

‘ChatGPT Can Be a useful tool’

1.

Provide suggestions for grammar, vocabulary, and sentence structure. I copied the introduction paragraph for this post into ChatGPT and prompted it to “improve the writing in this paragraph.” Students can use this to compare their writing with “improved” ChatGPT writing as an option for revision. (For the record, I liked my paragraph better but acknowledge my bias.)

2. **Give feedback on essays.** I also tested this by pasting an essay into ChatGPT and asking for feedback. The feedback was basic. I then asked for feedback specifically on the structure of the essay. Again, the response was general but did focus on organization. Students can use this to workshop an essay or as a starting point for peer feedback. Feedback will get more focused as the prompt becomes more focused, but AI feedback will never be as specific as teacher feedback.

3. **Generate ideas.** As stated earlier, I used ChatGPT to generate ideas on this topic. Some of the ideas I’m listing here and expanding on and others I threw out altogether. Brainstorming is an important part of the writing process, but ChatGPT can have a place in class for generating ideas.

4. **Debate/discussion generation.** I love the idea of asking students to develop a claim or argument, asking ChatGPT to refute the idea, and using the rebuttal as a way to strengthen their original argument. This is a means of feedback focused on content, which could help during the writing and revision process.

5. **Create quizzes for reading checks.** With the rise of choice reading in classrooms, ChatGPT can offer individualized self-checks for understanding that can build confidence in readers or serve as a signal for students to seek help if they’re having trouble. With the ability for students to generate their own quizzes, students can read at their own pace. I would not use these for grades in my classroom.

- 1. Create writing samples for revision.** I've fed many prompts on a variety of subjects to ChatGPT; responses tend to follow certain structural patterns and sound, well, like a computer wrote it. An interesting exercise could be for students to strengthen a ChatGPT response by experimenting with elements of syntax, tone, and different types of diction that are more authentic to their writing voice. Or students could focus on content by adding claims, evidence, or analysis or reorganize the structure. An important part of the activity would be a metacognitive element on the how and why of changes made.
- 2. Practice scoring.** Along with revising samples, students can score samples generated by ChatGPT. This could be done as a norming process for the class as a whole or in small groups with students discussing their scores and reasoning. The emphasis on this exercise would be less about the "score" a sample is given and more about the discussion around writing the students would be having.
- 3. Generate writing prompts.** Teachers often struggle with topics for free or quick writes at the beginning of class, Students can use ChatGPT to create prompts on topics of interest to them, saving teachers time and increasing student engagement due to the element of choice.
 1. Ask ChatGPT to answer a given essay question but have it include scholarly research to justify the response. In fact, command the AI to respond several times. In the time it would have taken students to research one idea, they could have read and evaluated several critical responses from AI to determine how their personal interpretations either confirm or refute ideas in the text.
 2. Instruct students to enter original ideas in a simple format and ask ChatGPT to convert those ideas into standard essay format. The student could then analyze and evaluate several responses to further develop their own ideas as well as their understanding of formal academic writing.
 3. Allow ChatGPT to help with the revising and editing process. Students can use all that saved time to engage in further discussion and application of key

thematic ideas and link to the world around them.

4. Ask ChatGPT to generate a series of outlines to a given question about important concepts from the text. Students could then read, analyze, and evaluate which outline most closely reflects their interpretation of the text as well as the reality of their own lives.
5. Let a student who is new to English enter sophisticated thoughts in their native language and watch the AI translate them into a polished piece of academic English. This may allow students to practice making meaningful connections with their peers, teachers, and the world around them before they have to produce written work on their own.