keep up with the trend

Initial User Requirements

Foodie Millennial - Persona Example



Innovative

Open-minded

Outful

Passionate

Enterprising

Goals

- Save time on creating high-quality reading comprehension questions, so she can spend more time on personalized student guidance.
- Ensure that the questions she uses in class effectively assess students' understanding at different cognitive levels, from basic comprehension to critical thinking.
- Keep up with the latest educational trends and integrate modern teaching methods into her classes.

Motivation

Passion for education

Student performance and pressure to enter higher education

Teaching - innovative

Pain Points

- Adapting to Educational Reforms:** Despite having 10 years of teaching experience and a master's degree in English Education, Ms. Ge struggles to keep up with educational reforms. When these changes occur, she often feels at a loss as she mainly relies on the teaching syllabus to design her lessons. This limits her ability to quickly adapt her teaching methods and materials to the new requirements, causing her distress.
- Insufficient question innovation:** In an era that requires innovative teaching, Ms. Ge found it very difficult to create unique and engaging reading comprehension questions. She usually searched for previous second-grade mock exam papers on educational resource websites or the school's internal database to get inspiration for question creation. However, this approach resulted in a lack of novelty in the questions, and she was distressed that she could not meet the growing demand for creative teaching materials.

Used Tools

deepseek

豆包

Mint

Bio

Ms. WenXue Ge, 35 years old, has been teaching English for a decade in a public high school. She holds a master's degree in English Education. In her daily teaching, to create reading comprehension questions, she frequently browses educational resource platforms and the school's internal database to look for previous years' second-grade mock exam papers. This helps her get ideas for question types and difficulty levels. However, educational reforms pose a significant challenge to her. Relying mainly on the teaching syllabus, she finds it hard to quickly adapt to new educational requirements. She likes to share original English reading materials with her classmates in class and recommends them to use Mint Reading

Fig 2 Persona About Wenxue Ge



User group characteristics

- High level of education
- Teaching needs-driven
- Pay attention to student feedback
- Different levels of acceptance of technology



Type of requirements

Content requirements

- English reading materials
- Different topics
- Different difficulty levels



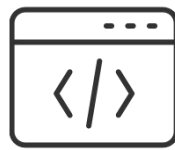
Functional requirements

- Personalized questions
- Question analysis
- History records
- Score statistics



Interface requirements

- Easy-to-use interface
- Reading materials and questions are clearly displayed



Evidence

We distributed **Questionnaire to 30 English teachers**. Most teachers believed the existing question-creation resources were **time-consuming**. (Fig 3)

When asked about the functions they most expected from a question-creation software, they mainly chose the ability to set **different difficulty levels and various question types**. (Fig 4)

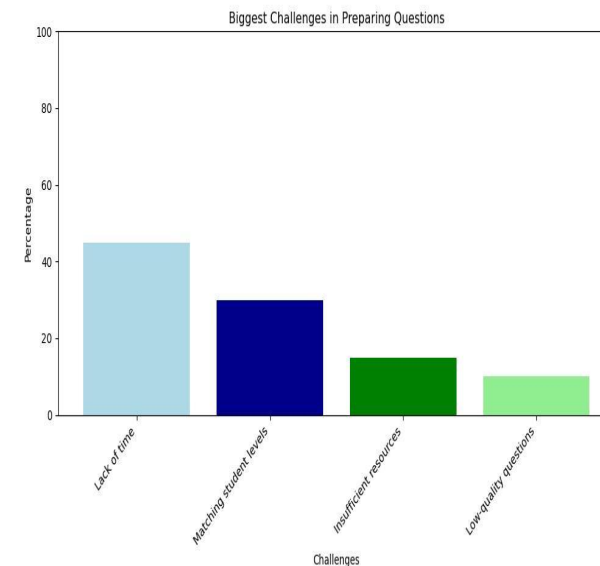


Fig 3 Challenges in Preparing Questions

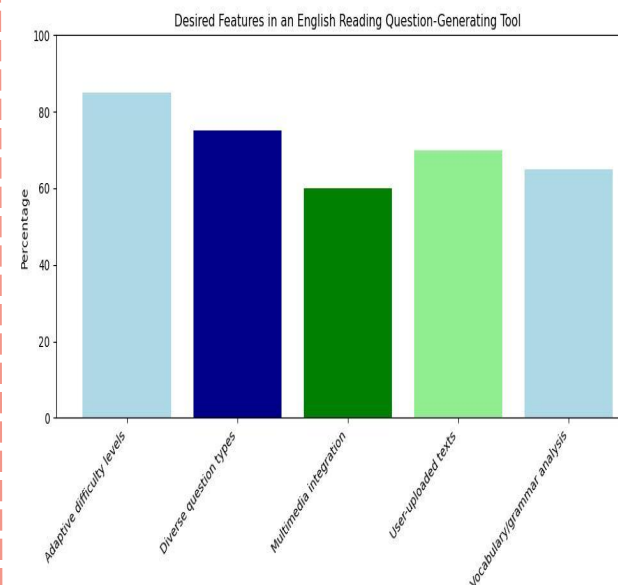
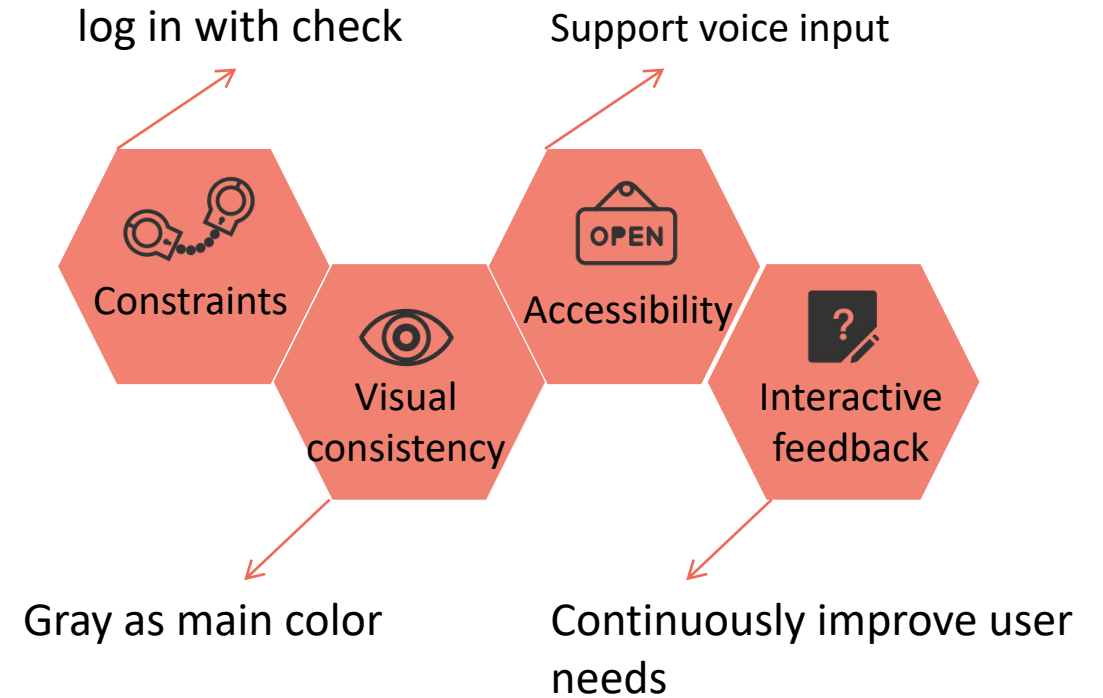


Fig 4 Desired Tools in AI Educator

Our findings are consistent with the viewpoints in the research paper [2]. This paper points out that the traditional method of manually creating reading comprehension questions is time-consuming and labor-intensive.



Design Principles



Prototyping

Menu Design

- Retain only the first - level menu at the bottom of the brief introduction.

Tools and Compatibility

- Use the Modao tool for prototype design.
- Compatible with both iOS and Android systems.

Function Breadth

- Implement both the generation and marking functions.

Function Depth

- Do not support listening, speaking, and writing functions currently.



Trade -off

Functional completeness and development difficulty :

- Original Plan:** Use complex algorithms to set questions accurately, considering multi-dimensional data
- Prototype stage Adjustment:** set questions only based on the word count of reading materials and question types

Interface Design and User Experience :

- Design Approach:** Adopt a mature interface layout mode to speed up the design process.
- Visuals and Operation:** lack novelty to help users quickly get familiar with the operation process.
- Interaction Effects:** Retain basic interactive effects while omitting complex animation effects.

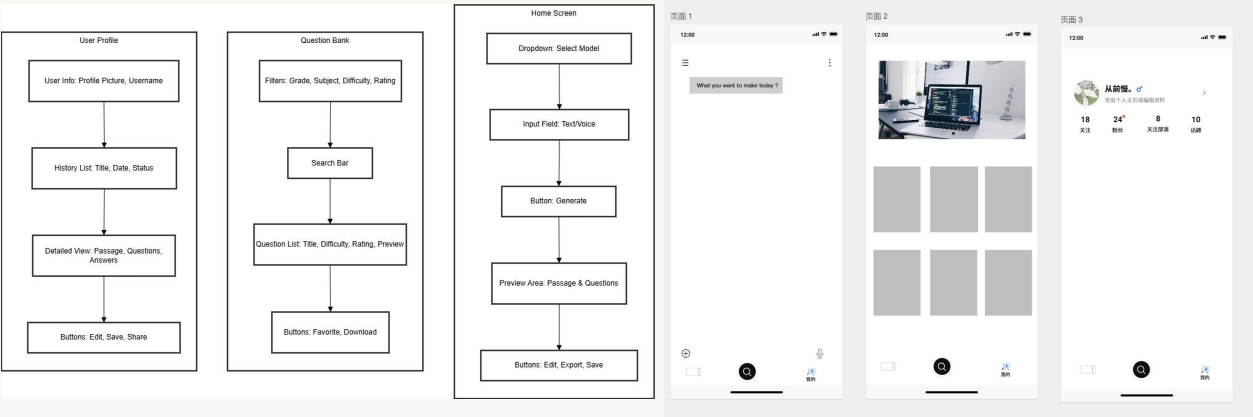


Fig 6 Iteration 1 of the prototype

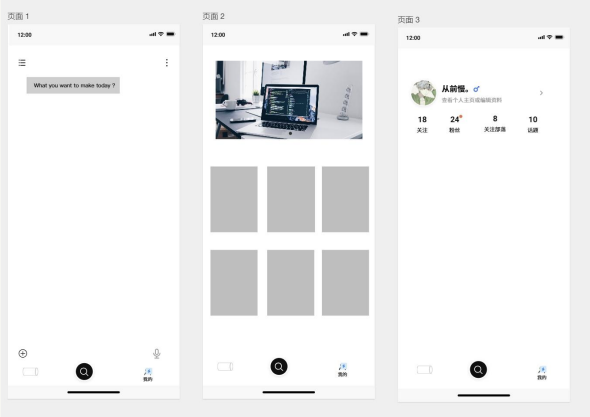


Fig 7 Iteration 2 of the prototype

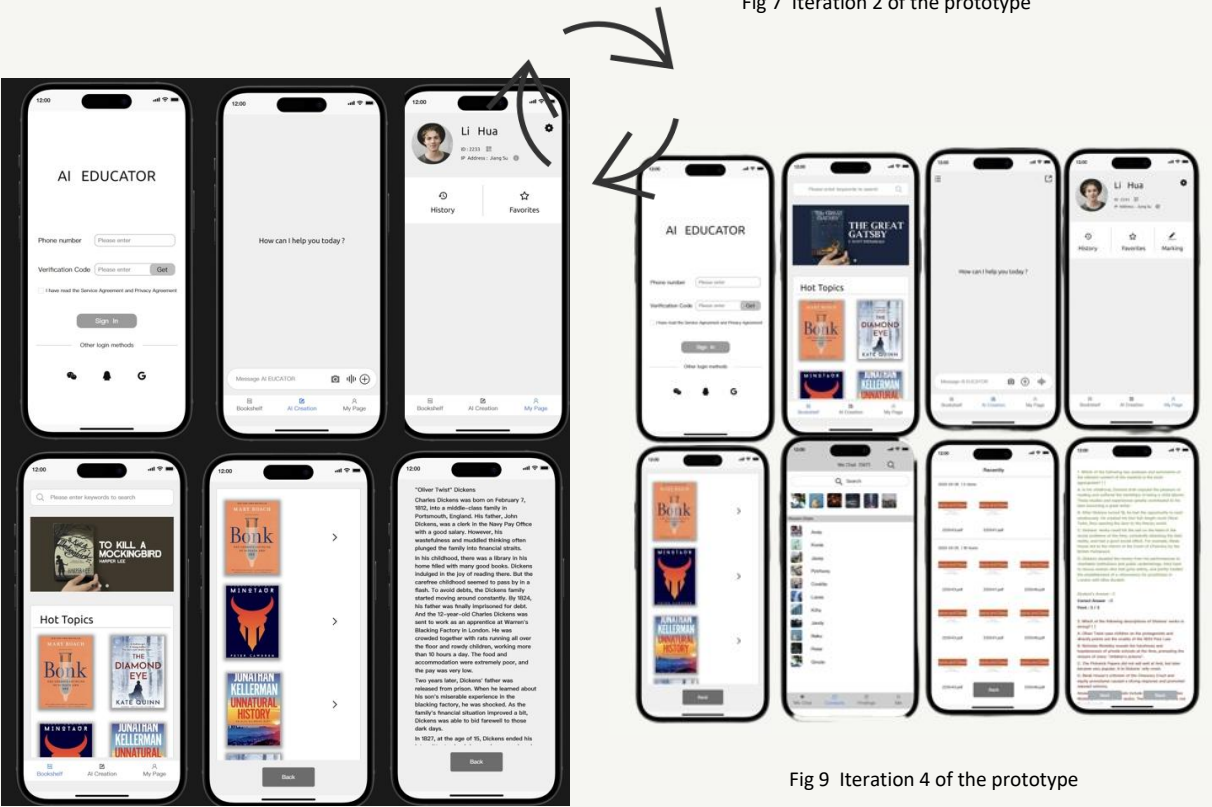


Fig 8 Iteration 3 of the prototype

Iteration	Function	Evaluation Methods
Iteration I	Drew layout sketches for key features; crafted flowcharts for main processes	Interview + Team Discussion
Iteration II	Designed bookshelf, "My", and AI creation pages; no Q&A, popular or recommended features	Questionnaire + Cognitive Walkthrough
Iteration III	Implemented login, favorites, enhanced bookshelf, Q&A, history, popular & recommended features	User Walkthrough + Heuristic Sharing
Iteration IV	Added sharing, login confirmation, AI marking, voice input functions	Experimental Design

Fig 5 Four iterations comparison

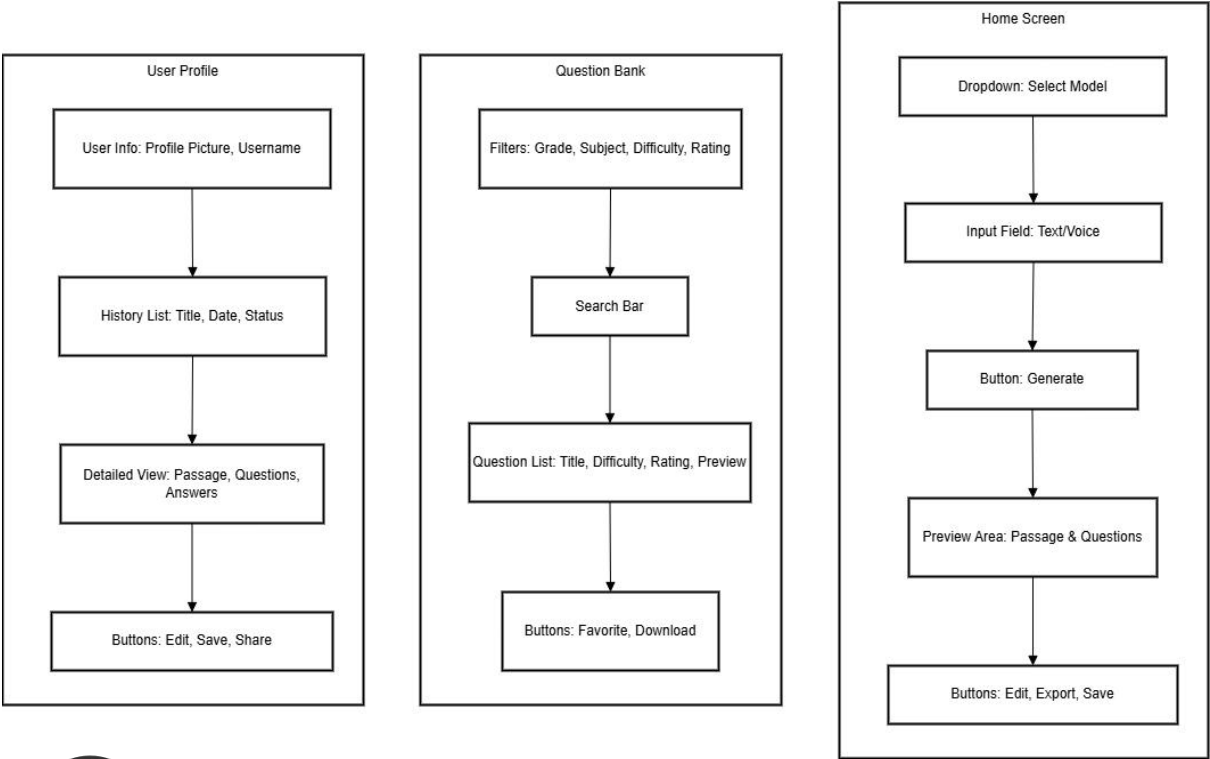
Fig 9 Iteration 4 of the prototype

Iteration 1

My contribution: Writing prototypes and participating in group interviews and evaluations

User issues :

- Unclear operation process of the tool
- Doubts about the technical implementation method



Prototyping Reasons :

- Quickly present the core concepts
- Reduce the cost of trial and error
- Focus on user needs



Evaluation (Interviews) :

Interview Process

- **Task Explanation:** Provide high school English teachers with detailed information about the evaluation task to assess the flowchart in the sketch.
- **Independent Review:** Give teachers sufficient time to review the flowchart design alone.
- **Questioning Session:**
 - How does the user management page distinguish users with different permissions?
 - Can the bookshelf function classify and organize materials according to students' learning progress?
 - Does the operation of the creation page meet the needs of the teaching scene?

Discussion and Analysis

- **Analysis Dimensions:** Analyze from multiple dimensions, including actual teaching needs, user operation convenience, and product implementation feasibility.

Final Conclusions

- **Determination of Important Pages:** Confirm that the three interactive pages of user management, bookshelf, and creation are indispensable and crucial parts of the product.



Key Insights

Area	Feedback
Current Feedback	Teachers expect the bookshelf to have a search function, enabling quick filtering and organizing of materials according to teaching stages, student characteristics, etc., and achieving multi - dimensional classification and retrieval.
Next - Iteration Improvement Expectation	Add a visual interface to make material management and searching more intuitive and convenient.

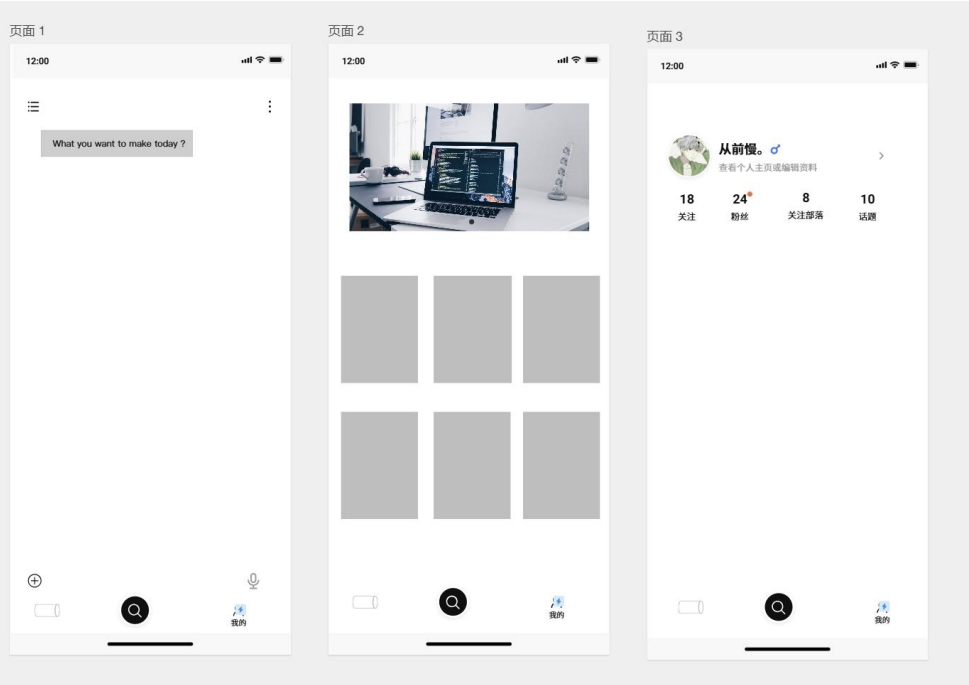
Iteration 2



My contribution: Writing prototypes, Drawing up a questionnaire and visualize the received data.

User issues :

- Difficulty in intuitively understanding the actual user experience just from the flowchart
- Flowchart Architecture Limitations
- Ambiguity regarding whether to target computers or mobile phones.



Prototyping Reasons :

- Graphic design intuitively displays divergent user thinking
- Subjectively believe that mobile apps are more suitable for teachers to use interactively



Evaluation (Questionnaire + Cognitive Walkthrough) :

Questionnaire

Survey Basics

- Sample Size: 30 samples were selected for the questionnaire survey.

Survey Content

- Focused on collecting users' preferences for product usage platforms (APP or Web) through carefully designed questions.

Survey Results

- The results clearly indicated that users prefer to use the APP side.

Cognitive Walkthrough Identified Issues

Visual Design Issues

- The page predominantly uses white as the color, and transparent icons are difficult to locate, resulting in poor visual consistency.

Functional Design Issues

- The user management page contains excessive content. As it is not a social media application, only historical records and a collection function are required.

Software Feedback

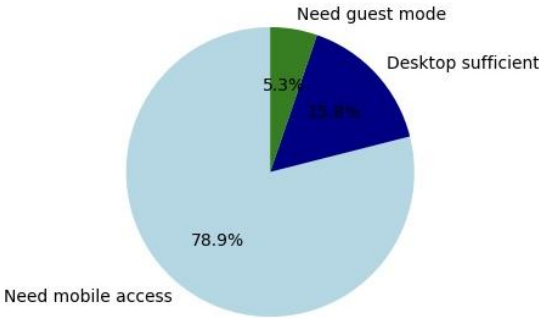


Fig 10 Software Feedback



Key Insights

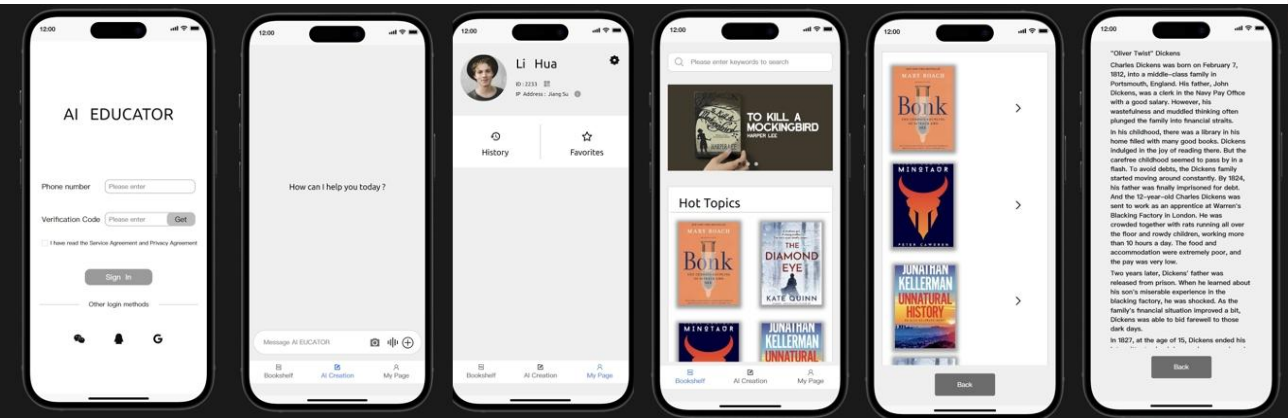
Area	Feedback
Interface Design	In the graphic design, the pages predominantly in white and the transparent icons lead to poor visual consistency, making it difficult to identify functional elements. It is necessary to adjust the color scheme and icon design to enhance visual unity and element recognizability.
Interaction Operation	The user management page has redundant content. It is recommended to simplify the operation process, integrate functional entrances, and streamline the user management page, keeping only the history and favorites functions.
Platform Selection	Users prefer the APP version. Subsequent development should focus on the APP to fully leverage its portability advantages.

Iteration 3



User issues :

- The difficulty that users can perceive, understand, and discover for interactive interface icons



Prototyping Reasons :

- Refer to the bookshelf interface of Mint Reading, the creation interface of Deepseek, and the user management interface of Xiaohongshu to ensure that using books is simple and easy
- Realize user interaction to facilitate user perception and subsequent simulation evaluation testing

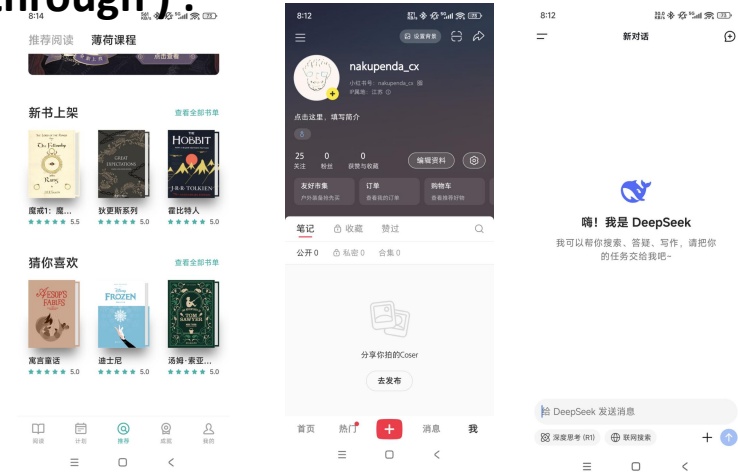
My contribution: Writing prototypes and Do heuristic analysis.



Evaluation (Heuristic analysis + User Walkthrough) :

Heuristic analysis

- ✓ Languages familiar to users
- ✓ A one-click option to return to the creation interface
- ✓ The overall visual style is simple and consistent.
- **Shortcomings :** Firstly, an effective error handling mechanism is lacking. Secondly, the accessibility is suboptimal. The needs of special user groups (such as people with disabilities) have not been fully considered.



User Walkthrough

- **Task :** Write an article you like and obtain an article of interest from the bookshelf.
- **Search Function Usage Issues:** When using the search function to find learning materials, some users repeatedly tried different keywords due to the absence of expected results.
- **User Feedback :** Users generally reported that they occasionally operated other function buttons by mistake during the creation process and hoped for



Key Insights

Area	Feedback
System Function Design	Strengthening barrier-free functions can not only meet the needs of special groups, but also expand the user coverage. At present, there is a lack of effective error handling mechanism, and it is necessary to ensure the security of user information and comply with relevant laws.
Continuous Improvement	Consider additional user functions.

Iteration 4



User issues :

Function Operation Difficulties

- Users could be unfamiliar with uploading answers for the whole class when using the homework - correction function.

Time Management Difficulties

- Users may struggle to balance the time spent on different product functions. Teachers might still find it hard to reduce time wasted on repetitive and tedious tasks, preventing them from fully focusing on core teaching activities.

Difficulties in Adapting to the Closed - loop Function

- Users could be confused about how to utilize product functions to achieve effective closed - loop operations in homework management and teaching feedback, or experience inconvenience when switching between different links.

Difficulties in Meeting Personalized Needs

- Given the diverse learning characteristics and requirements of different students, the product may fail to fully adapt to these varied needs, which in turn impacts students' learning outcomes and teachers' teaching results.



Prototyping Reasons :

- AI grading reduces the burden of writing feedback for teachers, allowing teachers to spend more time on teaching design and student tutoring.
- Through sharing, users can communicate and discuss with each other, enhancing user interaction.
- The login verification mechanism maintains the user's right to know and complies with local laws.

My contribution: Writing prototypes and independently complete experiments, data collection, analysis and evaluation.



Evaluation (Experimental design) :

Purpose : Use F test to analyze user satisfaction with the project.

Experimental hypothesis : Users are basically satisfied with the project.

Sample : 30 users from 4 different schools between 25 and 55 years old

Experimental process :

- Users sign a consent form to clarify the data collection and use methods involved in the experiment.
- Users conduct a 10-minute unguided experience to freely explore the various functions of the project and simulate real-life usage scenarios.
- After the unguided experience, provide users with a video presentation to introduce some key functions and users continue to experience the project for 10 minutes to further familiarize themselves with the functions .
- Users rate the content interaction, core questions, and auxiliary functions of the project on a scale of 0-10, with 0 indicating very dissatisfied and 10 indicating very satisfied.

Users' Satisfaction Ratings and Variances for Each Function of the Project

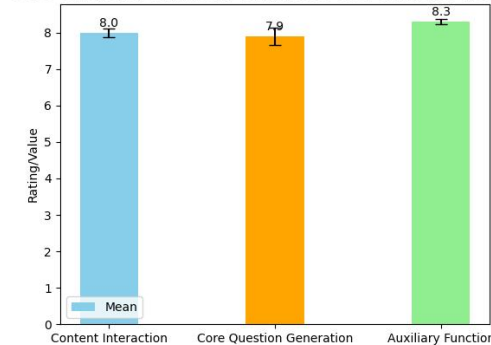


Fig 11 Uses' Satisfaction Rate

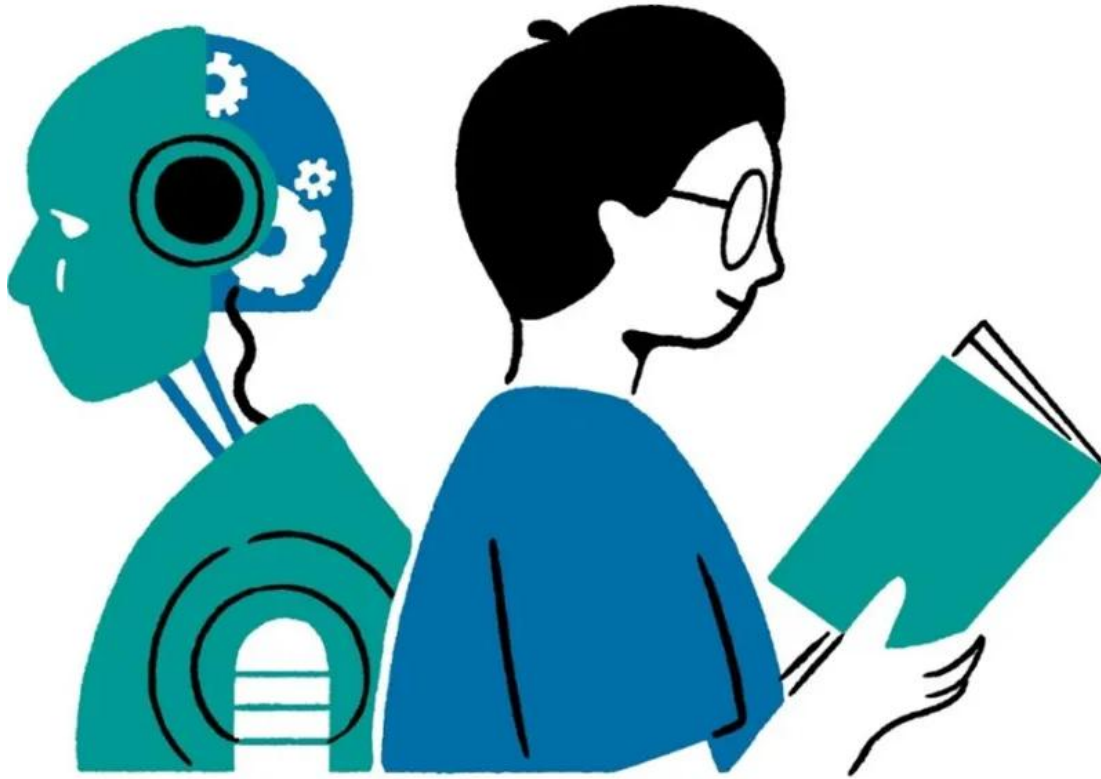
Results :

- The experimental results show that the mean score of each function is around 8, and the variance is very small.
- This shows that users are generally satisfied with the project, and the evaluations among users are relatively consistent.

Iteration 4 Showcase



Conclusions



Our app now offers essential features such as secure login, a functional bookshelf, and basic content generation. These features have provided users with a starting point for efficient study and content management, addressing initial user needs like access control and resource organization.

However, the question - answering module's accuracy remains inconsistent, often providing subpar answers. The customization options, though present, lack finesse in truly tailoring to diverse user preferences. Also, the app's performance can be sluggish, especially when handling large reading materials.

In the future, we aim to enhance the question and use deepseek api to realize a true prototype.

References

- Day, R. R., & Park, J. S. (2005). Developing Reading Comprehension Questions. *Reading in a foreign language*, 17(1), 60-73.
- Ghaffarian Asl, S., & Osam, N. (2021). A study of teacher performance in English for academic purposes course: Evaluating efficiency. *Sage Open*, 11(4), 21582440211050386.