

We are coming up on the tail end of this module, An Introduction to Prompt Engineering.

Before we part ways, I want to share some caveats and gotchas. So we've gone through the process of explaining the concepts behind prompt engineering, how to create the prompt, how to engineer results to get them to higher levels of quality and reliability. And now I want to share some items to be aware of as you're going through this process in real-life in integrating AI into your workflow.

All right. So the first one is "Do it yourself." I think DIY is a very important precept. It's an important mindset to adopt when you're using these tools. Here's the thing. There's always going to be a strong temptation to look around rather than looking up at point B at the goal that you're trying to get to. I would say use as much willpower as you can to not waste time or attention on social media. Don't get distracted by clickbait. Don't go looking for the magical incantations and the spells that people are putting there as far as prompt engineering. Those things are going to blow your mind and all this nonsense.

At the end of the day, no one is going to know or understand your problem as well as you do. And I would even say on top of this, there are a lot of startups that are trying to build on top of this technology. There are a lot of tools that are increasingly specialized that you might consider incorporating into your workflow that hook into those foundation models, like we talked before.

The truth is most of those are not going to be useful. Some of them will be. And there are a few tools, like the ones I mentioned, like Descript is a good example that have these very deeply integrated workflows built around the foundation models and those core capabilities. But for the most part, simply using ChatGPT or Claude or the equivalent of the consumer product to really try to solve your problem as quickly as you can. It's usually the right tool to reach for.



Don't get too distracted by what other people are doing. Just get your hands dirty. Do it yourself. That's going to be the best way to invest your limited time and attention. And remember, you get your hands on the tools. You use the scientific method to figure out what works and what doesn't. Try to use AI three times before you break it down into smaller pieces. Or choose not to use AI if you're super proud on a limb. But at the end of the day, you got to get your hands dirty in order to get better at this.

The other thing to keep in mind, I've brought this up before, but it's worth bearing in mind. Capabilities, AI capabilities are going to be commoditized at speeds that are a bit hard to wrap your head around. And so what that means is if you figure out, for example, how to develop a particular prompt, you should expect that even that probably will be gobbled up in terms of capabilities of the idea that you can get results from engineering that prompt within maybe the next 12 to 18 months, if not sooner.

If you can be really focused on adopting some of these more durable practices, which are really like the hyper growth mindset, recording things, really spending time thinking through the problem before engaging with the computer. There are certain things that are durable that we've talked about. And then just furiously focus on how to get the result that you need right now, not making some assumption that what you've built will continue to be highly differentiated or specialized for the long run. You're just going to be better off.

So the prompt engineering techniques that seem to be like magical incantations, they're largely going to be commoditized. A good example would be the you are an expert X with an IQ of 120. That still works, but it works as a generalizable principle enough that I expect that will be incorporated into the next versions of the foundation models. A lot of the system two versus the system one kind of, you know, quick inference system to simulation, stimulation of reasoning capabilities, the self-reflection, the chain of thought right down to problems and things like that will likely be incorporated into silent thinking behind the scenes. So you won't even necessarily have to kick off some of those processes. It may already happen depending on the context that you provide.



Oh, and then the other thing is honestly, even when it comes to providing all that context and copying and pasting stuff into the window or speaking at length, it will increasingly be the case that even that will be commoditized, which is a crazy thing to think about. But there are these wearable consumer devices that are going to be coming to market shortly, whether or not that's ultimately the form factor that the next sort of a wave of personal computing takes is unknown.

Who knows? But at the very least, we can be sure that there will be devices and software that comes to exist that facilitates the passive capture and digitization of everything that you do, because that is the compliment to that commoditized artificial intelligence that is going to get you better quality results.

So even the contextual information, you might want to give some direction. And you want to think things through. And you always want to set good goals like scoping the problem is super important. But providing the contextual data that may be commoditized as well. So just anticipate that's going to be true. Everything else, there's a lot of uncertainty obviously.

All right and then third is it's really important that you anticipate multimodality. So this is happening even as I'm recording these videos. GPT 4V got released, which allows you to provide image inputs to get a particular response. GPT4 will interpret what you put into the model. If you send a photo, snap a photo and incorporate that into the processing that it does.

And so as ChatGPT was released, and then you have these other competitors that have come to market like Claude and whatnot, Bard. Those have primarily been text based. But AI is going to be getting ears in the case of Whisper. It already has that where it just takes straight audio or audio that's converted to text and then eyes as well.



It's going to be able to see and hear things. It doesn't have to just be text input like we've been used to putting into a computer. And on the output, this is where things are getting pretty weird, is it's going to be able to create images. So it already can do that with DALL·E 3.. You've got Midjourney as its own specialized thing that does image creation. And then it's also going to have a mouth in some sense to turn the text into audio that seems very human like and believable.

Multimodality is the technical term for this, but we're moving from text to other types of digital media, audio, video, images, so on and so forth. So just understand that that's going to change quite a bit.

All right. So with all those caveats, those are things to just keep in mind as you continue to work with the technology, as you practice prompt engineering and use this to accelerate progress to point B. Wherever that is.

All right. I'll see you in the next lesson.