

# The Pedagogical Impact of AI and ChatGPT

Kristen McCauliff, Ball State University  
&  
Drew Shermeta, Muncie Central High School

# The goals of this session

- Introduce you to the basics of Chat GPT and AI
- Highlight some of the tensions
- Suggest some sites and resources
- Demo an idea to get you thinking about your own classes

In the chat...

As a teacher, what first comes to mind when you think about AI and ChatGPT?

# AI

*Artificial Intelligence*

# ChatGPT

*Generative Pretrained Transformer*

"Artificial Intelligence, or AI for short, is like teaching computers to think and learn like humans. It's a technology that allows computers to understand, reason, and make decisions based on data and patterns. AI can be used for a wide range of tasks, from recognizing pictures and speech to solving complex problems and making predictions. In education, AI can help personalize learning, automate routine tasks, and assist with research, making it a valuable tool for both students and teachers."

-ChatGPT

"ChatGPT is a computer program that can have text-based conversations with people. It's like a virtual chat partner that can understand what you're saying and respond in a way that sounds like a human. It's trained on a vast amount of text from the internet, so it can provide information, answer questions, and engage in conversations on a wide range of topics. It's a tool that can be used for educational purposes, customer support, or just for fun conversations with a computer."

-ChatGPT

# Why has this captured everyone's attention?

Broadly, fear, but also excitement.

Specifically, though, it raises questions of:

- Ethics
- Quality
- Pedagogy
- Access and Equity

As with search engines like Google, and perhaps encyclopedias and calculators before that, there is value in acknowledging the value of AI as a more efficient information gatherer and solution finder.



However, as is true with those other resources, we would be wise to spend time instructing students on proper use of this new powerful tool, and guiding them on how its use might extend their creativity and capacity to think.

# Sites To Explore

ChatGPT ([chat.openai.com](https://chat.openai.com))

Diffit ([web.diffit.me](https://web.diffit.me))

Almanack.ai

MagicSchool.ai

Schoolbus.ai

Eduaide.ai

Story.ai

Twee.com

Grammarly

Canva Magic Writer

In the chat...

If you're already using AI in your classroom, share a few notes on how and what your thoughts have been so far.

# How to leverage AI in your classroom

...and in your preparation

- Translator, for ELL students in your classroom
- Simplifier, distill your main ideas
- Engager, providing students with a conversation partner
- Accentuator, to accompany or contrast textbook or Google search
- Editor, for students to reflect on work completed
  
- Designer, as a teacher seeking a starting point for slide decks, readings, and more
- Aggregator, for collections of images, videos, or texts
- Evaluator, for student responses

# Let's *Level Up* Our Assessments

“We are gradually embracing hybrid learning, and we should now embrace hybrid-assessments—an organic blend of faculty-AI collaboration. This blended approach will see technology being infused with more authentic tasks—a truly pragmatic approach.”

-Faculty Focus

...an example...

*“Any tool that lets students refine their thinking before they come to class,  
and practice their ideas, is only going to make our discussions richer”*

*NEW YORK TIMES*

# The Task:

Given a topic, consider three questions you'd ask an expert.

You will copy and paste the the "transcript" of your dialogue with AI and supply a reflection at the end describing your takeaways.

You'll be primarily evaluated on the reflection that synthesizes response from your three main questions, but also on the quality of your questions, the clarifications you ask for (as needed), and I'll be looking for at least one follow up question, based on the responses you receive, that extends your understanding..



When did the conflict in Ukraine start?



The conflict in Ukraine began in early 2014. It originated when Russia annexed Crimea in February 2014, following Ukraine's Euromaidan protests and the ousting of Ukraine's pro-Russia President Viktor Yanukovich. The annexation of Crimea by Russia was followed by the pro-Russian insurgency in eastern Ukraine, particularly in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, which led to ongoing conflict in that area. This conflict is often referred to as the "War in Donbass" or the "Ukraine crisis." It has resulted in a complex and ongoing crisis involving multiple parties, including the Ukrainian government, Russian-backed separatists, and international actors, and it continues to have significant geopolitical implications.







Why did Russia attack Ukraine?



Russia's actions in Ukraine, particularly its annexation of Crimea and involvement in the conflict in eastern Ukraine, have been a subject of international controversy and condemnation. There are several factors that contributed to Russia's actions in Ukraine:



1. **Historical Ties:** Crimea has historical, cultural, and ethnic ties to Russia. It was part of Russia until 1954 when it was transferred to the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic. The Russian-speaking population in Crimea has long maintained a sense of Russian identity, and this provided Russia with a pretext for its actions in the region.
2. **Geopolitical Interests:** Russia has historically considered Ukraine as part of its sphere of influence and has sought to maintain a close relationship with Ukraine. Ukraine is strategically important to Russia, both in terms of security and as a transit route for Russian natural gas to Europe.
3. **Political Unrest in Ukraine:** The Euromaidan protests in Ukraine in 2013-2014 resulted in the ousting of Ukraine's pro-Russia President Viktor Yanukovich. Russia viewed this as a threat to its interests and as Western interference in Ukraine's domestic affairs. The protests led to a pro-Western government in Ukraine, which was seen as a challenge to Russia's influence in the country.
4. **Fear of NATO Expansion:** Russia was concerned about Ukraine's possible alignment with Western institutions like the European Union and NATO. The possibility of Ukraine joining

Regenerate

Send a message





That is too complicated for me, can you simplify it for me?



Certainly, I can simplify the reasons for Russia's actions in Ukraine:



1. **Historical Ties:** Russia and Ukraine have a shared history, and some people in Crimea felt more Russian than Ukrainian.
2. **Geopolitical Interests:** Ukraine is strategically important to Russia because it helps with its security and gas exports to Europe.
3. **Political Unrest in Ukraine:** Russia was worried when Ukraine's government became more pro-Western in 2014. They saw this as a threat to their influence.
4. **NATO Fears:** Russia was scared that Ukraine might join NATO, a Western military alliance, which would be close to Russia.
5. **Domestic Politics:** Russian leaders, like President Putin, gained popularity by taking action in Ukraine.

In simple terms, Russia wanted to protect its interests in Ukraine, especially in Crimea, and prevent Ukraine from getting too close to Western countries. This led to actions like the annexation of Crimea and involvement in the conflict in eastern Ukraine.



What has been the role of the United States?



The United States has played a significant role in the Ukraine conflict by supporting the Ukrainian government and taking various diplomatic and economic measures. Here are some of the key aspects of the U.S. role:



1. **Diplomatic Support:** The United States has been a vocal supporter of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. It has consistently condemned Russia's actions in Crimea and eastern Ukraine. High-level U.S. officials have engaged in diplomatic efforts to find a peaceful resolution to the conflict.
2. **Sanctions:** The U.S. imposed economic sanctions on Russia in response to its actions in Ukraine. These sanctions targeted individuals, entities, and sectors of the Russian economy, such as energy and finance. The sanctions were meant to pressure Russia to change its behavior.
3. **Military Assistance:** The U.S. provided non-lethal military aid to Ukraine, including items like medical supplies, communications equipment, and body armor. In 2020, the U.S. began providing lethal military aid, such as anti-tank missiles, to help Ukraine's defense capabilities.
4. **Political Support:** The U.S. has supported Ukraine politically by working to strengthen its democratic institutions, governance, and rule of law. It has also encouraged anti-corruption efforts in Ukraine.

Regenerate

Send a message





Can you explain to me, in a simple or plain way, what sanctions are?



Certainly, sanctions are a bit like penalties or punishments that one country or a group of countries impose on another country when they're unhappy with something that country is doing. It's a way to pressure that country to change its behavior.



Imagine if your parents took away your video game privileges because you didn't do your homework. That's a kind of "sanction." In international politics, sanctions can take many forms, like limiting trade, freezing assets (money), or restricting travel for certain people.

Countries use sanctions to show disapproval and try to make the other country stop doing something they don't like. For example, they might impose sanctions on a country that's doing something harmful, like invading another country or violating international rules. The idea is that these penalties will make the country think twice and hopefully change its actions.



Can you show me examples from history when economic sanctions ever worked?



Certainly, there have been instances in history when economic sanctions have appeared to be effective in achieving their intended goals. Here are a few examples:



1. **South Africa (Apartheid):** In the 1980s, the international community, including the United States and many other countries, imposed economic sanctions on apartheid-era South Africa. These sanctions included restrictions on trade, investment, and financial transactions. The sanctions are often credited with pressuring the South African government to end apartheid and transition to a more inclusive democracy. Nelson Mandela's release from prison and the subsequent negotiations for democratic reforms were seen as significant outcomes of these sanctions.
2. **Iran (Nuclear Program):** In the early 2010s, the United States and other Western countries imposed sanctions on Iran to pressure it to negotiate limits on its nuclear program. These sanctions targeted Iran's economy, including its oil exports and access to international financial systems. The sanctions contributed to Iran's willingness to engage in negotiations, ultimately leading to the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), which placed restrictions on Iran's nuclear activities in exchange for sanctions relief.
3. **Libya (Disarmament):** In the early 2000s, Libya made a decision to abandon its pursuit of

Regenerate

Send a message



# Quick hits...

- Draftback: While we don't advocate for huge investments in student surveillance, Draftback in Docs is a valuable tool should you become concerned about the authenticity of student work. It is a Chrome extension that tracks doc revisions down to the keystroke. ([video demonstration](#))
- TikTok: Teacher TikTok is today what Teacher Twitter was just a few years ago. It is the best way to stay current with innovations, tips, tricks, and other great ideas. If you're not comfortable with it, befriend the nearest millennial or Gen Zer, and make it a habit to ask them what the best things they've seen on it recently.
- Cultural Sensitivity and pay walls: On one hand, large language models offer much-needed assistance to students by bolstering their creative, research, writing and problem-solving skills. Students with disabilities also benefit from AI tools that, for example, provide executive function support. But on the other hand, algorithms reproduce systemic bias and hold potential to widen the education gap like no other tech before them.
- A simple Google search renders LOTS of websites giving ideas, resources, and things to consider. So, be emboldened to just nose around and see what you can learn.

In the chat...

What is one thing you can do to move forward with some of these thoughts in the next few days?

Come off mute...

What is one question  
you still have?



Thank you for your time!  
Please don't hesitate to connect with us in  
the future.

Kristen McCauliff, Ball State University  
[klmccauliff@bsu.edu](mailto:klmccauliff@bsu.edu)

Drew Shermeta, Muncie Central High School  
[andrew.shermeta@muncieschools.org](mailto:andrew.shermeta@muncieschools.org)