

AI-NYELV WP4 – Module 2

Methodology Reference Handout

AI for creating, adapting, and curating FL materials

1. What this module develops

This module develops two practical AI skills that apply to FL material creation across all skill areas:

Prompting & iteration

The ability to design a prompt that is specific enough to produce usable output, and to improve that output progressively through deliberate, logged refinement.

Source grounding

The ability to distinguish between AI output generated from general training data and output anchored in a specific, verifiable source document — and to actively verify where content came from.

2. Core principles for AI-assisted material creation

These five principles summarise the module's approach and should guide your practice beyond the session:

- AI can generate FL materials across all skill areas — not writing alone. Use it for reading texts, listening scripts, speaking prompts, vocabulary lists, and assessment items.
- Prompt quality determines output quality. Specify CEFR level, topic, register, exercise format, number of items, and source constraints. Iterate deliberately.
- Source-grounded tools are more reliable for fact-sensitive materials — but still require verification. If a tool cannot point to a source sentence, treat the content with caution.
- Always ask: "Where does this come from?" Do not accept AI output passively. The source-verification question is part of the production workflow, not an optional extra.
- AI is a production partner, not a replacement for editorial and pedagogical judgement. Every AI-generated material requires review before classroom use.

3. The tools used in this module

Google Gemini gemini.google.com	General-purpose generative AI. Produces output from its general training data. No source upload required. Used in Exercises 2 and 3 to illustrate the non-grounded condition.
Gemini Notebook notebook.google.com	Source-grounded AI. Upload a document — all output is anchored to it and can be cited back to specific passages. Includes Audio Overview (generates a spoken summary from your source). Used in Exercise 3 to illustrate the grounded condition. Free with a Google account.

4. A prompting framework for FL material creation

A well-structured prompt for FL material generation includes some or all of the following parameters:

CEFR level	Specify the target band: A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, or C2.
Topic / context	Give a specific topic — e.g. "climate policy", "workplace communication", "technology and privacy".
Register	Specify: informal, neutral, formal, academic, journalistic, etc.
Exercise format	Name the task type: gap-fill, multiple choice, matching, comprehension questions, speaking prompts, etc.
Number of items	Specify exactly how many items, questions, or vocabulary entries you need.
Source constraint	If working from a document: "Use only the attached article. Do not add information not present in the source."
Answer key	Add "Include a complete answer key" at the end of any exercise-generation prompt.

Example of a minimal prompt (Prompt A) vs. a structured prompt (Prompt B):

Prompt A (minimal):

Generate a grammar exercise about [topic].

Prompt B (structured):

Generate a 10-item gap-fill exercise about the use of modal verbs in formal written English, at B2 CEFR level, with a neutral register. Include a complete answer key. The topic is workplace communication.

5. Working with source-grounded tools

When generating materials from an authentic text (a news article, a report, a briefing document):

- Upload the source document to *Gemini Notebook* before generating any materials.
- Use the constraint "Using only the attached article..." or "Do not add information not present in the document." in your prompt.
- After receiving the output, ask: "Can you point to the sentence(s) in the article that support question / term X?"
- If the tool cannot point to a source sentence, verify the claim independently or remove it from the material.
- Flag any content as "unverifiable" in your Material Quality Audit Card if you cannot trace it to the source.