2023-2024 Research Package
Topic 1: THBT schools should encourage the effective use of AI whenever possible rather than banning it for students

Background:
In the ever-evolving landscape of education, the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a pivotal point of contention. AI technologies hold the promise to revolutionize learning experiences, offering personalized, data-driven approaches that adapt to the unique needs of students. This potential for transformation prompts a critical examination of the broader goals and objectives of education in the 21st century. This debate compels both proposition and opposition to articulate their vision of education's core mission, whether it centers on fostering critical thinking, equipping students for a rapidly evolving job market, or prioritizing holistic development. The stance on AI and its potential implementation in education is intimately tied to the broader philosophy that underpins the purpose of schooling in our rapidly changing world.

Questions to think about:
The following questions are meant to help you approach the topic and to guide your research. Keep in mind how your answers might differ on proposition vs opposition.

What is the ultimate goal of the education system?
Understanding the overarching purpose of education forms the foundation of this debate. For both proposition and opposition, defining the ultimate goal of education shapes their vision of what education should achieve and guides their stance on integrating AI. This question prompts a deeper exploration into whether education primarily aims to foster critical thinking, nurture specific skills, promote social integration, or perhaps a combination of these and more. Examining this fundamental objective allows both sides to anchor their arguments in the broader context of educational philosophy.

How should education adapt to the changing demands of the 21st century?
As society evolves, so do the demands placed on education. For proposition, this question offers an opportunity to advocate for AI as a tool to modernize and better align education with the skills and knowledge needed in the 21st century. Opposition, on the other hand, may emphasize the importance of preserving essential human elements in education while acknowledging the need for selective integration of AI. This question invites both sides to consider how education must evolve to remain relevant and effective.

How can schools ensure that AI is used safely and effectively in the educational context?
Ensuring safety and effectiveness strikes at the heart of ethical concerns surrounding AI. For proposition, this involves detailing measures and protocols to guarantee that AI

tools are deployed in a manner that benefits rather than harms students. Opposition can also provide valuable insights on the potential pitfalls and offer suggestions for safeguards. This question compels both sides to grapple with the practical steps required to harness AI's potential while mitigating risks.

How might the use of AI impact accessibility and personalization in education?
Considering the impact of AI on accessibility and personalization highlights the potential for technology to level the educational playing field. Both sides must weigh the transformative potential of AI in tailoring learning experiences to individual needs. Proposition may argue that AI can enhance accessibility by providing resources and support to students who might otherwise face barriers. Opposition may offer insights on how to ensure that personalization efforts are inclusive and equitable, and explore whether the use of AI does in fact increase accessibility or whether implementing AI may introduce more barriers. This question forces both sides to grapple with the promise and potential challenges of using AI to create a more inclusive educational landscape.

What are the long-term implications of technological integration in education?
This question encourages a forward-thinking perspective, examining how the integration of AI might shape not only learning experiences but also societal dynamics, workforce readiness, and the future of education itself. For proposition, it opens the door to envisioning a technologically enhanced educational landscape. Opposition, on the other hand, can offer critical insights into potential unintended consequences and emphasize the importance of balanced progress. This question calls for a comprehensive exploration of the broader, far-reaching implications of technological integration in education.

Links:

https://www.unesco.org/en/digital-education/artificial-intelligence

https://www.forbes.com/sites/vickiphillips/2023/06/07/intelligent-classrooms-what-ai-means-for-the-future-of-education/?sh=15e3d38beffb