Summary of the UNESCO ChatGPT and Artificial Intelligence in higher education: Quick start guide: Part 1

The Quick start guide begins by explaining how to obtain a ChatGPT account (using a Google or Microsoft account).

Once this is done, you can send messages to ChatGPT asking for information. This is done by writing "prompts" (questions prompting an answer) in the window "Send a message" and then clicking on the arrow.

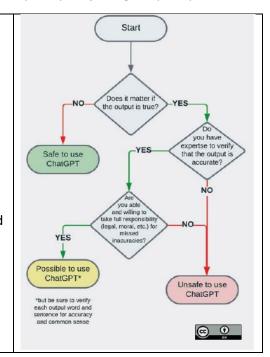


The answers may be marked (thumbs up or down) and can be "regenerated", perhaps adjusting the prompt.

Leaving aside the broader consequences in terms of disinformation and political manipulation of generative AI, ChatGPT can "hallucinate" (i.e. say things which are wrong or imagined).

The UNESCO Quick start guide gives a useful **flow chart** (graph of a process with decisions) on deciding when ChatGPT can be used: notably if it does not matter if the information is correct, and if the user is capable of verifying information created and taking responsibility for its use (see the flow chart opposite).

ChatGPT is based on "machine learning": i.e. "rather than being programmed with rules to produce answers, computers receive data and the answers expected from the data and, as a result, produce rules by identifying patterns between the two".



Due to its power to access and generate information, ChatGPT can be used in very many ways to support teaching and learning. The Table below shows some of the functions listed by the UNESCO guide (some vocab on the right).

Role ⁶	Description	Example of implementation	Queries = information requests
Possibility engine	Al generates alternative ways of expressing an idea	Students write queries in ChatGPT and use the Regenerate response function to examine alternative responses.	
Socratic opponent	Al acts as an opponent to develop and argument	Students enter prompts into ChatGPT following the structure of a conversation or debate. Teachers can ask students to use ChatGPT to prepare for discussions.	
Collaboration coach	AI helps groups to research and solve problems together	Working in groups, students use ChatGPT to find out information to complete tasks and assignments.	
Guide on the side	Al acts as a guide to navigate physical and conceptual spaces	Teachers use ChatGPT to generate content for classes/courses (e.g., discussion questions) and advice on how to support students in learning specific concepts.	
Personal tutor	Al tutors each student and gives immediate feedback on progress	ChatGPT provides personalized feedback to students based on information provided by students or teachers (e.g., test scores).	Feedback = returned information
Co-designer	Al assists throughout the design process	Teachers ask ChatGPT for ideas about designing or updating a curriculum (e.g., rubrics for assessment) and/or focus on specific goals (e.g., how to make the curriculum more accessible).	

ChatGPT can also aid research. It can be used to summarise texts, in brainstorming, in checking information and text, in analysing collection and analysing data.