

APSU Writing Center

Ethical AI Use During the Writing Process

Preserving Critical Thinking: Using AI Without Losing Your Voice

- AI is a powerful tool that can be used to support your original ideas, not replace them.
- The way you prompt an AI chat influences how effectively it supports your thinking and writing process.

Prompts That Replace Your Thinking

- Asking an AI to write these prompts for you takes your original voice away:
 - Write a thesis for me.
 - What should I write about?
 - Can you write this paragraph?
 - Fix this and rewrite it.
- These prompts hand over the intellectual work. You may get a polished result, but you lose the learning.

Prompts That Strengthen Your Thinking

- Asking an AI to assist by proofreading or making sure your ideas make sense is better:
 - What assumptions am I making in this argument?
 - What are strong counterarguments to this claim?
 - What logical gaps do you notice?
 - Ask me questions to help refine my thesis.
 - Help me clarify this idea without rewriting it.
- These prompts do not take away your original writing, rather they reflect and give feedback on it.

How AI Can Help You Grow

- Using AI can help students challenge their reasoning process for writing, offer alternative points of view, and point out weaknesses in logic.

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Before You Use AI

- Give the chat context as to what you are working on such as assignment information and specify what you want reviewed. (grammar, organization, clarity, etc.).
- Set boundaries when you ask it to review your writing at the end such as:
 - Do not write any part of this for me.
 - Only point out weaknesses.
 - Do not rewrite my sentences.
- Ask it to provide sources and make sure to double-check that they are real and accurate.

Example Productive Prompts

- Is my paper organized in a logical way?
- Do my transitions clearly connect my ideas?
- What major counterarguments should I address?
- What areas of my argument need more evidence?

Using AI for Copyediting

- Copyediting is the process of reviewing a text for clarity, consistency, grammar, punctuation, and appropriate word choice to ensure it is understandable to the reader.
- **Submit one paragraph at a time.**
 - Short sections help AI focus and prevent you from feeling overwhelmed with too much feedback at once.
- **Be specific about what you want reviewed.**
 - **Examples:** “Check grammar only.” “Do not rewrite anything.”
- **Correct the errors yourself.**
 - After reviewing the feedback, revise the paragraph on your own.

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When I asked AI to evaluate my ideas, how did its feedback change or clarify my thinking?

What differences did I notice between my original writing and the suggestions AI gave?

Did AI challenge my assumptions or introduce counterarguments I had not considered? If so, which ones?

What major counterarguments did AI suggest that I should address in my paper?



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References

Chartered Institute of Editing and Proofreading. (2024, January 11). *What is copyediting?*

<https://www.ciep.uk/resource/what-is-copyediting.html#>

Ruppert, L. (2026). *Using AI for copyediting* [Unpublished worksheet]. Berry College Writing Center.