

Generative Ai – the bad and the lack of good

Did you know that over 50% of stuff on the internet is AI generated? As the rise of AI in the world increases, so do its effects. Many people on the internet support it. Some say it makes creativity more accessible, others argue that it's very easy to tell when something is ai which in turn limits its effects. Some also believe that it can just be used as a quick tool. Yet, due to its heavy usage on the internet, it's become less of a tool, and now is incredibly harmful. To sum that up, Generative AI is harmful for everyone.

To introduce, generative AI is harmful for the environment. Noman Bashir, a MCSC impact fellow from Massachusetts institute of technology, or MIT, a university that specializes in technology and science, states this:

"Chilled water is used to cool a data center by absorbing heat from computing equipment. It has been estimated that, for each kilowatt hour of energy a data center consumes, it would need two liters of water for cooling, says Bashir.'Just because this is called 'cloud computing' doesn't mean the hardware lives in the cloud. Data centers are present in our physical world, and because of their water usage they have direct and indirect implications for biodiversity,' he says."

Water is the mothersauce of the planet. It's what living creatures drink, it's what plants need to grow. It's also used by AI, but in such drastic amounts, and just for cooling down. This could mean if we keep generating AI images, that means we could be using lots of water, that could cause serious environmental issues, like drought and water shortage.

In addition, generative AI is harmful because it makes it very difficult for creatives to get work. Samuel Goldberg, an assistant professor at Stanford graduate school of business in an article by Sachin Waikar, mentions

“Meanwhile, total sales rose by 39% after AI images arrived, but purchases of non-AI images dropped. This implies AI images compete directly with non-AI images.

“Our evidence suggests that GenAI images look like substitutes for non-AI images,” Goldberg says

Some artists take commissions. Commissions cost money, ranging from relatively cheap to hundreds of dollars. Some people, who don’t want to pay artists lots of money for their labor, want a shortcut. Many of *those* people use generative ai to avoid paying that. Yet, by doing that, they take away from the jobs of artists trying to make a living, which is bad for the artist’s financial state.

Finishing the points, generative AI is harmful because it spreads lots of harmful misinformation. Jieun Shin, an assistant professor at University of Florida says this;

“AI tools make it easy for anyone to create fake images and news that are hard to distinguish from accurate information. From elections to wars, those with ill intentions can mass-produce and disseminate propaganda on social media.” (Jieun shin, UF)

Misinformation can be spread in multiple ways. With ai and it being so widespread online, that means misinformation can spread dangerously quickly. Many people have fallen for AI generated misinformation spreading. It can cause serious problems.

But, some may ask why this matters? Can’t people just avoid AI. Can’t people stop using generators? Can’t big corporations just get rid of the AI’s code all together? It’s not that simple. Google gemini is used daily and not by a user’s will, it’s forced on to them when they search something. Companies aren’t

just gonna shut down the AI because it makes them money. So no, there is not a definitive way to stop AI. But, if we keep using AI, the water crisis could keep happening, and the internet could become unusable. Take this as a warning.

Works Cited

Shin, Jieun. "AI and Misinformation | 2024 Dean's." *2024 Dean's Report*, 2024,

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Waikar, Sachin. "When AI-Generated Art Enters the Market, Consumers Win – and Artists Lose." *Stanford Graduate School of Business*, Stanford Graduate School of Business Faculty & Research, 20 May 2025,

<https://www.gsb.stanford.edu/insights/when-ai-generated-art-enters-market-consumers-win-artists-lose>.

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USE THE [HELP DOCUMENT](#) IF YOU GET STUCK

Note: Counter-argument should be included somewhere along with a counter to the counter. It can replace your #2 or be a part of your body paragraph. **Highlight in pink.**

Intro paragraph

Hook - See [informational leads](#) video.

Transition from hook to thesis.

1 Thesis

Body Paragraph 1

2 Subtopic 1 - Must be written as complete sentence that EXPLICITLY ties to thesis.

3 Introduce quote - who is talking/establish credibility (do not say "this quote"). Use as many sentences as needed so quote makes sense.

4 Supporting evidence - quotes or anecdotes (LINK or author, page #s)

5 Restate quote in your own words

5 How/why is your evidence important?

5 How/why does your 4 and 5s prove your thesis?

Use as many sentences as needed to make your points.

Body Paragraph 2

2 [Transitional Expression](#), subtopic 2 - must be written as complete sentence that EXPLICITLY ties to thesis.

3 Introduce quote - who is talking/establish credibility (do not say "this quote"). Use as many sentences as needed so quote makes sense.

4 Supporting evidence - quotes or anecdotes (LINK or author, page #s)

5 Restate quote in your own words

5 How/why is your evidence important?

5 How/why does your 4 and 5s prove your thesis?

Use as many sentences as needed to make your points.

Body Paragraph 3

2 [Transitional Expression](#), subtopic 3 - must be written as complete sentence that EXPLICITLY ties to thesis.

3 Introduce quote - who is talking/establish credibility (do not say "this quote"). Use as many sentences as needed so quote makes sense.

4 Supporting evidence - quotes or anecdotes (LINK or author, page #s)

5 Restate quote in your own words

5 How/why is your evidence important?

5 How/why does your 4 and 5s prove your thesis?

Use as many sentences as needed to make your points.

Conclusion

1 [Transitional Expression](#) for conclusion,

- Some form of restatement of conclusion

- Concluding thoughts that [reinforce thesis in an interesting way](#)
(note - order of ideas may vary in conclusion)