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**From Digital Gaps to Green Impact:  
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**AI in Adult Education:  
Hands-on Tools for Inclusive Digital Teaching**

Date: October 2025  
Helsinki & Espoo, Finland



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### 1. Introduction

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming the landscape of adult education by offering smart, adaptive, and personalized tools that can support inclusive, flexible, and engaging learning. From speech-to-text support and automated translation to AI tutors and smart assessment tools, AI presents immense potential to bridge digital divides and accommodate diverse learner needs. This guide draws on field observations during the Erasmus+ KA122-ADU job-shadowing at LFI – Learning for Integration in Finland, where educators are piloting innovative AI tools in adult learning settings.

### 2. The Role of AI in Inclusive Teaching

In Finland, digital equity is a national priority. During our visit to Espoo and Helsinki, we observed adult educators using AI technologies not as gimmicks, but as practical instruments to:

- **Facilitate accessibility:** screen readers, real-time captioning, and predictive text tools supported learners with visual, cognitive, and motor impairments.
- **Break language barriers:** Google Translate, SayHi, and DeepL enabled real-time multilingual communication in group learning environments.
- **Support personalization:** AI-enhanced learning platforms adapted content difficulty and pacing based on learners' responses and performance (e.g. Century Tech, Duolingo for Schools).
- **Provide scaffolding:** ChatGPT and similar AI tutors supported adult learners in brainstorming, drafting, and revising texts during writing workshops.

These tools not only improved comprehension and retention, but also empowered learners to become more autonomous.

### 3. Ethical Considerations and Risks

AI tools must be used responsibly. Finnish educators emphasized the importance of:

- **Transparency:** Always informing learners when AI is involved.
- **Privacy:** Avoiding platforms that harvest personal data or lack GDPR compliance.



- **Critical thinking:** Teaching learners how to question and verify AI outputs.
- **Bias awareness:** Discussing how AI can reflect social and cultural biases and the need for human oversight.

Educators are encouraged to combine AI with ethical pedagogical judgment and to select tools that are open-access or licensed for educational use.

#### 4. Five Practical AI Tools for Adult Educators

| Tool                                 | Function                                        | Recommended Use                                           |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Read Aloud (Chrome Extension)</b> | Converts web text to speech                     | Ideal for learners with dyslexia or visual impairments    |
| <b>DeepL Translator</b>              | High-quality multilingual translation           | Supports multilingual classrooms and migrant learners     |
| <b>ChatGPT (OpenAI)</b>              | AI assistant for writing, summarizing, ideation | Use in writing tasks, debate prep, vocabulary development |
| <b>Canva Magic Write</b>             | AI content generation in visual templates       | Supports poster creation, visual storytelling             |
| <b>Quizizz AI</b>                    | Generates interactive quizzes based on text     | For review sessions, gamified learning                    |

Each tool should be introduced with clear instructions, example use cases, and optional privacy disclaimers.

#### 5. Example in Practice: AI-Assisted Writing Workshop

At LFI, adult learners participated in a blended writing session using ChatGPT and Grammarly. The instructor provided a topic ("Describe your ideal green workplace") and guided learners in using AI for idea generation. Learners then revised texts collaboratively in pairs, with AI feedback used to support grammar but not replace expression.

*"I feel like I can finally explain my ideas in English without fear."* – Learner, age 45, originally from Syria

This experience not only supported language learning, but also encouraged critical engagement with digital tools.

#### 6. Suggested Pedagogical Flow for Using AI in the Classroom

- **Set the Purpose:** Define the learning objective (e.g. practicing argumentation, summarizing a text).



- **Introduce the Tool:** Provide a short demo and explain its function.
- **Guide Exploration:** Allow learners to test the tool with guided questions.
- **Facilitate Creation:** Ask learners to use the tool to produce content (text, presentation, audio).
- **Review Together:** Reflect on both the product and the process—what worked, what was surprising, what was misleading.
- **Encourage Ethical Reflection:** Discuss trust, data privacy, and what AI cannot replace.

## 7. Resources and Further Reading

- UNESCO (2023). *Guidance for Generative AI in Education and Research*. Paris.
- European Commission (2023). *Ethical Guidelines on the Use of Artificial Intelligence and Data in Teaching and Learning*. Brussels.
- EPALE (2024). *AI for Inclusion in Adult Learning*. Retrieved from <https://epale.ec.europa.eu>
- Finnish Ministry of Education (2022). *Digital Literacy and AI Strategy in Education*.

## 8. Licensing and Acknowledgements

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