ChatGPT in the Language Classroom:

Engaging Prompts for Revision and Practice Tasks

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Welcome to the ChatGPT in the Language Classroom guide!

As a language teacher, you strive to design engaging and effective revision and practice activities for your students, ensuring they grasp essential grammar and vocabulary concepts. This guide has been created to provide you with a collection of prompts and activities that harness the power of ChatGPT. In this guide, we will explore 10 ways ChatGPT can help you design effective and engaging practice and revision tasks.

💡 Extension Ideas:

Encourage your students to take ownership of their learning by involving them in the creation of paraphrase revision tasks. Once you complete the task, invite students to work in groups and create their own sets of revision tasks, which they can then exchange with other groups. Additionally, students can be tasked with crafting sentences or short paragraphs incorporating target phrases, demonstrating their comprehension of the meanings and proper usage of these phrases

📝 Grading the language:

As you use ChatGPT to generate revision and practice activities, remember that you have control over the complexity of the output. If you feel the text is too complex, simply type "Make shorter" or "Simplify." Conversely, if you think the text is too undemanding for your students, type "Expand" or "Use more details." This will help you cater to your students' proficiency levels and learning objectives.

🔍 Important reminders:

While ChatGPT is a powerful tool, it's essential to proofread and double-check everything it generates to ensure accuracy and appropriateness. Always adapt the activities to suit your students' proficiency levels and learning objectives.

Remember that the quality of the output depends on the input. Make informed decisions about what language to feed the AI to ensure optimal results.

I hope you find this guide beneficial and that it inspires you to incorporate ChatGPT into your language classroom in creative and meaningful ways. Good luck, and happy teaching!

Sincerely,Yuliya Kumicheva

1. GUESS THE PHRASE

Objective: To encourage students to identify and understand different ways of expressing the same idea while also revising target vocabulary and phrases.

Procedure: Choose a list of target phrases or vocabulary you want students to revise. Copy the prompt below, adding your words or phrases. Give each pair or group a set of paraphrased phrases without revealing the target phrase. Discuss the phrases.

Prompt for ChatGPT:

I'm designing a revision task for my students, in which I have a secret target word or phrase. I provide them with different ways of expressing the same idea, and their task is to guess the target phrase based on the rewritten phrases.
Here is a sample task:
Target phrase: I'm going through a bit of a rough patch.

Paraphrase:
1. I am encountering some difficulties right now.
2. I am having a hard time at the moment.
3. I am facing some challenges currently.

Make a similar task for the following phrases: ...

copy + paste

Task by ChatGPT:

Target phrase: have a back up plan

Paraphrases:

1. Possess a secondary strategy.
2. Maintain an alternative course of action.
3. Keep a contingency arrangement in place.

Target phrase: paint yourself into a corner

Paraphrases:

1. Trap yourself with your own actions.
2. Create a situation where you have limited options.
3. Put yourself in a difficult position by your own doing.

Target phrase: the ulterior motive

Paraphrases:

1. The hidden agenda.
2. The covert intention.
3. The underlying reason.

Objective: To develop students' grammatical and lexical competence by transforming sentences using a given keyword without changing the meaning of the original sentence.

Procedure: Copy the prompt below to create a transformed version of each keyword. After students have completed the task, review the transformed sentences as a class. Address any misconceptions, errors, or difficulties encountered during the task.

Prompt for ChatGPT:

'm going to provide you with a key word, and you need to create a sentence with the key word, gapping the key word out. The second sentence should have a similar meaning but should not contain the key word. Here is an example:

Key structure: I wish I had
I ___ before he moved away.
I feel remorse for not apologizing to John before he moved away.
Answer: I wish I had apologized to John before he moved away.
Key structure: have a back up plan
In case the presentation fails, we ___ to switch to a video conference instead.
If the presentation fails, we will use a video conference instead.
Answer: In case the presentation fails, we have a back up plan to switch to a video conference instead.
Create more sentences like that for the following key phrases: ...

copy + paste

Task by ChatGPT:

Key structure: mitigate the problem

1. The company implemented several measures to ___ of employee burnout.
2. The company took action to lessen the issue of employee burnout by implementing several measures.
   Answer: The company implemented several measures to mitigate the problem of employee burnout.

Key structure: little did I know

1. ___ how much that decision would change my life.
2. I was unaware of the significant impact that decision would have on my life.
   Answer: Little did I know how much that decision would change my life.

Key structure: it's the first time

1. ___ I've tried sushi.
2. I have never tried sushi before.
   Answer: It's the first time I've tried sushi.

Key structure: would rather

1. I ___ stay home than go to the party.
2. I prefer staying home to going to the party.
   Answer: I would rather stay home than go to the party.

Key structure: convenient

1. The store's location is ___ for me.
2. The store's location is easily accessible and suits my needs.
   Answer: The store's location is convenient for me.

Key structure: the best

1. This restaurant serves ___ pizza in town.
2. This restaurant serves the most delicious pizza in town.
   Answer: This restaurant serves the best pizza in town.

The prompt works great with both collocations and grammaticalized chunks.

It also works with simpler structures, which you would typically teach to A1-A2 students.

3. TABOO CARDS

🎯 **Objective:** To let students come up with creative ways to communicate the key phrases to their team without using the taboo or high-frequency words.

📋 **Procedure:** Prepare taboo cards using the prompt below. Divide players into teams of two or more. A player draws a card with a key phrase on it and tries to get their teammates to guess the phrase without using any of the taboo words listed on the card. They have one minute to get their teammates to guess as many phrases as possible. If the teammates guess the phrase correctly, they get a point. If they do not guess the phrase or the clue giver uses a taboo word, they do not get a point. Once the time is up or all the phrases have been guessed, the next team takes their turn with a new clue giver.

Prompt for ChatGPT:

I'm designing cards for a game of taboo. Make the taboo cards using the key words and list 5 high-frequency words which may not be spoken. The key phrases are: ...

copy + paste

Tasks by ChatGPT:

1. Spread yourself too thin

   - Taboo words: overwork, multitasking, overwhelmed, busy, tired, exhausted, stress, deadline, workload

2. Mitigate the problem

   - Taboo words: solve, fix, eliminate, problem, issue, trouble, challenge, difficulty, obstacle

3. Cautious

   - Taboo words: reckless, careless, impulsive, daring, adventurous, bold, rash, hasty, thoughtless

4. UNPOPULAR OPINIONS

🎯 **Objective:** To encourage students to think critically, engage in healthy debate, and express their level of agreement or disagreement with unpopular opinions.

📋 **Procedure:** Prepare unpopular opinions using your target words. Instruct students to take turns sharing their level of agreement or disagreement with the opinions. Encourage them to explain their reasoning and use examples. Remind students to practice active listening and engage in respectful discussion, asking questions, and considering different perspectives. Encourage students to share any insights they gained or changes in their thinking that occurred during the activity.

Prompt for ChatGPT:

Write unpopular opinions with the following phrases: ...

copy + paste

Or

Write short unpopular opinions with the following phrases: ...

copy + paste

Tasks by ChatGPT:

1. The advice to "spread yourself too thin" is overrated. It's better to focus on a few things and excel in them rather than trying to do everything and ending up mediocre at all of them.
2. Having a back-up plan is actually a waste of time and energy. It distracts you from putting your full effort into your primary plan and can make you settle for a mediocre outcome instead of pushing for greatness.
3. "Little did I know" is an excuse people use to avoid taking responsibility for their actions. We should always be informed and prepared for the consequences of our choices, and not blame our ignorance for the outcome.

These are extended sentences, which you can discuss with your students or use as model answers.

1. "Spread yourself too thin" is bad advice. Focus on fewer things and do them well.
2. Having a back-up plan is a waste of time. Put all your effort into your primary plan.
3. "Little did I know" is an excuse. Take responsibility for your actions and be informed.

I like the shorter opinions better, they lend themselves to a more productive discussion.

5. VOCABULARY QUIZ

Objective: To assess students' understanding of the target phrases, improve their comprehension of context, and expand their vocabulary through multiple-choice questions.

Procedure: Allow students to complete the quiz individually, encouraging them to think about the context and usage of each phrase. You may use some other websites to make quizzes more interactive: Nearpod, Kahoot, Wordwall.

Prompt for ChatGPT:

Generate a multiple-choice quiz for the target phrases, their definitions, and distractors for the following: ...

copy + paste

Tasks by ChatGPT:

Multiple-Choice Quiz:

1. What does the phrase "fizzle out" mean?
   a. To become more successful over time
   b. To gradually lose interest or importance
   c. To form a strong relationship with someone
   d. To develop a new appreciation for something

2. What is the meaning of "renewed interest"?
   a. The revival of curiosity or enthusiasm in something
   b. The process of losing interest in an activity
   c. The experience of forming a strong connection with someone
   d. The act of avoiding a commitment or responsibility

3. What does the phrase "form secure bonds" imply?
   a. To establish strong and lasting relationships
   b. To escape from a difficult situation
   c. To lose interest in an activity or situation
   d. To gain a new enthusiasm for a previously neglected topic

6. GAPPED SENTENCES

Objective: To reinforce students' understanding of target vocabulary words and phrases by completing sentences with missing words, using context clues to deduce the correct answer.

Procedure: Create gapped sentences using the prompt below. Distribute the sentences. Allow students to complete the sentences individually, encouraging them to use context clues to deduce the missing word. Alternatively, students can work in pairs or small groups to discuss their answers and reasoning.

Prompt for ChatGPT:

Create sentences with missing vocabulary words, make sure the sentences provide enough context to deduce the missing word:...

copy + paste

Tasks by ChatGPT:

1. The protests began with great enthusiasm, but eventually, they began to _____ as people lost interest.
   (Answer: fizzle out)
2. By spending quality time together and offering emotional support, the friends were able to _____ with each other.
   (Answer: form secure bonds)
3. In case our original plan doesn't work, it's always wise to _____ in place to ensure success.
   (Answer: have a back up plan)
4. Their attempt to surprise their boss on her birthday completely _____ when she walked in on them preparing the surprise.
   (Answer: backfire)

Objective: To improve students' vocabulary and comprehension skills. To consolidate the use of the target words in a meaningful context.

Procedure: Have students read the story, highlighting the target words, and then discuss their meanings and usage in the context of the story. You may also use the stories for reconstruction (making a summary or retelling it using the target words).

Prompt for ChatGPT:

> Generate a story using the words ...

copy + paste

You can get very specific with your prompt. You can narrow it down to a certain topic, you can grade the story by limiting the number of words and identifying the level of your students

> Generate a story about ... using the words ... . Keep the story to ... words, use simple language for suitable ... students

copy + paste

Tasks by ChatGPT:

Emily, a young artist, started painting a mural without planning. She painted herself into a corner, realizing her mistake. Her friend Sarah suggested having a back up plan. Emily fixed the mural, but a jealous rival, Victor, tried to ruin it. His plan backfired, and Emily's work became popular.

Alternatively, you ask ChatGPT to rewrite the story without using the target words. Give your students a story and invite them to substitute some of the words in the story with your target words. So students would have to identify the words and rewrite the text. You can also ask the students to expand on the story, adding more details and paraphrase some of it.

Prompt for ChatGPT:

Rewrite the story without using the words … . Use synonyms instead.

copy + paste

Task 2 by ChatGPT:

YU — Rewrite the story without using the words have a back up plan, paint yourself in a corner, backfire. Use synonyms instead.

Emily, a young artist, started painting a mural without planning. She painted herself into a corner, realizing her mistake. Her friend Sarah suggested having a back up plan. Emily fixed the mural, but a jealous rival, Victor, tried to ruin it. His plan backfired, and Emily's work became popular.

Emily, a young artist, began working on a mural without preparing. She found herself trapped in a difficult situation, recognizing her error. Her friend Sarah recommended devising an alternative strategy. Emily repaired the mural, but a jealous competitor, Victor, attempted to sabotage it. His scheme failed, and Emily's creation gained popularity.

8. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

🎯 **Objective:** To help students develop their communication skills and give freer practice of the key word in a meaningful context.

📋 **Procedure:** Select the target words and phrases. Generate the questions using the prompt below. Ask your students to discuss the questions.

Prompt for ChatGPT:

Generate discussion questions with the following phrases ...

copy + paste

Tasks by ChatGPT:

1. How can we develop strategies to form secure bonds with friends, family, and romantic partners, and how can these bonds impact our lives positively?
2. In what ways can surface-level support be detrimental to our relationships, and how can we recognize and avoid it?

Alternatively, you can gap the target words out, inviting students to identify the word first, filling in the gaps and then discussing it.

Prompt 2 for ChatGPT:

Generate discussion questions with the following phrases ...
Hide the phrases, use __ instead

copy + paste

Task 2 by ChatGPT:

1. How can we develop strategies to _____ with friends, family, and romantic partners, and how can these connections impact our lives positively?
2. In what ways can _____ be detrimental to our relationships, and how can we recognize and avoid it?

After the discussions, bring the class back together for a brief debriefing session. Invite students to share any key takeaways, personal experiences, or lessons learned from their discussions.

Objective: To improve students' communication skills in realistic contexts., creativity, and confidence in speaking, as well as to provide students with opportunities for freer practice of the target words.

Procedure: Invite students to select 3-5 phrases they want to use during the role-play activity. Encourage them to choose phrases that they want to memorize better, such as phrases that they personally find useful. Briefly describe the scenario they will be acting out and the roles they will be playing. Assign roles to each student or let them choose their own. Give them time to plan what they will say and allow them to practice the conversation a few times through role-playing.

Prompt for ChatGPT:

Brainstorm possible conversation scenarios

copy + paste

Tasks by ChatGPT:

1. Coffee shop encounter: Two strangers waiting in line at a coffee shop strike up a conversation about their favorite beverages, local events, or recent news stories.
2. Bookstore browsing: Two people in a bookstore discover they're interested in the same book or genre, leading to a conversation about their favorite authors, novels, and literary inspirations.
3. Art gallery visit: Two art enthusiasts meet at an art gallery opening and start discussing the exhibited artworks, artists, and their personal preferences in art styles and mediums.

Alternatively, you can make the task more specific by adding particular language items you want your students to use during a certain conversation. For example, this is the task I created for my students:

A park bench where strangers strike up a conversation and get to know each other.
overpowering, take pride in your achievements, unleash creativity, stir up memories

A restaurant where a couple is having a romantic dinner.
✓ *take my mind off*
✓ *the uncharted territories*
✓ *slip under our radar*
✓ *made it next to impossible*
∨ *make better use of*

I wrote some of the words down, asking them to try and use it in a particular context. Once they used all of the phrases, they could move onto the next dialogue. I also prompted them with a dialogue generated by ChatGPT.

Person A: (inhales deeply) Do you smell that? The scent of the flowers is so overpowering today.

Person B: Yes, I've noticed that too. The fragrance is quite strong, but it's also beautiful. It seems to stir up memories of springtimes past.

Person A: That's true. It's amazing how certain scents can transport us back to specific moments in our lives.

Person B: Definitely. By the way, I couldn't help but notice that you were sketching earlier. Are you an artist?

Person A: I wouldn't say I'm a professional, but I do love to draw. Coming to the park helps me unleash my creativity.

Person B: That's wonderful. Art is such a powerful way to express oneself. I think it's important to have an outlet like that.

Person A: I completely agree. Do you have any hobbies or interests that you're passionate about?

Person B: Well, I've always loved writing. I take pride in my achievements when it comes to crafting stories and poems. There's just something so fulfilling about bringing my imagination to life through words.

Person A: That's amazing! We're both creators in our own ways. It's interesting how being in nature can inspire us and help us connect with our inner selves.

10. CREATING QUIZLET SETS

Objective: To help save busy teachers some time when designing quizlet sets.

Procedure: Create the definitions using the prompt below. I include the word itself, the definition and a couple of examples with the target word gapped. Copy the prompt adding the words you need. Go to Quizlet, create a new set. Click "Import".

Create a new study set   Saved 2 terms 18 mins ago

Enter a title, like "Biology - Chapter 22: Evolution"
_____
TITLE

Add a description...
_____
DESCRIPTION

[+ Import]   [+ Add diagram Q+]

Change your import settings, so they look like this:

Between Term and Definition			Between cards		
◯ Tab	◯ Comma	◉ :	◯ New Line	◯ Semicolon	◉ /
		CUSTOM			CUSTOM

Make sure you choose "custom" and type ":" for the symbol between the term and definition, and choose "custom" and type "/" for the symbol between the cards. Otherwise, the import will not be seamless.

Prompt for ChatGPT:

I'm creating a Quizlet Set for my students. The words and definitions should strictly follow a certain markdown, otherwise, it won't be imported. Do not change the markdown. The markdown is as follows: Word:Definition. Example sentence. Example sentence./
For example,
Cautious:Avoiding risks. She is a c_____s driver who never breaks any rules. The hiker was c_____s while climbing the steep mountain./
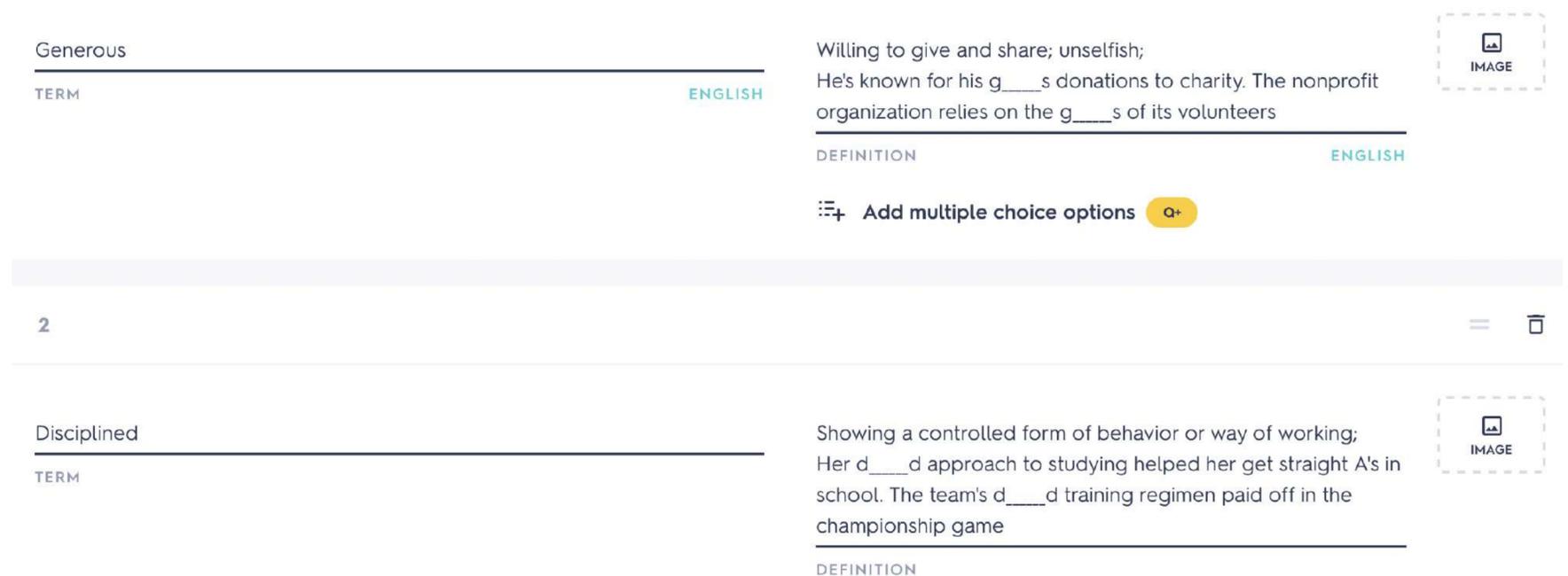
Tasks by ChatGPT:

Easy-going:Relaxed and calm. He has an e_____g personality and doesn't get upset easily. She is an e_____g boss who never micromanages her team/

Wise:Having or showing good judgment. The old man was w____ and gave me some great advice. She is a w_____ woman who always thinks before she speaks/

I paste the output generated by ChatGPT, and this what my quizlet set looks like this:

Generous

TERM   ENGLISH

Willing to give and share; unselfish;
He's known for his g____s donations to charity. The nonprofit organization relies on the g____s of its volunteers

DEFINITION   ENGLISH

IMAGE

⊟+ Add multiple choice options Q+

2   ≡   🗑

Disciplined

TERM

Showing a controlled form of behavior or way of working; Her d____d approach to studying helped her get straight A's in school. The team's d____d training regimen paid off in the championship game

DEFINITION

IMAGE

I have the key word, the definition, and sample sentences with the key word gapped out. I still have some of the letters to help my students remember the words, but it's optional.