Chat GPT Activity

Our goal in this activity is to better understand how Chat GPT works—and, in turn, enhance our own ability to get it to generate products that we are looking for.

This worksheet is designed to walk you through the activity and to collect notes that might be helpful as you go. It can be completed individually or in small groups.

About The Tool(s)

Chat GPT is a generative artificial intelligence chatbot developed by OpenAI. Operating off a large language model (LLM), it can generate conversational responses to human queries that users can use to guide a conversation to their specific requests and prompts.

Different access tiers exist, with those paying membership fees being able to use it more frequently and with speedier replies, among other items.

Learning Objectives

The primary goal of this activity is to develop our ability to write prompts that will elicit a desired product from Copilot, also known as prompt engineering. To get there, we want to understand:

- What does Chat GPT "know", that is, what information was it trained on? How do I use prompts to capitalize on that knowledge?
- How does Chat GPT connect prompts to outputs, that is, what is its algorithm? How do I design prompts that engage that algorithm effectively?
- How accurate is Chat GPT on things I know? Things I don't know?

Activity

Step 1:

- Go to chat.openai.com
- You should get an empty chat window with a text box at the bottom
- Don't click "Log in" or Sign up"
- Don't ask any questions yet: the free trial of ChatGPT only allows you a certain amount of questions in a given amount of time
 - o But ChatGPT doesn't say how much...

Step 2:

• What's a topic - any topic - that YOU are an expert in?

• Write this exact prompt: "Describe _____ in twenty sentences."

• How accurate was the reply?

Step 3: Repeat step 2 by adding more specificity to your request.

• What if "twenty sentences" isn't what we want? Do we raise or lower the limit?

• How accurate was the reply? More or less than the first one?

• Why might this be?

Step 4: As a last step, ...

• Let's do it again for something you are not an expert in. Twenty sentences.

• Does the answer seem accurate?

• Are you more or less likely to trust Chat GPT? Why?