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Teaching AI Literacy with “Nothing Breaks Like A.I. Heart

Overview

Today, we’re going to read an interactive story called “[Nothing Breaks like A.I. Heart](#)” by Pamela Mishkin. Mishkin used an earlier version of the technology powering ChatGPT called GPT-3 to help write the essay. We’re going to read the assignment and consider the benefits, limitations, and potential issues using this technology poses for writing.

Directions:

Read the story carefully. Take your time and note the rhetorical choices the author uses to make her point, along with some of the technical features used throughout the essay to make it interactive. Many of these features use generative AI, so it’s important to pause and reflect on how these features help, hinder, or change the narrative of the story. Also, take note of the attitude Mishkin has toward the technology and what argument she is making about the technology’s impact on writing and reading.

Learning Outcomes: By the end of this assignment, students will be able to:

- Understand the concept of AI and its potential influence on human activities, particularly in writing.
- Analyze and discuss the ethical implications of using AI in creative processes.
- Reflect on their own understanding and perception of AI.

Discussion Questions:

- How does the author describe their experience of writing with GPT-3? What are some of the challenges and benefits they mention?
- What does the author mean by "the story taking on the shape of the model"? How does this reflect the influence of AI on human activities?
- The author mentions the concept of "internalized misogyny" in AI. What does this mean, and how might it affect the outputs of an AI model like GPT-3?
- How does the author compare the experience of writing with GPT-3 to writing with an editor or putting content on a tech platform? What are the similarities and differences?

Metacognitive Reflection Questions:

- How did your understanding of AI change after reading this essay? What surprised you the most?

- How do you feel about the idea of AI influencing human activities, like writing? Do you see it as a tool, a collaborator, or something else?
- If you were to use an AI like GPT-3 to help with a creative project, what would you use it for? How would you ensure that the final product still reflects your own ideas and voice?
- Reflect on the ethical implications of using AI in creative processes. What are some potential issues, and how might they be addressed?