

3. How Schools Will Change in the Next Decade or Century

Schools have remained the same for hundreds of years, the only major change being the addition of computers and the move towards digitalizing assignments. Teachers and standardized grading systems, however, are still the center of education. New and rapidly improving technology may be changing schooling entirely over the course of the next 100 years. One of the most important developments, in my opinion, will be the use of artificial intelligence (AI) and robots to assist teachers. This technology will reduce grading bias and make grading easier, while keeping teachers the focal points of learning.

One major improvement AI could make is fairer grading, specifically in subjects like History and English. Humanities classes such as these tend to be predominantly “open-ended,” not requiring students to provide one correct answer, but rather their interpretation or point of view. This leaves the grade students receive up to the teacher’s discretion. Various articles I have read show that human grading can be heavily influenced by unconscious bias, whether that be socioeconomic, racial, favoritism, or even the mood the teacher is in. A study by Dr. David Quinn discovered that teachers were less likely to grade papers as “on grade level” if they thought a student was Black (using a name like “Deshawn”) versus White (using “Connor”), even when the work was identical. Studies like these help show that grades given by teachers tend to be more consistent when they do not know the identity of the person who submitted the assignment. AI grading systems, if designed properly, could grade strictly off of a given rubric or set of instructions, which would ensure that students are being

evaluated solely for the quality of their work. While teachers would still teach classes and review assessments, AI could provide a clear, objective evaluation.

Despite this technological change, teachers will remain essential. A large study published in *Frontiers in Psychology* analyzed data from over 30,000 students across multiple grades and found that positive teacher-student relationships directly correlate with higher grades and better emotional well-being. Future teachers would have simplified roles acting mostly as mentors and discussion leaders, while AI would handle grading assignments and sending feedback. This balance would allow teachers to spend more time with each student creating personal bonds as well as ensuring that they aren't struggling with the content of the class.

Schools in the next century will be changed greatly by AI and robotics working side-by-side with human teachers. These innovations will help reduce grading bias, and shift education towards meaningful skills rather than memorization. If used responsibly and done correctly, AI can be a superpower when it comes to creating a fairer education, and making people the world needs.

Works Cited

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