AI Can Save Education From Itself

人工智能可以拯救教育

531 Words

ChatGPT, the new **artificial-intelligence** technology created by Open AI, has many worrying about the future of education. The two largest public school districts, New York and Los Angeles, have banned the **chatbot** from their devices and networks, concerned that students may use it to cheat on **assignments**. Though ChatGPT's capabilities are limited, it will likely continue to **disrupt** education as the technology advances.

ChatGPT 是由 Open AI 创造的新型人工智能技术，它让许多人对教育的未来感到担忧。纽约和洛杉矶这两个最大的公立学区已经禁止在它们的设备和网络上使用该聊天机器人，担心学生可能会利用它在作业中作弊。尽管 ChatGPT 的功能尚且有限，但随着技术的进步，它可能会不断颠覆教育。

But educators needn't fear this change. Such technologies are transformative, but they threaten only the information-centric type of education that is failing to help students succeed. What young people need today is educational models that help them take ownership of their studies. They need instruction that **equips** them with real-life skills and prepares them for an economy in which mechanical tasks will be increasingly performed by machines. AI may be a useful invention that **hastens** much-needed educational reform.

但教育工作者不必担心这种变化。这些技术具有变革性，但它们只会威胁到那种无法帮助学生取得成功的以信息为中心的教育。今天的年轻人需要的是帮助他们掌握学习主动权的教育模式。他们需要指导来帮助他们掌握现实生活技能，并为未来的经济环境做好准备，在未来的经济环境下，

artificial intelligence (=AI) 人工智能

chatbot [ˈtʃætbɑːt] *n.* 聊天机器人

assignment [əˈsaɪnmənt] *n.* （布置的）作业，（分配的）任务；分配，指派 | You will need to complete three written assignments per semester. 你每学期要完成三个书面作业。

disrupt [dɪsˈrʌpt] *v.* 扰乱，使中断，打乱 | The drought has severely disrupted agricultural production. 旱灾已严重影响了农业生产。

equip [ɪˈkwɪp] *v.* 使有知识和技能，使能够胜任；装备，配备 | We equip students with the skills they will need once they leave college. 我们向学生传授大学毕业后所需要的技能。

hasten [ˈheɪsn] *v.* 促进，使加快 | News of the scandal certainly hastened his departure from office. 这一丑闻肯定加速了他的离任。

facility [fəˈsɪləti] *n.* 天赋；才能；设施，设备 | She has a facility for languages. 她有语言天赋。

argumentation [ˌɑːrɡjumənˈteɪʃn] *n.* 推论，论证

replicate [ˈreplɪkeɪt] *v.* 复制，重

机械工作越来越多地由机器来完成。人工智能可能是一项有用的发明，可以推动我们急需的教育改革。

Practicing skills to enhance one's **facility** with reasoning, analysis and **argumentation**—rather than memorizing basic information—should be central to learning. These are skills young people will need in future careers and, most important, that AI can't **replicate**. Our experience with AI is perhaps best understood when compared with previous disruptions in education. When printed books, for example, began to emerge in the mid-1400s with the **advent** of the movable **type**, one can imagine university professors were filled with panic. Up until that point, lectures depended on a specific and **exclusive** model: Professors read from their **manuscripts**, while students hurriedly copied whatever they heard. If students could simply buy the book, teachers likely **reckoned**, they wouldn't need to come to class.

学习的核心不是死记硬背基本信息，而应该是提高推理、分析和论证能力的实践技能。这些都是年轻人在未来的职业生涯中需要的技能，最重要的是，这些是人工智能无法复制的。将我们与人工智能相关的体验与以往教育受到的冲击进行比较，或许能理解得最为透彻。例如，当印刷书籍在 15 世纪中期随着活字印刷术的出现而开始出现时，可以想象大学教授有多么恐慌。在此之前，授课依赖于一种特定而独有的模式：教授朗读自己的手稿，而学生则匆匆抄写他们听到的一切内容。老师可能认为，如果学生能买到书，他们就不需要来上课了。

Yet in practice, printing had the opposite effect: The number of universities **exploded** along with the total number of books. The new technology disrupted the mechanical aspect of education, but in doing so it allowed educators to refocus on higher-level skills—the strategic elements rather than the **tactical**. The same followed the introduction of calculators and **spreadsheets**, which freed up time that would have been spent memorizing **rote algorithms** for mathematical problems.

做，使复现 | Subsequent experiments failed to replicate these findings. 后来的实验没有得出同样的结果。

advent [ˈædvent] *n.* 出现，到来 | Before the advent of computers, not many people knew how to type. 计算机出现之前，没有多少人会打字。

type [taɪp] *n.* （印刷或打印的）文字，字体，字型 | movable type 活字印刷术

exclusive [ɪkˈskluːsɪv] *adj.* 专有的，独有的；排斥的，排他的；不包括 | The road is for the exclusive use of residents. 这条路为居民专用道。

manuscript [ˈmænjuskrɪpt] *n.* 手稿，原稿；手抄本，手写本 | Unfortunately, parts of the original manuscript have been lost. 遗憾的是，部分原始手稿丢失了。

reckon [ˈrekən] *v.* 想，认为；估计，估算 | I reckon (that) I'm going to get that job. 我认为我会得到那份工作。

explode [ɪkˈsploʊd] *v.* 激增；爆炸 | The cost of new housing has been exploding. 新住房的费用一直在暴涨。

tactical [ˈtæktɪkl] *adj.* 战术上的；策略性的 | Telling your boss you were looking for a new job was a tactical error. 你把正在另找工作的事告诉了老板，是个策略上的错误。

spreadsheet [ˈspredʃiːt] *n.* 电子

然而在实践中，印刷术却产生了相反的效果：大学的数量随着书籍总量的增加而激增。新技术颠覆了教育的机械之处，而这样一来使教育者能够重新关注更高层次的技能——战略要素，而不是战术要素。同样，计算器和电子表格的引入也免除了人们用来死记硬背数学算法的时间。

This change didn't make the **underlying** skills unnecessary; it merely transformed what could be done with them. The effect of such technology as ChatGPT will likely be similar, with the mechanical production of text being displaced by higher-order thinking about how to best use those words. As the production of **coherent** prose becomes a simple task for a machine, possessing the skill to ask the right questions or **stake out** the right positions will become key. The AI will serve as an information-gathering and mechanical-organizing tool, but it won't eliminate the fundamental need for critical thinking. These skills will persist and only increase in value.

这种变化并没有让根本技能不再有必要；它只是改变了根本技能的用途。像 ChatGPT 这样的技术的效果很可能是类似的，机械地写出文本被更高层次的思考所取代，需要思考的是如何最有效地使用这些词汇。随着写出连贯的散文成为机器的一项简单任务，掌握提出正确问题或表明正确观点的技能将成为关键。人工智能将作为信息收集和机械组织工具，但它不会消除对批判性思维的基本需求。这些技能将会持续存在，而且只会越来越重要。

Unless schools can address the strategic reasons for learning and provide an education that trains students in how to use the tools of information, they will **inevitably** be left behind by rapid innovation and change. They must remember that the value created by education isn't a head full of facts. It's a person with the skill to use these facts with the tools available to **magnify** his effect in the world. AI is best seen as another of these tools, which, when used strategically, can **unleash** student learning and performance in ways not yet seen.

如果学校无法解决学习的战略因素，并提供培训学生如何使用信息工

表格程序

rote [rəʊt] *n.* 死记硬背 ｜He is very sceptical about the value of rote learning. 他非常怀疑死记硬背是否有用。

algorithm [ˈælgərɪðəm] *n.* 算法，计算程序

underlying [ˌʌndərˈlaɪɪŋ] *adj.* 根本的，潜在的，隐含的；表面下的 ｜To stop a problem you have to understand its underlying causes. 要想杜绝问题的发生，必须弄清它的深层原因。

coherent [koʊˈhɪrənt] *adj.* 连贯的，有条理的；言谈条理清楚的，说话易于理解的 ｜The subjects of the curriculum form a coherent whole. 课程中的科目构成了一个连贯的整体。

stake out 明确表明（自己的观点）｜Johnson staked out the differences between himself and the other candidates. 约翰逊明确表明了自己与其他候选人之间的不同之处。

inevitably [ɪnˈevɪtəbli] *adv.* 不可避免地，必然地 ｜That kind of success inevitably attracts admirers. 那样的成功必然会吸引仰慕者。

magnify [ˈmæɡnɪfaɪ] *v.* 扩大，增强，放大 ｜Our fear and confusion only magnified the problem. 我们的恐惧和困惑只是增加了问题的难度。

unleash [ʌnˈliːʃ] *v.* 发泄，突然释

具的教育，那么它们将不可避免地被快速的创新和变革甩在后面。它们必须记住，教育所创造的价值不是给学生的脑子里填满事实，而是培养有能力的人，让他能够使用可用的工具利用这些事实扩大他在世界上的影响。人工智能最好被当成这些工具中的一种，如果有策略地使用，它可以以前所未有的方式改善学生的学习和表现。

放，使爆发 | The new tax laws have unleashed a storm of criticism. 新税收法已遭到激烈的批评。

➤ **脉络梳理**

Para. 1-2　引出话题：ChatGPT 让许多人对教育的未来感到担忧，但它可能会加速教育改革

Para. 3-5　指出人工智能不会削弱学习能力，反而有助于提高更高层次的学习能力，并举印刷术为例进行论证

Para. 6　　总结全文，强调应将人工智能当作工具，帮助学生学习

➤ **长难句拆解**

条件状语从句

Unless schools can address the strategic reasons for learning and provide an education

定语从句，修饰 education　　状语（how to ... 为疑问词+不定式作介词 in 的宾语）

that trains students　in how to use the tools of information,

主句

they will inevitably be left behind by rapid innovation and change.