**Writing (15 marks)**

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| **Situation:**  After the reading and writing tasks, you are asked to compile a report on whether generative AI enhances or undermines the diversity of languages around the world.  You will listen to the full podcast. Make notes as you listen. You now have one minute to familiarize yourself with the task requirement before the recording. |

Read the following topic:

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| Does the rise of generative AI enhance or undermine the diversity of languages around the world? |

Write a total of **250 words** in **TWO** paragraphs to discuss **both sides** of the argument. You are required to make use of information or examples found in **BOTH** the reading passage and the podcast to support your reasoning. Using online sources to assist with your writing is **NOT** permitted, and if found, shall lead to disqualification of this part.

Write two paragraphs for the claims below:

**Paragraph One**: GenAI enhances language diversity

**Paragraph Two**: GenAI undermines language diversity

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**Marking Criteria**

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|  | **Content** | **Language** | **Organization** |
| 5 | Fully addresses both perspectives with relevant, extended, and well-supported ideas drawn from both the reading passage and audio recording. | Uses a wide range of vocabulary and grammatical structures accurately with rare or no errors, demonstrating clear and precise expression. | Information and ideas are logically organized with clear progression between and within paragraphs, using cohesive devices effectively to link ideas. |
| 4 | Addresses both perspectives with relevant ideas but may lack some detail, examples, or support from one of the sources. | Uses a range of vocabulary and structures with some errors that do not impede overall communication or clarity. | Information and ideas are organized with some logical progression and use of cohesive devices, though some connections may be weak. |
| 3 | Addresses the task but some parts (one paragraph or use of sources) may be underdeveloped or only partially relevant. | Uses limited vocabulary and structures with errors that sometimes cause difficulty in understanding. | Information and ideas are organized but progression may be unclear or repetitive; cohesive devices are used inconsistently. |
| 2 | Attempts to address the task but ideas are limited, unclear, repetitive, or rely heavily on one source only. | Uses very limited vocabulary and simple structures with frequent errors that often impede communication. | Information and ideas are poorly organized with limited or inappropriate use of cohesive devices, making understanding difficult. |
| 0-1 | Fails to address the task or ideas are irrelevant, off-topic, or do not use the required source materials. | Uses minimal vocabulary and structures with severe errors that prevent clear communication. | Information and ideas are disorganized or incoherent, lacking clear structure. |

**For "AI is enhancing language diversity" (from Listening):**

* Breaks down barriers in global communication for diverse speakers.
* Supports minority and endangered languages, preserving cultures globally.
* Promotes "linguistic democratization," keeping languages alive digitally.
* Offers personalized support, improving student grammar, vocabulary, structure.
* Reduces anxiety and builds confidence for language learners.
* Automates educator tasks, freeing time for creative teaching, interaction.
* Fosters creativity through writing prompts and interactive learning.
* Acts as a "scaffold" for students to personalize and inject voice.
* Developers include varied datasets, collaborating with linguists for cultural sensitivity.
* Supports, not suppresses, the rich tapestry of human expression.
* Amplifies voices, making communication more accessible and dynamic.

**For "AI is undermining language diversity" (from Reading):**

* Humans increasingly mimicking algorithmic expression instead of their own.
* Individuals doubt their natural voice, preferring AI's "professional" sound.
* AI "optimizes" writing into a subtly homogenizing force.
* Output is a "peculiar middle-ground style," described as "linguistic fast food".
* AI models evolved into a "Goldilocks zone of blandness".
* Authors "writing 'to' the AI," losing their distinctive voice.
* University professors report increasingly homogeneous student paper styles.
* People write for algorithms, smoothing away regional expressions, idioms.
* Leads to "the end of linguistic fingerprints," replacing unique patterns.
* Outsourcing expression loses cultural knowledge and deeper meaning.
* Replacing colorful idioms with generic alternatives loses something vital.
* Risks perfect communication but "nothing uniquely human left to say".

**Suggested Answer:**

**AI is enhancing language diversity**

Generative AI significantly enhances language diversity by breaking down communication barriers globally. Tools like real-time translation and grammar correction enable non-native speakers to participate more easily in conversations, making communication more accessible. Crucially, AI platforms are expanding their databases to support minority and endangered languages, such as Google Translate, helping to preserve these languages and allow their cultures to be shared on a global stage. This creates a "linguistic democratization", ensuring many languages remain relevant in the digital age. Developers are also actively working to include more varied datasets and collaborate with linguists to make AI more culturally sensitive, ensuring these tools support rather than suppress the rich tapestry of human expression.

**AI is undermining language diversity**

Conversely, generative AI undermines language diversity by fostering a homogenizing effect on human expression. Individuals like Marcus Wheeler report doubting their own natural voice, finding AI-generated text more professional. This leads to a "peculiar middle-ground style—grammatically correct but often bloodless," described as "linguistic fast food" by Jameela Cordova. AI models, trained on vast datasets, tend to create a "Goldilocks zone of blandness". Authors like Amara Reynolds find themselves "writing 'to' the AI," losing their distinctive voice, and university professors note student papers becoming "increasingly homogeneous". This risks the "end of linguistic fingerprints," replacing unique patterns with "statistically optimized expressions" that belong to no one, and ultimately smoothing away regional expressions and cultural idioms.