

AI-Assisted Learning Tools and Research

Interactive AI Tutors and Chatbots

- **Khanmigo (2023)** – Khan Academy’s GPT-4–powered tutor (khanmigo.ai). Launched in March 2023 ¹, Khanmigo acts as an always-available teaching assistant that *guides* students through problems instead of giving direct answers. It’s integrated with Khan Academy’s content (math, science, coding, humanities) ². Designed for K–12 learners (and their teachers), it helps with homework, test prep, and conceptual understanding.
- **Mindgrasp (2024)** – An AI study platform for students and professionals (mindgrasp.ai). Users upload lectures, notes or textbooks, and Mindgrasp automatically generates **summaries, flashcards, quizzes**, or answers questions about the material ³ ⁴. Its built-in *AI Tutor* can explain concepts, search the web for references, and guide the user through course content. Targeted at learners who want one-stop study aids, Mindgrasp can turn any document or video into interactive learning tools.
- **StudyFetch (2023)** – A comprehensive AI learning toolkit (studyfetch.com). Given class materials (PDFs, slides, videos), it produces **AI-generated notes** (concise summaries), flashcards, and quizzes ⁵. It even offers “Spark.E,” a conversational AI tutor: you can chat or ask it to lecture on your course material in real time. Features include live lecture capture (turning recorded lectures into notes) and AI essay-grading. Designed for high-school and college students, StudyFetch streamlines exam prep and homework review.
- **ChatPDF (2022)** – An AI-powered PDF reader (chatpdf.com). Users upload any PDF (textbook chapter, research paper, manual) and interact with it like ChatGPT. ChatPDF can **summarize sections** and answer user questions about the document ⁶. Notable features: it provides in-text citations pointing to the PDF, handles multiple files in one conversation, and supports any language ⁷ ⁸. Widely used by researchers and students, ChatPDF makes dense documents easier to understand (it’s essentially “ChatGPT for research papers” ⁹).

Summarization and Research Tools

- **Scholarcy (2016–2024)** – AI summarizer for academic content (scholarcy.com). Scholarcy converts papers, book chapters, and long articles into **interactive summary flashcards** ¹⁰. It highlights key points, extracts figures and tables, and generates concise overview cards so readers can grasp the main ideas in minutes. Target audience is students and researchers who need quick literature overviews; it can import PDFs or web links and quickly distill them into digestible summaries.
- **SciSpace (Typeset Copilot, 2022–2024)** – All-in-one AI research assistant (scispace.com). SciSpace offers a suite of tools for academics. For example, “**Chat with PDF**” answers questions about papers with cited sources, while **AI Writer** helps draft sections of a manuscript ¹¹. It can search a database of 200+ million papers, discover relevant topics, and even do quick literature reviews (via its “Deep-Review” feature) ¹². In short, SciSpace is aimed at researchers and grad students to accelerate reading and writing: it automates summarizing papers, generating citations, and synthesizing findings from multiple sources.

- **Elicit (2021–2024)** – AI research assistant for literature review (elicit.com). Developed by the Ought lab, Elicit lets researchers enter a research question and then automatically finds and summarizes top papers ¹³. It extracts structured data (e.g. interventions, outcomes, sample sizes) into a spreadsheet-like table, emulating parts of systematic review workflows. Elicit is free and widely used in academia/industry; it streamlines evidence synthesis by using language models to read and condense papers ¹⁴. Ideal for researchers performing meta-analyses or writing literature reviews.
- **Paper Digest (2019–2024)** – AI-powered literature alert service (paperdigest.org). Paper Digest scans newly published papers (across fields like AI, medicine, etc.) and creates *daily digests* of important findings. Subscribers get short AI-written summaries of each new paper in their topic of choice ¹⁵ ¹⁶. It also curates “best paper” lists by field and tracks trends. This helps researchers stay current: instead of reading every paper, they read the digest synopsis. (Paper Digest is mentioned here as an example of AI summarization applied to academic literature.)

Question/Quiz Generation and Q&A Systems

- **Questgen (2023)** – AI Quiz and question generator (questgen.ai). Questgen ingests any text (up to ~80,000 words) and automatically creates educational questions. It can generate **multiple-choice questions, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, short-answer**, and higher-order questions all at once ¹⁷. Teachers use Questgen to build practice quizzes from textbook excerpts, and students use it to self-test. The platform can produce an entire exam (hundreds of questions) with one click and export it in various formats. Key features: support for multiple languages and the ability to handle large inputs.
- *Other examples:* There are AI tools (e.g. Quillionz, emerging ChatGPT-based quizzes) for generating comprehension questions or flashcards from text. Many summarization platforms (like Scholarcy or ChatPDF) also let you ask questions of the content. But Questgen is notable for its specialized focus on quiz generation from custom input.

Personalized Learning Platforms and Apps

(Many of the above tools personalize study materials on demand.) For example, Khanmigo and StudyFetch create bespoke practice and hints from a student’s own work. In addition, mainstream ed-tech has begun embedding LLMs: e.g. **Duolingo Max (2023)** uses GPT-4 for interactive language practice (role-plays and explanations) ¹⁸. Commercial adaptive learning systems (like those for math tutoring) are evolving to incorporate generative AI, though specifics vary by provider. Overall, new platforms are emerging that tailor content pacing, question difficulty, and study plans to the individual using AI-driven insights.

Key Research Studies on AI and Learning

- **Meta-analysis (Zhang & Tur, 2024):** This broad review found *mixed outcomes* for LLM use in education. Some studies showed ChatGPT boosting student scores and confidence, while others found no benefit or even negative impacts on retention and critical thinking ¹⁹. The takeaway is that LLMs have potential to engage students, but their effect on deep learning is still unclear.
- **UPenn (2024):** In a controlled trial, 1,000 high-schoolers were given math problems to solve with either ChatGPT help or class notes. The ChatGPT group did **48% better** on that practice. However, on a later closed-book test (no AI allowed), the ChatGPT group scored **17% lower** than the control ²⁰. This suggests ChatGPT may improve short-term task performance but can undermine long-term understanding if overused.

- **Retrieval Practice (Yusof, 2025):** Malaysian researchers used ChatGPT to generate personalized quiz questions and immediate feedback for students. Those who studied with ChatGPT-assisted quizzes scored *significantly higher* on final exams than peers who did not ²¹. This indicates that AI-generated retrieval practice (i.e. spaced questioning) can boost memory retention.
- **Cognitive Load (Stadler et al., 2024):** German students performed a science research task using either ChatGPT or Google search. ChatGPT users reported **lower mental effort** and found their work easier, but they produced *more superficial answers* compared to the Google group ²². In other words, ChatGPT reduced cognitive load but at a cost to answer quality, highlighting a trade-off in using LLMs for learning.
- **AI Tutor in Class (Harvard, 2024):** In a college physics course, instructors crafted an AI tutor (using LLM prompts) to teach lessons. Compared to traditional lectures, students using the AI tutor reported much higher engagement and even learned more material on average ²³. This real-world experiment shows that a well-designed AI tutor (with human-provided lesson structure) can match or exceed conventional teaching in engagement and effectiveness.
- **General Adoption:** By 2024, surveys report that roughly two-thirds of students use AI tools (mainly ChatGPT) for study assistance ²⁴. This reflects the rapid integration of LLMs into everyday learning, underscoring the importance of understanding how to use them effectively (both potential benefits and pitfalls).

Sources: Product websites and developer blogs (e.g. khanmigo.ai, chatpdf.com) and recent education/CS research (cited above) were consulted to identify these tools and studies. Each citation [...] refers to a specific source supporting the description.

¹ Khanmigo: The GPT-4 Learning Tool Explained by Sal Khan | Tech & Learning

<https://www.techlearning.com/news/what-is-khanmigo-the-gpt-4-learning-tool-explained-by-sal-khan>

² Meet Khanmigo: Khan Academy's AI-powered teaching assistant & tutor

<https://www.khanmigo.ai/>

³ ⁴ Mindgrasp - #1 AI Learning Platform For Students and Professionals

<https://www.mindgrasp.ai/>

⁵ Study Fetch | The Top AI Learning Platform

<https://www.studyfetch.com/>

⁶ ⁷ ⁸ ⁹ ChatPDF AI | Chat with any PDF | Free

<https://www.chatpdf.com/>

¹⁰ Scholarcy - Knowledge made simple

<https://www.scholarcy.com/>

¹¹ ¹² The AI for Academic Research | SciSpace

<https://scispace.com:443/>

¹³ Elicit - PMC

<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC10089336/>

¹⁴ Elicit: The AI Research Assistant

<https://elicit.com/>

15 16 Paper Digest – AI-Powered Research Platform

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17 Questgen - AI Quiz Generator

<https://www.questgen.ai/>

18 Duolingo Max Uses OpenAI's GPT-4 For New Learning Features

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