

# AI and Media Literacy

### Why?

Because students are exposed to vast amounts of news and information in their daily lives and there is a rising potential for Al-generated content, it's crucial to understand the nuances and implications of machine-authored news. This lesson enlightens students about the impact of tone on information absorption and helps them discern the authenticity and comprehensiveness of Al-written news reports.

| Materials Needed                                                                                                                                                                   | Time needed |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <ul> <li>Computers with internet access</li> <li>Whiteboard and markers or other place to record student responses</li> <li>Worksheet with guiding questions (optional)</li> </ul> | 30 mins     |

## **Objectives**

- Students will be able to dissect and evaluate the content and tone of the AI-generated news report.
- Students will be able to understand the influence of tone on information perception.
- Students will be able to reflect on the capabilities and limitations of AI in the realm of news reporting.

## Key Concepts & Vocabulary

- **Artificial Intelligence:** Computer systems able to perform tasks that normally require human intelligence.
- Bias: Prejudice in favor of or against one thing, person, or group compared with another.
- Tone: The general character or attitude of a piece of writing.

#### Lesson

- 1. Introduction (5 minutes)
  - a. Introduce the objective: understanding and critiquing an AI-generated news report.
  - b. Ask students about the importance of tone in news reporting and its influence on public perception.
- 2. Al News Generation (5 minutes)



- a. Ask students to suggest some current events that may be discussed on the news.
- b. Prompt ChatGPT to write a paragraph about the chosen topic in the tone of a news report (ex."write a paragraph about inflation as if you were a newscaster talking about it on tv ")
- c. Project the paragraph for all students to read.
- 3. News Anchor Reading (2 minutes)
  - a. Select a student to read the paragraph aloud in the tone of a news anchor.
- 4. Class Dissection (12 minutes)
  - a. Engage in a class discussion, dissecting the content and tone of the news report. Guiding Questions might include:
    - i. How does the tone affect how you perceive the information?
    - ii. Are there any inaccuracies or misleading statements?
    - iii. What did ChatGPT leave out that you think should be included in a story about this topic?
- 5. Reflection (6 minutes)
  - a. Ask students to reflect on the following:
    - i. How do you feel about Al's ability to emulate the tone and style of news reporting?
    - ii. What are the potential risks or benefits of using AI in news generation?
    - iii. How has this activity informed your perspective on Al's role in journalism?

# Supplemental activity ideas

- **Different tones:** Prompt ChatGPT to regenerate the same news report in different tones and discuss the impact of the different tones on the content.
- Compare and contrast: Provide students with a human-written news report and an Al-generated one without revealing the sources. Challenge them to identify which is which.

#### Sources to Learn More

- A.I.-Generated Content Discovered on News Sites, Content Farms and Product Reviews
- The potential of AI-generated news articles