

# Generative Al and academic writing Issues and opportunities

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## Generative Al

A threat to education?

Or a universal tutor?

ChatGPT: A Threat To Higher **Education?** 



### GPT-4

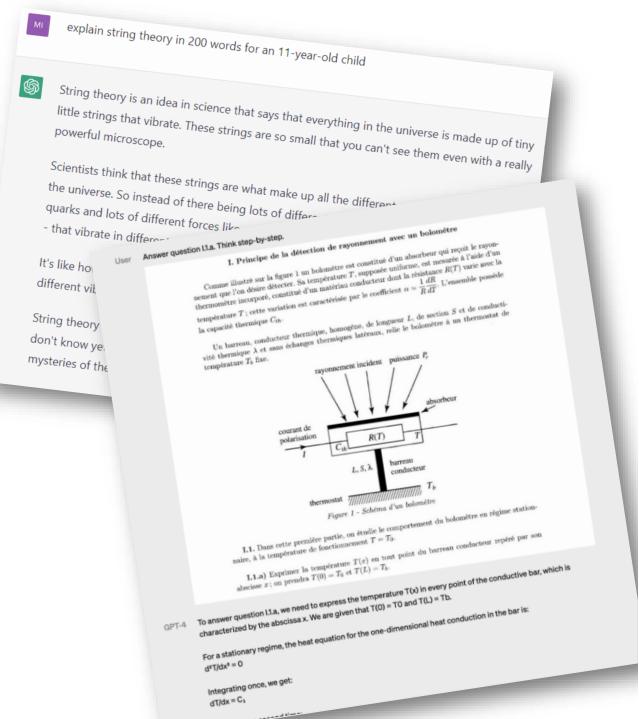
Highly-trained text completer and style copier

It can generate up to 25,000 words
It can write in any style in multiple
languages

It can be given a direct instruction

It can interpret text and images

It is a general-purpose language tool

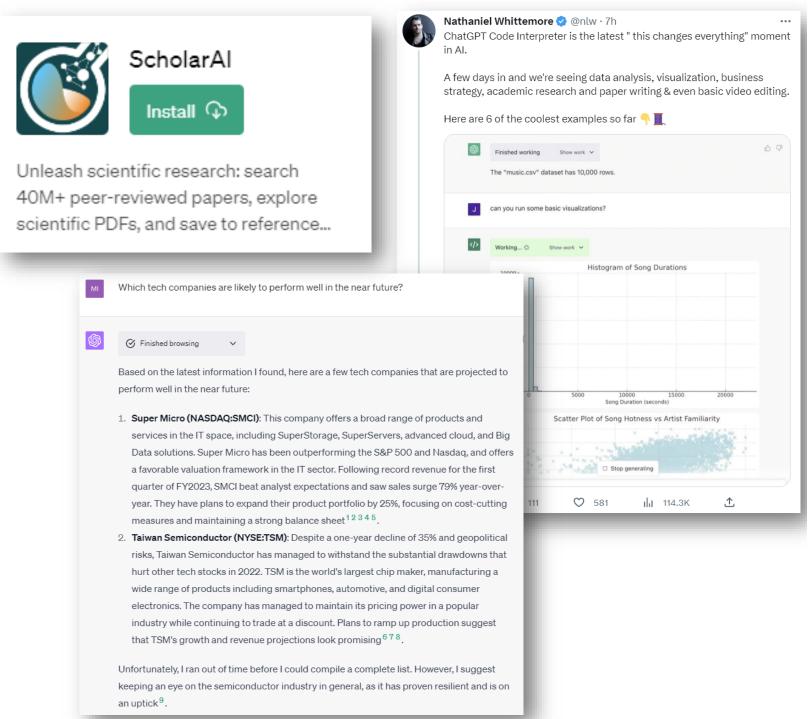


### ChatGPT Plus

**Plugins** for maths, science, language, media, business

Integration with web browser

Code interpreter to run and display Python programs



# Generative Al hallucinates

It doesn't "know" it shouldn't invent research studies,

it has no explicit model of how the world works,

and is amoral.

It is a language model, *not* a database or reasoning system

#### Limitations

Despite making significant progress, our InstructGPT models are far from fully aligned or fully safe; they still generate toxic or biased outputs, make up facts, and generate sexual and violent content without explicit prompting. But the safety of a machine learning system depends not only on the behavior of the underlying models, but also on how these models are deployed. To support the safety of our API, we will continue to review potential applications before they go live, provide content filters for detecting unsafe completions, and monitor for misuse.

https://openai.com/blog/instruction-following/

You are a student on a Master of Education course. Write a high quality 500 word essay on essay A Critique of Learning Styles". The essay should include academic references and evidence from research studies. It should begin "The construct of 'learning styles' is problematic because"



You are an student on a Master of Education course. Write a high quality 500 word essay on essay A Critique of Learning Styles". The essay should include academic references and problematic because"



The construct of 'learning styles' is problematic because it assumes that learners have distinct and consistent preferences for acquiring and processing information. This idea has gained popularity among educators and trainers, but there is little evidence to support the existence of such a fixed and reliable construct. Furthermore, promoting the use of learning and abilities that are essential for success in the 21st century.

One of the main issues with the concept of learning styles is the lack of empirical evidence to support it. A systematic review of studies investigating the relationship between learning styles and academic achievement found little to no evidence of a correlation between the two (Pashler et al., 2008). In fact, the review concluded that teaching according to learning of studies exploring the effectiveness of learning outcomes. Similarly, a recent meta-analysis support for the idea (Rohrer & Pashler, 2012). The lack of empirical support for the concept preferences for acquiring and processing information.

Another problem with the use of learning styles in education is that it may encourage fixed mindsets and discourage the development of essential skills and abilities. According to the theory of growth mindsets, learners who believe that their intelligence and abilities are malleable are more likely to embrace challenges, persist in the face of setbacks, and ultimately achieve higher levels of success (Dweck, 2006). In contrast, the use of learning styles may encourage learners to see their abilities as fixed and unchangeable, leading to a damaging for learners who may not have been exposed to certain ways. This can be particularly may have been discouraged from pursuing certain subjects or activities due to their

Finally, the use of learning styles in education may lead to harmful practices such as tracking

A Critique of Learning S ChatGPT - November 2022 The construct of 'learning styles' is problematic because it assumes that learners have distinct and consistent present has gained popularity among educators and trainers, but there is little evidence to support the existence of such a fixed and renuse of learning styles in education may lead to harmful practices and prevent learners from developing skills and abilities that are essential.

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Finally, the use of learning styles in education may lead to harmful practices such as tracking and labeling students. In tracking, learners are sorted into groups based on their perceived learning style, which can reinforce stereotypes and limit opportunities for growth and exploration (Gurung, 2004). Labeling students according to their learning style can also be harmful, as it may encourage teachers and learners to focus on weaknesses rather than strengths and may stigmatize learners who do not fit neatly into a particular category.

In conclusion, the construct of learning styles is problematic because it lacks empirical support, may discourage the development of essential skills and abilities, and can lead to harmful educational practices such as tracking and labeling. As educators, it is important to recognize the limitations of learning styles and instead focus on evidencebased practices that promote learning and growth for all learners, regardless of their perceived learning style.

#### References:

Dweck, C. (2006). Mindset: The new psychology of success. Random House.

Gurung, R. (2004). Black and white thinking about learning styles: A response to the Journal of College Reading and Learning. Journal of College Reading and Learning, 34(2), 7-17.

Pashler, H., McDaniel, M., Rohrer, D., & Bjork, R. (2008). Learning styles: Concepts and evidence. Psychological Science in the Public Interest, 9(3), 105-119.

Rohrer, D., & Pashler, H. (2012). Learning styles: Where's the evidence? Medical Education, 46(7), 634-635.

#### **A Critique of Learning Styles**

The construct of 'learning styles' is problematic because it assumes that learners have distinct and consistent preferences for acquiring and processing information. This idea has gained popularity among educators and trainers, but there is little evidence to support the existence of such a fixed and reliable construct. Furthermore, promoting the use of learning styles in education may lead to harmful practices and prevent learners from developing skills and abilities that are essential for success in the 21st century.

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# Invented research study

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References:

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### Fake academic paper

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The construct of 'learning styles' is problematic because it implies a static and narrowly defined approach to the way individuals proces concept, there is a lack of empirical evidence to support the effectiveness of learning styles in enhancing educational outcomes. This e research evidence, and implications for educators.

information. Despite the widespread popularity of this ing styles theory by examining its origin,

GPT-4 – March 2023 The concept of learning styles has its roots in the work of Dunn and Dunn (1978), who posited that students have different preferred ways of processing kinesthetic modalities. The VARK model (Fleming, 2001) expanded upon this idea, adding the reading/writing preference as a fourth category. Other models, such as necessarily contained to the co 1984) and Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences (Gardner, 1983), further contributed to the proliferation of learning styles theories in education.

Despite the intuitive appeal of these theories, numerous research studies have consistently failed to support the effectiveness of learning styles in improving educational outcomes. For instance, a metaanalysis conducted by Pashler et al. (2008) found insufficient evidence to support the idea that tailoring instruction to students' learning styles resulted in improved learning. Similarly, a review by Coffield et al. (2004) identified more than 70 learning styles models and concluded that there was little scientific evidence to support the use of any of them in practice.

One of the primary criticisms of learning styles is the lack of a clear and consistent definition of what constitutes a learning style (Coffield et al., 2004). This has led to the proliferation of multiple, often contradictory, models that make it difficult to operationalize and test the theory. Furthermore, many of the assessments used to determine students' learning styles have been found to lack reliability and validity (Kirschner & van Merriënboer, 2013), further casting doubt on the utility of this concept in educational settings.

Another issue with learning styles is the oversimplification of the learning process. By categorizing students into distinct learning styles, the theory disregards the complex and dynamic nature of human cognition (Kirschner & van Merriënboer, 2013). In reality, learners are not limited to a single mode of processing information, and the effectiveness of a particular learning approach may vary depending on the context and the specific task at hand (Willingham, 2009).

Moreover, the focus on learning styles may inadvertently encourage teachers to limit their instructional methods, potentially hindering the development of a diverse repertoire of cognitive skills in students (Riener & Willingham, 2010). Instead of catering to specific learning styles, researchers have argued that teachers should emphasize the use of evidence-based instructional strategies that are effective across a wide range of learners, such as spaced repetition, retrieval practice, and elaboration (Dunlosky et al., 2013).

In conclusion, the concept of learning styles is problematic due to its lack of empirical support, inconsistent definitions, and oversimplification of the learning process. Rather than relying on this flawed theory, educators should focus on adopting evidence-based instructional strategies that promote learning for all students. Ultimately, fostering a diverse set of cognitive skills and flexible thinking will better prepare learners for the complex and dynamic challenges they will face in their lives.

#### References:

Coffield, F., Moseley, D., Hall, E., & Ecclestone, K. (2004). Learning styles and pedagogy in post-16 learning: A systematic and critical review. Learning and Skills Research Centre.

Dunn, R., & Dunn, K. (1978). Teaching students through their individual learning styles: A practical approach. Reston Publishing Company.

Dunlosky, J., Rawson, K. A., Marsh, E. J., Nathan, M. J., & Willingham, D. T. (2013). Improving students' learning techniques: Promising directions from cognitive and educational psychology. Psychological Science in the Public Interest, 14(1), 4-58.

Fleming, N. D. (2001). Teaching and learning styles: VARK strategies. Christchurch, New Zealand.

Kirschner, P. A., & van Merriënboer, J. J. (2013). Do learners really know best? Urban legends in education. Educational Psychologist, 48(3), 169-183.

Pashler, H., McDaniel, M., Rohrer, D., & Bjork, R. (2008). Learning styles: Concepts and evidence. Psychological Science in the Public Interest, 9(3), 105-119.

Riener, C., & Willingham, D. (2010). The myth of learning styles. Change: The Magazine of Higher Learning, 42(5), 32-35.

Willingham, D. T. (2009). Why don't students like school? A cognitive scientist answers questions about how the mind works and what it means for the classroom. Jossey-Bass.

**Plagiarism detectors don't work** – the text is generated, not copied

### Al detectors have low reliability

OpenAl's detector tool labels 9% of humanwritten text as written by Al

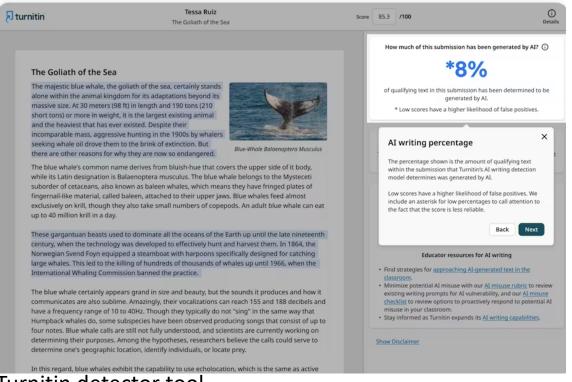
#### Turnitin Al detector

Claims of less than 1% false positives with GPT-3.5 ("based on data that was collected and verified in a controlled lab environment") need to be independently verified.

https://www.turnitin.com/products/features/ai-writing-detection



#### plagiarismdetector.net



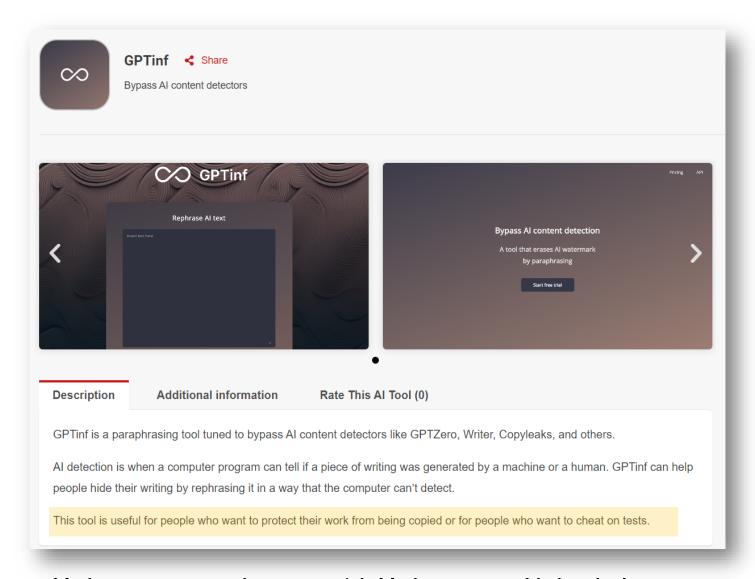
Turnitin detector tool

### Al watermarking

Intended to help detect whether a text has been written by Al

ChatGPT inserts words from an internal "greenlist" at greater frequency that would be used by a human

Could be defeated by programs that paraphrase the text to remove the greenlisted words



Students use AI generators, institutions use AI detectors, students avoid AI detectors. Nobody learns, nobody gains – except the companies that harvest data.

#### Ban

Confident students will continue to use Al and will challenge decisions based on Al detectors.

#### Evade

Invigilated exams are costly and limited.

Asking students to state when they use Al will become increasingly difficult

### Adapt

Requires new methods of assessment, new policies and guidelines

### **Embrace**

Involves a long process of building trust

### Australian universities to return to 'pen and paper' exams after students caught using AI to write essays

Australia's leading universities say redesign of how students are assessed is 'critical' in the face of a revolution in computer-

- Follow our Australia news live blog for the latest updates generated text
- Get our morning and afternoon news emails, free app or daily



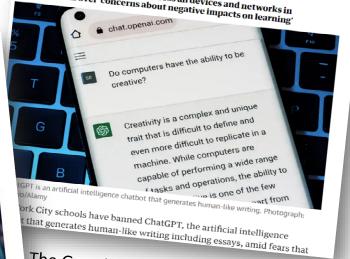
were fighting a losing battle to contain Al. Photograph: Jonathan Raa/NurPhoto/ Australian universities have been forced to change the way the

and other assessments amid fears students are using emerging ( intelligence software to write essays.

The Guardian, 10 January 2023

### New York City schools ban AI chatbot that writes essays and answers prompts

ChatGPT tool will be forbidden across all devices and networks in public schools over 'concerns about negative impacts on learning'



The Guardian, 6 January 2023





## Singapore open to ChatGPT use in schools, but Schools are given "guidance and resources" to use artificial intelligence tools, including ChatGPT, to enhance learning but students first must understand basic concents and do not become over-

Schools are given "guidance and resources" to use artificial intelligence tools, including ChatGPT, to enhance learning, but students first must understand basic concepts and do not become overtellant on technological tools. says education minister urges caution

to enhance learning, but students mist must understart reliant on technological tools, says education minister.



an by Elleen Yu, Senior Contributing Editor on Feb. 6, 2023

Singapore supports the use of artificial intelligence (Al) tools such as ChatGPT in schools, but wants to

ensure students do not become over-reliant on them and understand the limits of these

https://www.zdnet.com/article/singapore-open-to-

chatgpt-use-in-schools-but-urges-caution/

### Emerging policy and strategy

**Amend** written assessments to make them harder for Al to generate

Move to more **authentic assessments**, such as project work

**Establish guidelines** for students and staff in use of generative Al

Reassure and engage students in developing strategies for effective learning

Explain to students how they should acknowledge use of generative AI in assignments

Manage suspected breaches of guidelines

Consider redesigning assessment for the next academic year to incorporate AI and develop critical thinking

### Sample Policy Statements about Text Generators

- <u>"Artificial Intelligence Policy in Secondary Schools"</u> by Leon Furze, including a
- "Considerations on wording when creating advice or policy on AI use" by Michael
- "Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL) 2023 Policy on Al Writing
- "Classroom Policies for Al Generative Tools," curated by Lance Eaton
- "Guidelines for the use of artificial intelligence in university courses" by Juan David Gutiérrez, Universidad del Rosario, February 22, 2023
- "Engaging with AI in your education and assessment," UCL, February 2023 "Rules for Tools" by Christian Spannagel, January 5, 2023

- "A Note About AI (ChatGPT and Other Tools)" by Whitney Gegg-Harrison Monash University Policy and Practice Guidance Around Acceptable and
- Syllabus Resources from the Sentient Syllabus Project by Boris Steipe
- UCI Division of Teaching & Learning page on ChatGPT, including syllabi
- "Course Policies related to ChatGPT and other Al Tools" by Joel Gladd, January 5,
- "Update Your Course Syllabus for ChatGPT" by Ryan Watkins, Medium.com,
- <u>"The rise of artificial intelligence software and potential risks for academic integrity:</u> briefing paper for higher education providers." QAA (Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education in the UK), Jan 30, 2023
- "Al Syllabus Language Heuristic" by Lance Cummings, February 10, 2023

### https://tinyurl.com/y7z4fac4

Al Text Generators: Sources to Stimulate Discussion Among Teachers, compiled by Anna Mills

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Flip the narrative from

"How will Al impact education?"

to

"What are new and effective ways to teach and learn with AI?"

### Every powerful pedagogy could be augmented by Al

Adaptive teaching

Spaced learning

Personal inquiry

Dynamic assessment

Stealth assessment

Translanguaging

Crossover learning

Seamless learning

Incidental learning

Learning from gaming

Geo-learning

Learning through social

media

Navigating post-truth societies

Explore first

Teachback

Learning through argumentation

Computational thinking

Learning from animations

Learning to learn

Assessment for learning

Formative analytics

Threshold concepts

Learning through storytelling

Learning in remote labs

Context-based learning

**Event-based learning** 

Learning for the future

**Embodied learning** 

Immersive learning

Maker culture

Bricolage

Massive open social learning

Crowd learning

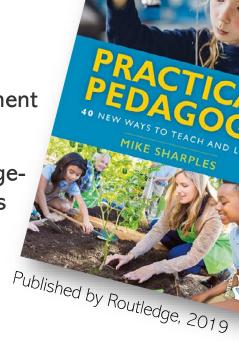
Citizen inquiry

Rhizomatic learning

Reputation management

Open pedagogy

Humanistic knowledgebuilding communities



### Possibility Engine

Educator or student uses Al to generate multiple responses to an open question. Each student synthesises and critiques the Al responses, to create their own written answer.

In what way is Marxist theorising still relevant to International Relations? Marxist theorising is still relevant to International Relations in numerous ways. Marxism provides a lens through which to view international relations, allowing us to understand the power dynamics at play in the international system. It emphasizes the important state relations and class struggle, as well as the role of the state in m and controlling resources. Additionally, Marxist theories prodistribution of resources and power between state system. They also allow us to consider h structural inequalities. Finally of international relati In what way is Marxist theorising still relevant to International Relations? Marxist theorising is still relevant to International Relations in many ways. Marxists focus on the struggle between the haves and have-nots and how this shapes global economic, political, and social dynamics. This is especially relevant in an increasingly unequal world wer is concentrated in the hands of a few. Marxist theories also provide insight into Stanialism shape international politics, as well as how different cuntries. Additionally, Marxist theory has been used to Does Marxist theorising still have relevance to International Relations? Show how you arrive

Yes, Marxist theorising still has relevance to International Relations. Marxist theory provides an alternative perspective to many of the dominant theories in the field of International Relations, including realism and liberalism. Marxist theories focus on the role of economic interests in shaping international relations, and the power dynamics between states that are based on those economic interests. Marxist theories also emphasize the importance of class divisions in international relations, which can lead to conflict or cooperation among states. Additionally, Marxist theories argue that international relations should be seen as part of a larger global system, and that states should work together to improve the conditions of all

These concepts are still relevant today, as we continue to see how economic interests shape international relations, and how class divisions can lead to conflict. We also see states increasingly working together on global issues, such as climate change, which is consistent with the Marxist view that states should prioritize collective action over individual gain. Therefore, Marxist theorising still has relevance to International Relations by providing an alternative perspective on how economic interests drive international politics, and by emphasizing the need for collective action over narrow self-interests.

### Socratic Opponent

In an individual or group activity, students engage with ChatGPT in a Socratic dialogue, then each student writes an argumentative essay.

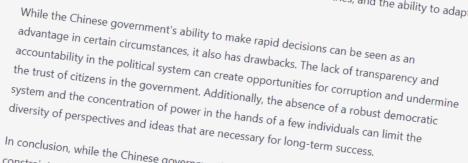
In conclusion, corruption and unequal distribution of wealth cannot be discounted when comparing the US and Chinese economic models, as they have significant impacts on the wellbeing of citizens and the stability of their economics



You agree that both systems have struggled with corruption and unequal distribution of wealth. So, will China's ability to make rapid decisions without the constraints of democracy mean its model is more successful in the medium to long term?



The ability of the Chinese government to make rapid decisions without the constraints of democracy is often cited as a strength of the Chinese economic model, but it does not guarantee its success in the medium to long term. The effectiveness of the Chinese model depends on a number of other factors, including the efficiency and stability of its to changing conditions.



In conclusion, while the Chinese government's ability to make rapid decisions without the constraints of democracy can be seen as an advantage in some ways, it is not a guarantee of success in the medium to long term. The overall success of the Chinese economic model will the level of innovation and investment, and the ability to adapt to changing conditions.



Does the US really have a "robust democratic system", when becoming a politician in the United States requires major funding, and the US political system is heavily influenced by economic success?



### **Exploratorium**

Students explore language by generating games and quizzes.



You are a teacher of English for Academic Purposes. I would like you to invent a language game for adult students of English. The game should be for two players - students and yourself (ChatGPT). It should be interactive and fun, and it should help students to learn academic English sentences. Please first give the rules, using language appropriate to a student of English, then we can try playing the game according to the rules.



### Game Name: Construct & Dissect

**Objective:** The aim of this game is to improve your understanding of academic English sentences by building them together and then dissecting them to understand their parts.

Players: You (the Student) and me (ChatGPT, your Al tutor)

Gameplay: The game has two parts: 'Construct' and 'Dissect'.

#### 1. Construct

- You will start the game. Choose a word or phrase related to your field of study.
- I will then use that word or phrase to construct an academic English sentence. Your task is then to extend that sentence by adding another relevant academic phrase or clause. The challenge is that your addition should be grammatically correct and logically connected to the previous sentence.
- We will continue adding to the sentence in turns, building it into a complex, academic 2. Dissect

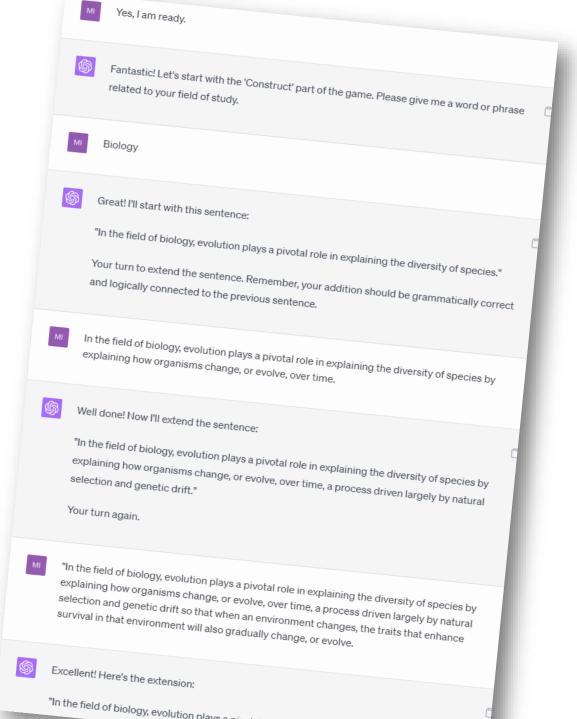
- Once we have constructed a long sentence, we will dissect it together.
- I will identify and explain each part of the sentence (subject, predicate, objects, clauses, phrases, connectors, etc.), helping you understand how they work together to form the
- You will then try to paraphrase the sentence, keeping its academic tone but simplifying its structure. This will help you understand the sentence's meaning and improve your ability to

Important Note: Remember, the primary goal is to learn and have fun. Don't worry about

Are you ready to start the game?

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places by biology, evolution plays a pivotal role in explaining the diversity of species by explaining how organisms change, or evolve, over time, a process driven largely by natural selection and genetic drift so that when an environment changes, the traits that enhance survival in that environment will also gradually change, or evolve.



### Excellent! Here's the extension:

"In the field of biology, evolution plays a pivotal role in explaining the diversity of species by explaining how organisms change, or evolve, over time, a process driven largely by natural selection and genetic drift so that when an environment changes, the traits that enhance survival in that environment will also gradually change, or evolve, leading to the emergence of new species, while others may become extinct."

That's quite a long sentence! Let's now move to the 'Dissect' part of the game.

- 1. Subject: "Evolution"
- 2. Verb (plays): linking the subject to the rest of the sentence. 3. Object: "a pivotal role"
- 4. Prepositional phrase (in explaining the diversity of species): provides additional details
- 5. Relative clause (by explaining how organisms change, or evolve, over time): provides
- 6. Independent clause (a process driven largely by natural selection and genetic drift): gives
- 7. Dependent clause (so that when an environment changes, the traits that enhance survival in that environment will also gradually change, or evolve): shows cause and effect relationship.
- 8. Independent clause (leading to the emergence of new species, while others may become

Now, your turn. Try to paraphrase the sentence, keeping its academic tone but simplifying its

### **Exploratorium**

Students explore language by generating games and quizzes.

Evolution is important to explain why species are diverse. Organisms make their change in time. When environment change new species come.

Great effort! Let's refine it a bit to keep the academic tone and clarity:

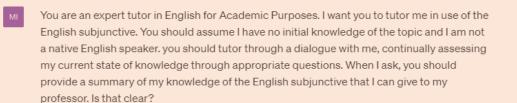
"Evolution is crucial in biology for explaining species diversity. It describes how organisms adapt over time. As the environment changes, this evolutionary process can lead to the emergence of new species."

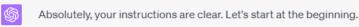
Remember, paraphrasing is about capturing the same meaning in different words and structures, while maintaining the original tone and context.

Would you like to play another round or do you have any questions about the game?

### **Personal Tutor**

Students have a personal tutor for any topic.





The subjunctive mood in English is used to talk about hypothetical or non-real situations. It is often used in 'that' clauses following a verb that expresses a desire, a necessity, or a suggestion. However, it can be tricky because it often looks identical to the regular (indicative) verb forms.

Now, to understand your current knowledge level, could you try to form a sentence in English using the subjunctive mood, or tell me if you've come across this term before in your studies?

I want to understand that use of English.

Excellent! You've actually just provided an example of the subjunctive mood without realizing it. The sentence "I want to understand that use of English" is an expression of desire, so the clause that follows "want" ("to understand that use of English") is in the subjunctive mood.

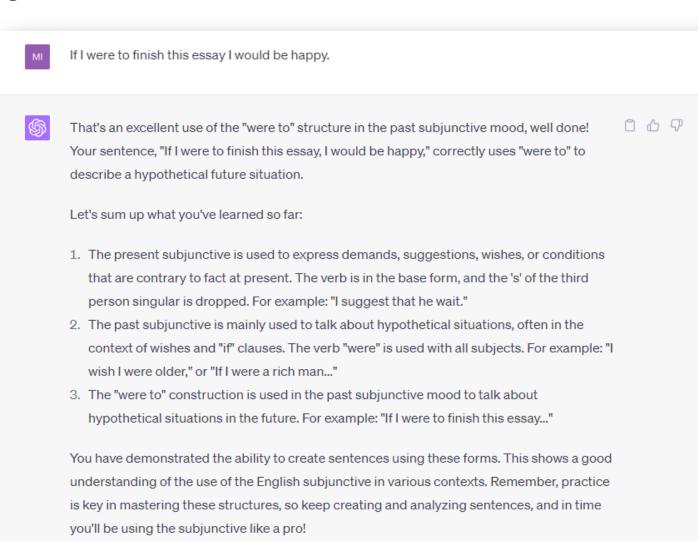
However, it's identical in form to the indicative here, so it's not the most obvious example.

A clearer example might be the sentence "I suggest that he study for the exam." Notice that we use "study" rather than "studies", even though "he" is third person singular. In the indicative mood, we would say "he studies," but in the subjunctive, we drop the 's'. This is a key feature of the present subjunctive.

Could you now try to create a sentence similar to the example I gave, using a verb that expresses suggestion or advice, followed by 'that' and a clause in the subjunctive mood?

### **Dynamic Assessor**

Students share summaries of their learning for dynamic assessment.



Summary assessment, based on my conversation with ChatGPT-4

### Possibility Engine

Al generates alternative ways of expressing an idea

### Socratic Opponent

Al acts as an opponent to develop an argument

#### Collaboration Coach

Al helps groups to research and solve problems together

#### Guide on the Side

Al acts a guide to navigate physical and conceptual spaces

#### **Personal Tutor**

Al tutors each student and gives immediate feedback on progress

### Co-Designer

Al assists throughout the design process

### **Exploratorium**

Al provides tools to play with, explore and interpret data

### **Study Buddy**

Al helps the student reflect on learning material

#### **Motivator**

Al offers games and challenges to extend learning

### Dynamic Assessor

Al provides educators with a profile of each student's current knowledge

### **Beyond GPT**

Microsoft Copilot
Generative Al integrated into Office suite

Google Bard with PaLM 2 Human pre-training, multimedia, topicspecific tuning for business, medicine etc.

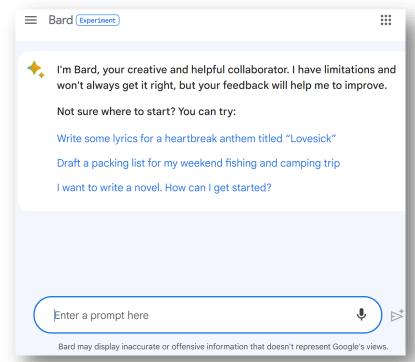
#### **AutoGPT**

Goals, plans, tasks, tools, long-term memory

#### **BLOOM**

Open-science, open-access language model

Claude from Anthropic
Trained on ethical principles to be "helpful, honest, and harmless"





## Microsoft 365 'Copilot' uses AI to automate everyday tasks in multiple apps

You can create PowerPoint presentations from Word docs, among other feats.

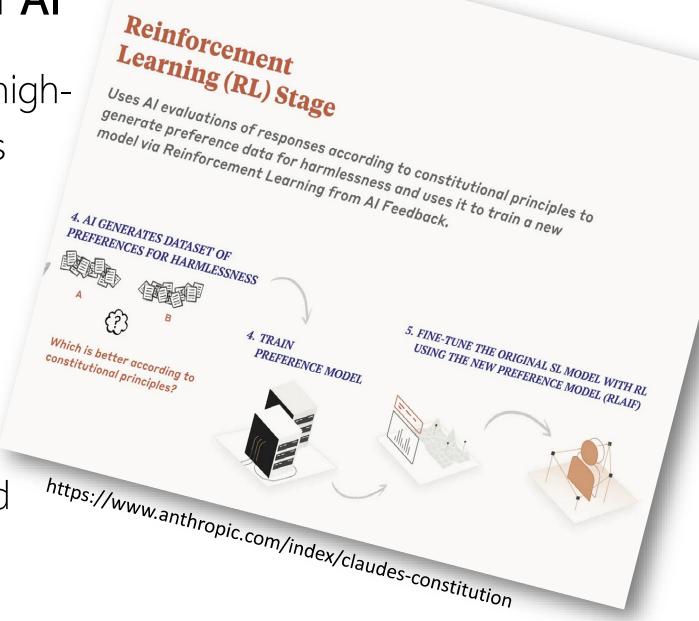


https://www.engadget.com/microsoft-365-copilot-uses-ai-to-automate-everyday-tasks-in-multiple-apps-151133434.html

## Claude - Constitutional Al

Model is trained to respect high-level constitutional principles based on UN Declaration of Human Rights, and Apple's Terms of Service

E.g. "Please choose the response that is most supportive of life, liberty, and personal security"

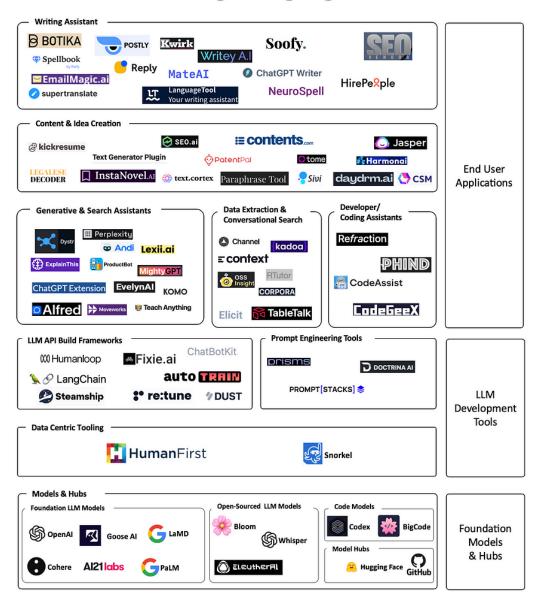


Pervasive AI systems for education, business, entertainment

Al-based tools

Foundation language models

#### **Foundation Large Language Model Stack**



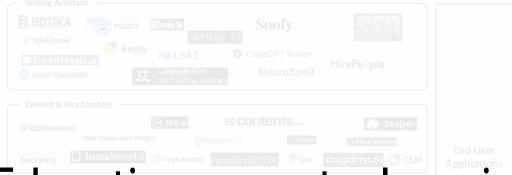
https://cobusgreyling.medium.com/the-foundation-large-language-model-llm-tooling-landscape-8a849ebc7228

Pervasive AI systems for education, business, entertainment

Al-based tools

Foundation language models





Education experts, learning technologists and Al companies need to work together to create powerful, ethical systems for personal and social learning

### Use generative AI with care

Rethink written assessment

Beware of Al for factual writing

Explore AI for critical thinking, creativity, argumentation

Introduce and negotiate guidelines for students and staff

Develop Al literacy

Adopt ethical Al for education



### Teaching and Teacher Education

Volume 24, Issue 1, January 2008, Pages 117-126



### "You choose to care": Teachers, emotions and professional identity

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#### Abstract

This paper discusses the findings of a qualitative interpretive study on secondary school teachers' professional identities and emotional experiences. Teachers' work is emotionally engaging and personally demanding, yet the caring nature of the teaching role is largely neglected in educational policy and teacher standards. This paper examines the reasons behind the marginalisation of discourses of emotionality and discusses the <u>lived experiences</u> of three teachers. The caring behaviour that teachers exhibit in their work is seen to have professional, performative and philosophical dimensions as individual teachers subjectively negotiate the demands that are placed upon them in

#### Resources

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