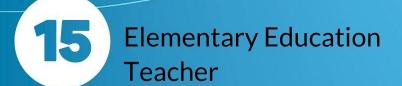


### **AI QUICK WINS:**

Simple Tools for Everyday Impact

**Evelyn Cassano** 



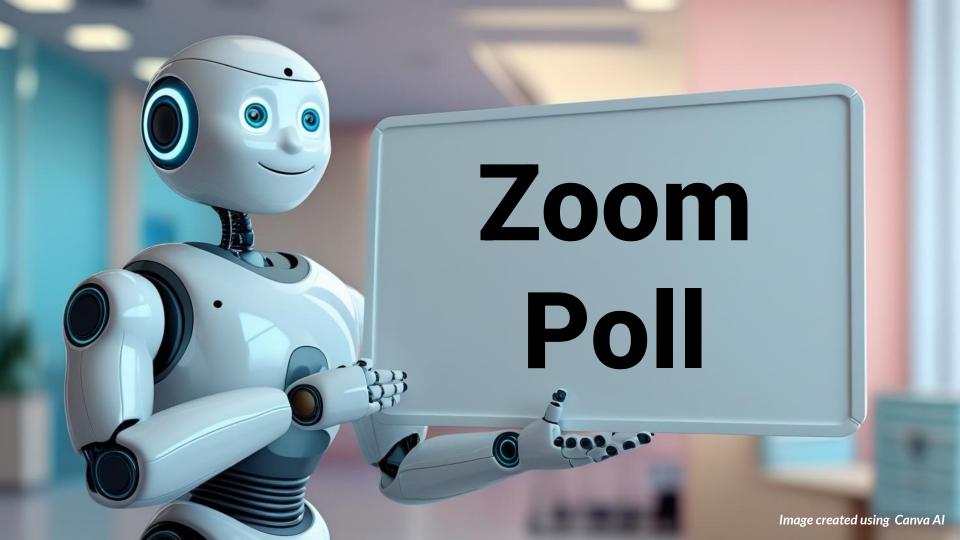
Adjunct Faculty
Waubonsee Community College

Mother of Twin Boys





Gaffigan, J. (2024, November). I need artificial intelligence [Video file]. In Jim Gaffigan: The Skinny. Hulu. Retrieved from <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=peTpcFKVaMk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=peTpcFKVaMk</a>





### Welcome & Objectives



Why Al Matters



AI Tools



How to Write a Prompt



Try It Out!



Share & Reflect

### Participants will be able to:



### **EXPLAIN**

what AI tools like ChatGPT, Claude, and Perplexity can do



### **IDENTIFY**

3–5 practical ways to use AI in everyday tasks



### **GENERATE**

a basic prompt using an AI tool to assist with a specific task

### Why Al Matters









### It's Already Here

800 million people use ChatGPT weekly (Open AI, June 2025)

### It Saves Time

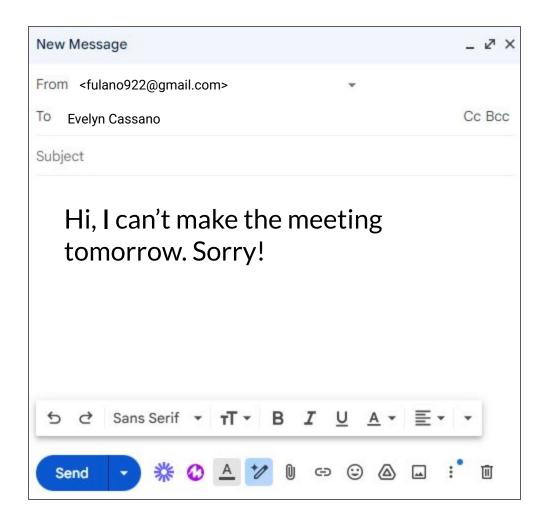
Brainstorm, summarize reports, & create checklists in seconds

## It Boosts Creativity & Problem Solving

Helps you analyze data, make informed decisions, & offers fresh ideas

## It Levels the Playing Field

With the right prompt & a little practice, anyone can use AI to enhance productivity







# My Al Toolkit: What I Use & Why

### **Example 1: Fundraiser Checklist**

Tasks	Ideas	Person Responsible	Deadline	Status
Define Event Goals and Objectives	Raise \$			In Progress *
Create a Fundraising Budget				Completed •
Identify Event Date and Location	Rosewood Farm	Andrew		Completed •
Obtain Necessary Permits	N/A			Completed •
Form an Organizing Committee	Family & Friends			In Progress *
Develop an Event Timeline				In Progress *
Choose a Fundraising Theme	Breast Cancer	Everyone		Completed *
Set Ticket Prices	\$10/one \$25/family	Andrew	September 26th	Completed *
Secure Event Sponsors	Donations		October 21st	In Progress *
Create Event Branding & Materials	T-shirts/Hoodies	Andrew	T-shirts ready for pick up by 10/13 Distribution by	In Progress *

### **Example 2: IELCE & Stand Out Spreadsheet**

Unit 1 Balancing Your Life  Unit 2 Personal Finance	Lesson 1: Learning Styles			*
	Lesson 2: Career Plannning		C.	٠
	Lesson 3: Achieving Balance			*
	Lesson 4: Setting Priorities			*
	Lesson 5: Motivation			*
	Lesson 1: Getting Organized	42-44	CE3 Prepare a household budget.	*
	Lesson 2: Managing Money			*
	Lesson 3: Investing Wisely			*
	Lesson 4: Credit	51-52	CE4 Explain the role of credit in the U.S. economy (e.g., credit cards, personal cr	۳
	Lesson 5: Identity Theft	54-55	CE6 Define identity theft and describe ways to protect against it.	*
	Lesson 1: Buying a Car			*
Unit 3 Automotive Know-How	Lesson 2: Maintenance and Repair			*
	Lesson 3: Car Insurance			*
	Lesson 4: Gas and Mileage			٠
	Lesson 5: Traffic Laws	80	CR4 Read common traffic and pedestrian signs.	*

### **Example 3: IELCE Multilevel Lesson Plan**

### Multilevel Lesson Plan: Reporting Housing Problems

Based on: N/A, Unit N/A, Lesson N/A

#### **IELCE Competencies:**

HO5: Report housing problems to landlords, property associations, or other officials.

#### Lesson Theme/Topic:

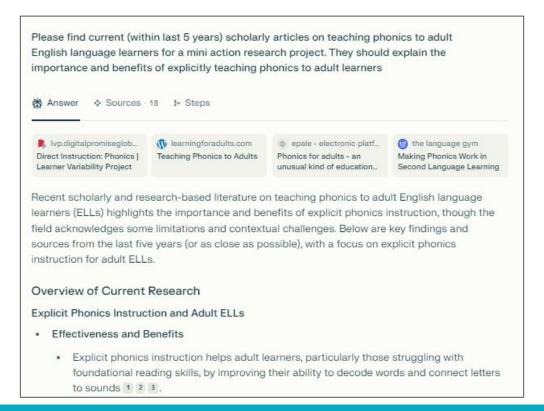
Housing - Reporting Problems and Requesting Repairs

#### Materials/Resources:

- Picture cards of housing problems (e.g., leaking faucet, mold, broken heater)
- Sample maintenance request forms
- Sentence frames and vocabulary list
- Role play scripts and prompt cards
- Google Slides or Jamboard for digital practice

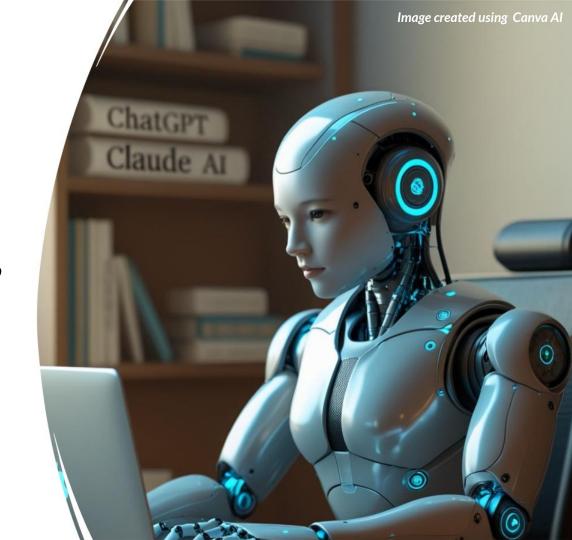


### **Example 4: Research**



# Meet the Tools:

Friendly Nicknames, Real Capabilities



### **ChatGPT**



The Swiss Army Bot

### Claude



The Gentle Genius

### **Perplexity**



The Fact Finder

### Which AI Tool Should I Use?

Task	ChatGPT Claude AI		Perplexity
Write or edit emails, reports,	<b>&gt; &gt; &gt;</b>	<b>&gt;</b>	×
Brainstorm ideas, lesson plans		<b>&gt; &gt;</b>	
Summarize long documents	<b>&gt; &gt;</b>	<b>&gt; &gt; &gt;</b>	
Research with sources	×	>	
Ask follow-up questions	<b>&gt; &gt;</b>	<b>&gt; &gt; &gt;</b>	×





AI WORKS BEST WHEN YOU WORK WITH IT. COLLABORATE, EXPLORE, AND REFINE TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE AMAZING RESULTS.

# Treat Al as a Collaborator



# Not a Vending Machine



### **Writing Prompts That Work:**

# The Framework

Letter	What it Stands For	How to Use It	
М	Make It Clear	Define the task clearly. What do you want AI to do?	
Α	Add Context	Who is it for? What's the purpose? Why does it matter? Assign it a role.	
G	Give Examples	What kind of output do you want? Include tone, voice, etc.	
I	Include Format	Ask for bullet points, tables, summaries, etc.	
С	Check & Change	Review the result & refine prompt if needed.	



No login needed; create an account to use certain features & avoid limitations; free & paid plans



Requires you to create an account & always log in; free & paid plans



Works without signing up; creating a free account unlocks useful features



Image created using Ideogram AI

# Let's Put This Into Practice

Let's write a prompt together using the MAGIC framework.



Have an idea? Drop it in the chat.



**Need inspiration?** I have ideas.











# Prompt Debugging Checklist



Did it answer the question I asked?



Is it accurate & specific?



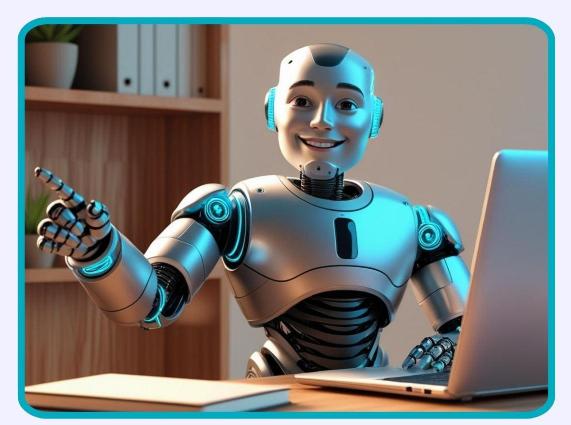
Is the tone right for my audience?



Is anything missing or unclear?



Should I ask it to try again or revise?



# YOUR TURN

Image created using Canva AI

### Let's Practice!

### **Option A**

Try one of these ready-made prompts (link in chat)

- Communication & Outreach
- Research
- Program Management
- PD Support

### **Option B**

# Create your own prompt using MAGIC

- Think of a real task you need to tackle
- Use the MAGIC framework to write your prompt
- Test it with ChatGPT, Claude, or Perplexity

### **Common Pitfalls**

- Confident but wrong
- Outdated information
- Bias that Sounds Reasonable
- Dependency Trap



These aren't reasons to avoid AI. They're reminders that your expertise matters more than ever.

### Using Al Responsibly: 3 Things to Remember

### AVOID BIAS



Review AI-generated content for bias or stereotypes before sharing.

# RESPECT PRIVACY



Don't input personal, student, or confidential data into AI tools.

### BE TRANSPARENT



Let students and colleagues know when you've used AI to support your work.

# You've got the MAGIC...

Now Go & Use It!



### **Your Al Action Plan**

### 1. Which AI tool will you try this week?







### 2. What will you ask AI to help you with this week?

- Write or improve an email
- Create a checklist or summary
- Brainstorm ideas for a lesson or project
- Turn messy notes into clear action items

### 3. Your MAGIC Reminder

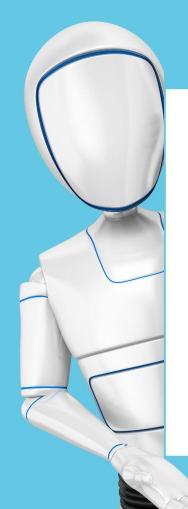
Make it Clear  $\rightarrow$  Add Context  $\rightarrow$  Give Examples  $\rightarrow$  Include Format  $\rightarrow$  Check & Change

# Thank you!

# Evelyn Cassano

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## RESOURCES

Al Quick Wins
Webinar Slides



**Al Quick Wins** 

**Webinar Handouts** 

