

The Report on a Conversation Made With Magic School's ChatBot (FIRST DRAFT)

In line with the guidelines provided by my instructor, I have carried out a conversation with Magic School's ChatBot with it acting as the Iron Chancellor Otto Von Bismarck. I asked a total of 10 inquiries to which the bot responded from the perspective of the long-gone figure, providing an authentic conversation in an artificial environment. These questions ranged from asking his views on some historical figures (e.g., J. J. Rousseau, Adolf Hitler, Abdulhamid II, etc.), to everyday topics (e.g., conduct of life, reading books, language learning, etc.). Although the bot was good at imitating Bismarck, it constantly referred back to previously asked questions, making use of the key words mentioned in each of them. This made the bot fall into repetition and disrupt the flow of his answers, for they were influenced by the preceding remarks even though I explicitly ordered that it stops. For instance, when I said "Okay let's talk about something else, but it is important that you do not relate it to anything we mentioned before nor should you constraint yourself to them and them only. What do you think about reading books and how did you used to read books? I want you to reflect on this elaborately Mr. Bismarck" the bot referred to Abdulhamid II., the previously mentioned figure, while answering this question. It also recurred when I asked "What do you think about conduct of life? What lies behind the reality we observe?" as well. However, the bot was quite consistent in every remark it made. When I asked its view about Adolf Hitler and said that he pretty much fit his description of a statesman, though it appreciated some of his characteristics, it immediately found some counter evidence demarcating a clear line between his perception and the instance provided. The bot also persisted in its remarks all throughout the conversation without any discrepancies. Another thing that I find worthy of mentioning is that the bot is expectedly aware of factual evidence. When addressed "[...] were you actually serious when you threatened to commit suicide when the King, Wilhelm I, disagreed with you on Austria-Hungary case?", the bot mentioned the instance where this occurred, that is, during the Schleswig-Holstein Conflict. To top it all up, the relative subjectivity of the bot was at its best when answering general questions regarding everyday life. Especially when I asked its opinions about reading books, it adopted a rather literary style in describing the action from its own point of view. For instance, it resorted to simile by saying "In the turbulent world I navigated, knowledge was a weapon as sharp as any sword, and books were the armory where I forged that weapon." Lastly, the bot also provided some solutions to the current obstacles faced in the Turkish education system though they were subtle. For example, it suggested that "education should unite rather than divide", "practical reforms are necessary", etc. Overall, my experience with the ChatBot has shown that, though it acts human-like, it certainly cannot think or perceive, adding up to my belief that it is not a good conversation partner but rather a subtle doubleganger.