

PROMPTING BASICS

Barbara Vastenavond















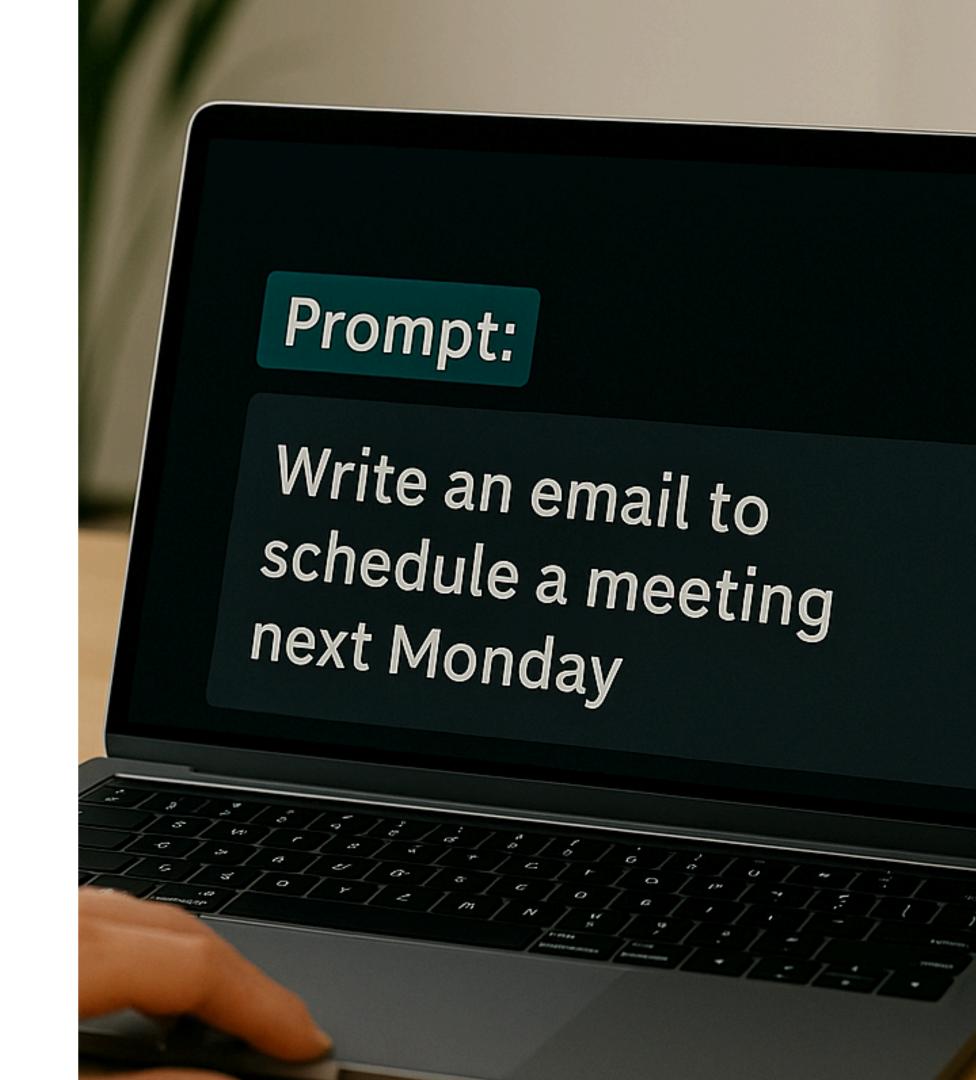
Watch video on YouTube

Error 153 Video player configuration error



WHATIS A PROMPT?

A prompt is a clear instruction or request you give to an Al to guide its response.





WHY IT MATTERS?

clearer prompts → more useful answers





Write a polite
email to my PhD
supervisor
requesting a
meeting to discuss
feedback on my
thesis chapter

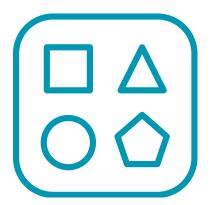
Clear



HOW TO STRUCTURE PROMPTS







Basic prompts



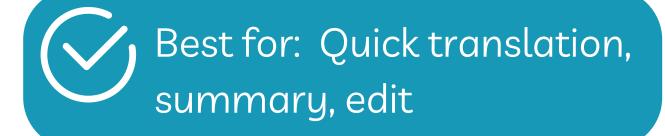


Keyword-Based Prompting

- 'Summarize this article in 3 bullets'
- 'Write a title for this abstract'
- 'Translate this text this into academic English'

Action → What to do (e.g. Summarize, Translate, Fix grammar, Generate)

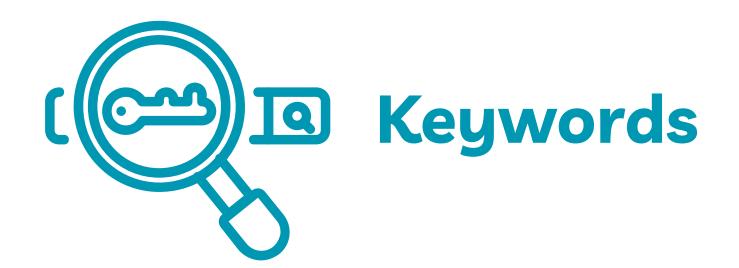
Target → What it's applied to (e.g. this article, the following paragraph, this abstract)





Perfect for everyday tasks







Keyword	Use / Meaning
Summarize	Make a brief summary of a text or idea
Explain	Provide a clear and understandable explanation
Describe	Give a detailed description
Translate	Convert text between languages
Analyze	Provide a critical or technical analysis
Compare	Highlight similarities and differences
Classify	Organize into categories
Generate	Create new content (text, images, ideas)
Write	Compose a text (email, poem, article)
Rewrite	Write again using a different style





Keywords

Optional additions: (can modify tone/format)



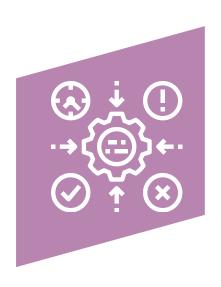
Keyword	Meaning
Formal	Polite, academic, professional
Informal	Casual, friendly
Academic	Study-oriented language
Popularized	Easy to understand for anyone
Creative	Imaginative, original
Concise	Short and to the point
Expanded	More detail or depth





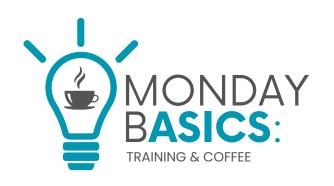
Keywords

Optional additions: (can modify tone/format)

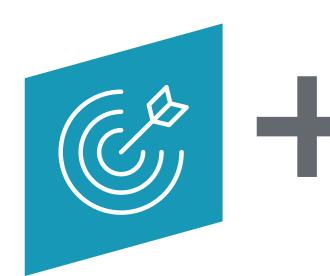


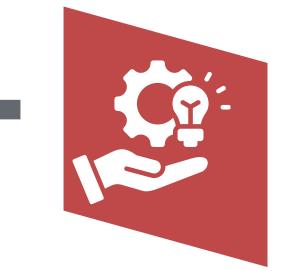
Format and Style

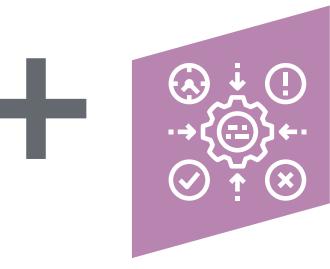
Keyword	Meaning
List	Use bullets or numbering
Table	Use rows and columns
Dialogue	Characters speaking
Poem	Rhythmic or rhyming text
Article	Informative or opinion piece
Script	For plays, movies, or staged dialogue
With examples	Include sample cases
Step by step	Sequential, detailed instruction
For children	Simple, age-appropriate language
With humor	Light, funny tone
With images	Request image generation or visual description
In bullets	Use bullet points for summary











Perfect for academic, professional, and communication-heavy contexts.

Objective

Context

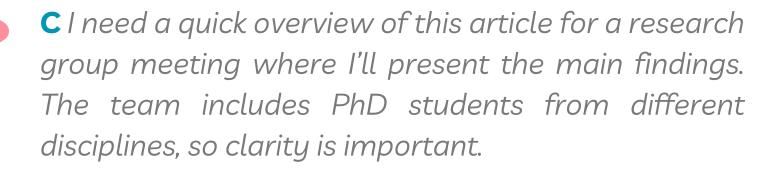
Expectations

Objective → Summarize, translate, organize, generate a post, a letter, etc.

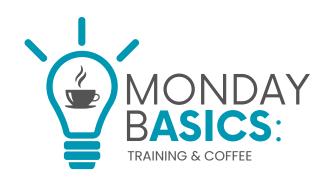
Context → Why do you need it? Who is affected? What are you trying to achieve?

Expectations → What kind of response should the Al give? Output format, tone, source of information

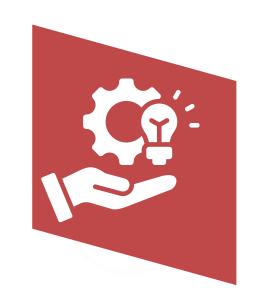




E Provide 3 key findings and 2 open questions in bullet points. Use clear, accessible language suitable for non-experts in the specific field.







Context / Audience

"Rewrite this for 12-year-old students."

"Adapt this text for a professional audience."

"Make this suitable for a beginner."

"Rewrite this explanation so a first-year engeneering student with no background can understand it."



Write a brief monologue to introduce an AI prompting course, including some example tasks ChatGPT can help with related to aptamers, biofuel cells, and similar topics. Make it humorous and engaging to capture the attention of the audience (PhD students, professors, and postdocs). The monologue should take maxium 45 seconds when read aloud.





ROCEF Technique



R-Role

Not explicitly assigned (implicit: 'Act as a presenter')



O- Objective

Write a brief monologue to introduce an AI prompting course...



C- Context

"...PhD students, professors, and postdocs"



E- Example

"...including some example tasks ChatGPT can help with realted to aptamers, biofuel cells, and similar topics."



F- Format

"...no longer than 45 seconds when read aloud." and "Make it humorous and engaging."



Use ROCEF technique when you need:

- More detailed and structured instructions
- To define the Role, Objective, Context, Example, and Format
- Output that must be precise, well-scoped, and tailored for clarity
- To describe a complex task or data-heavy information





PROMPT 2: Case

"Generate a realistic 3D image of a middle-aged female professor standing in a university classroom adressing an audience. Behind her, there is a blackboard with the following bullet-point text:

- 1. Rewrite a reviewer response
- 2. Summarize a meeting
- 3. Translate an abstract
- 4. Polish a bio
- 5. Suggest titles for an article

The image should be in landscape orientation (16:9)".





TREE Technique:



T- Task

"Generate a realistic 3D image of a middle-aged female professor..." clearly defines what is being asked.



R- Restrictions

"Behind her there is a blackboard, adressing an audience, landscape orientation (16:9)", sets technical and visual constraints.



E- Example

"Bullet-point text:

1. Rewrite a reviewer response / 2. Summarize a meeting / 3. Translate an abstract / 4. Polish a bio / 5. Suggest titles for an article" suggests example content for the background.



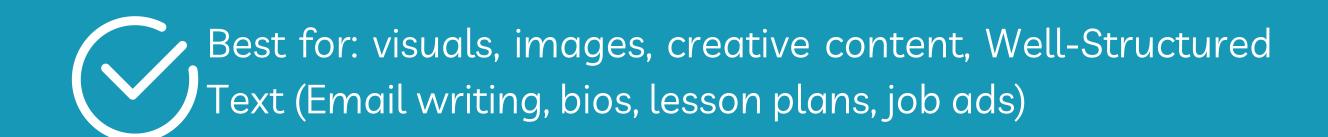
E-Style

"Realistic 3D image" defines the desired visual tone and style.



Use TREE technique when you want:

- To cearly define creative or structured output
- The Al's response to follow **specific rules**, **examples**, or a **particular style**.



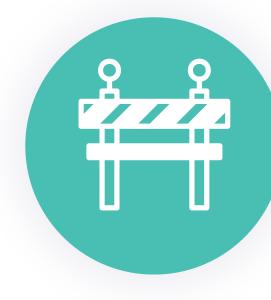


4 PRACTICAL TIPS













Skip Formalities

Avoid unnecessary phrases like "please" or "could you

✓ Instead of: "Could you maybe help me write a summary?"

Try: "Summarize this text in 3 bullet points."

Use Delimiters

Separate input to clearly show where your input begins and ends (use // or sections)

Break Down tasks

For complex tasks, break down to get a better response.

X "Explain what a sorting algorithm is, describe how bubble sort works, and give an example with [5,2,8,1,9]."

✓ Break it into:

What is a sorting algorithm?
How does bubble sort work?
Give a step-by-step example using
[5,2,8,1,9]

Positive sentences

Negations confuse the IA models.

- X "Don't use slang, avoid emojis, don't be informal."
- "Write a formal email using professional language, include a polite greeting, maintain a respectful tone, and close with a courteous sign-off."



WHATIS CHATGPT?

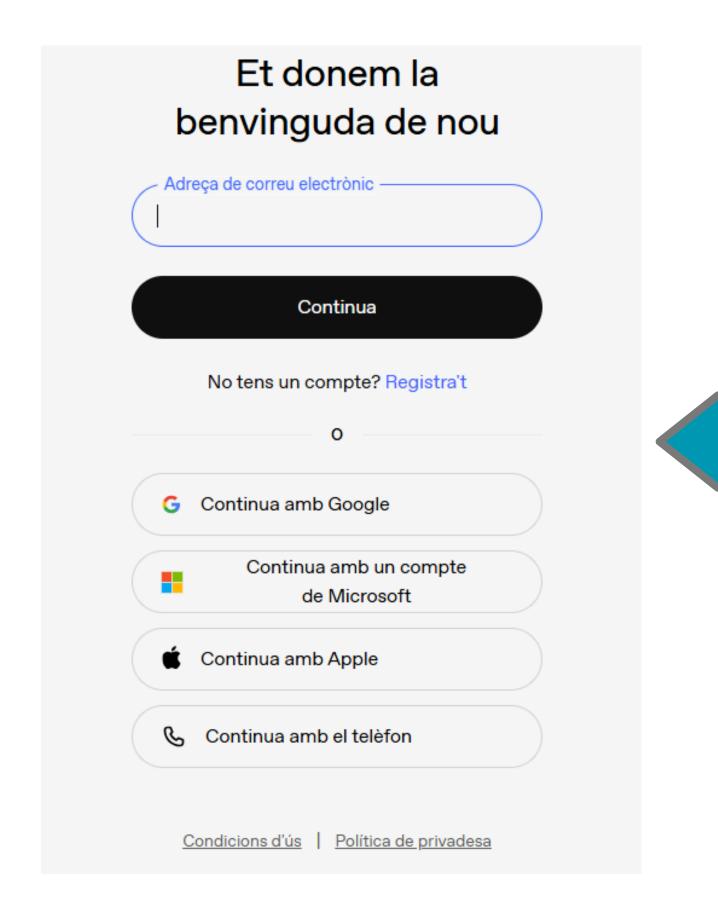
A large-language model that can generate text, answer questions, and help with literature, data interpretation, and idea generation.





CHATGPT BASICS

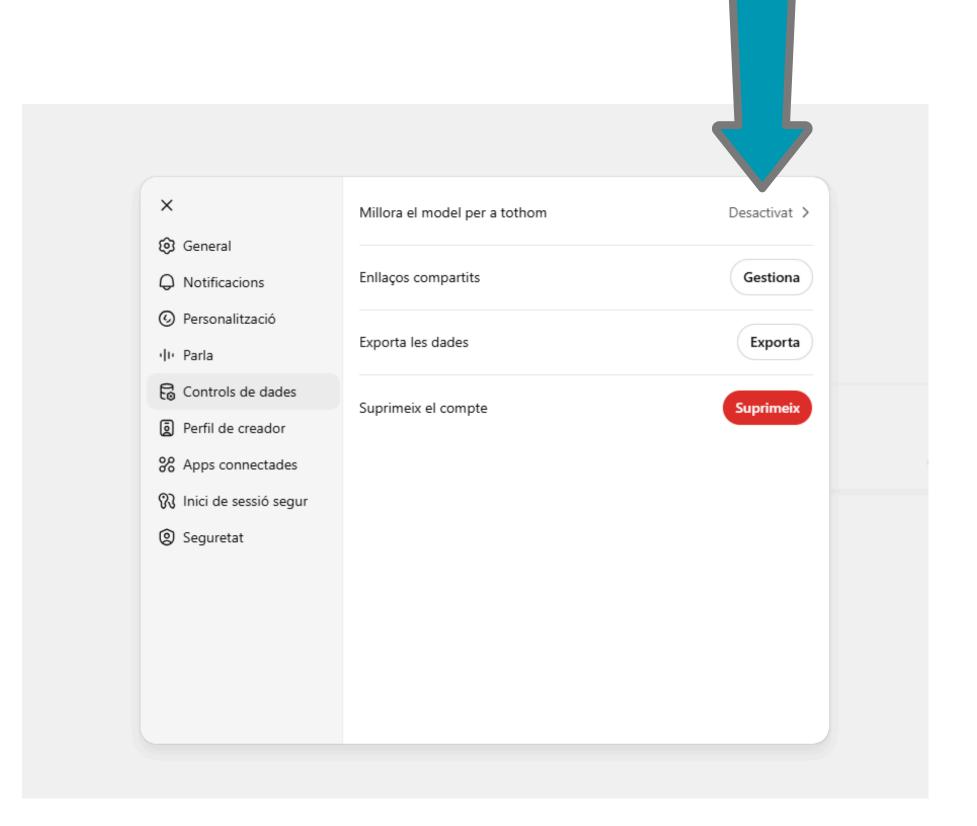
1. Create an account





CHATGPT BASICS

2. Activate private connection





Summary Table

File security/encryption

Stronger privacy guarantees

2. Activate private connection

(same core encryption)

If you work with student data, internal documents, research, or personal information, choose ChatGPT Pro or disable training in ChatGPT Free.

×

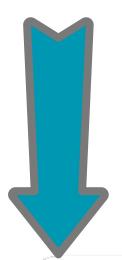


CHATGPT BASICS

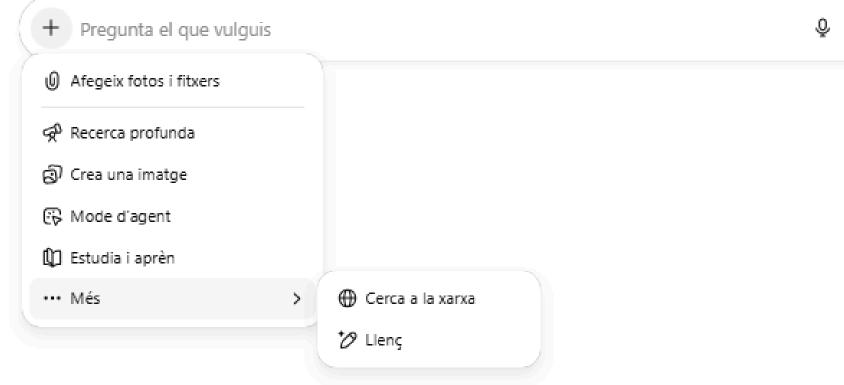
3. Choose the action







En què estàs treballant?

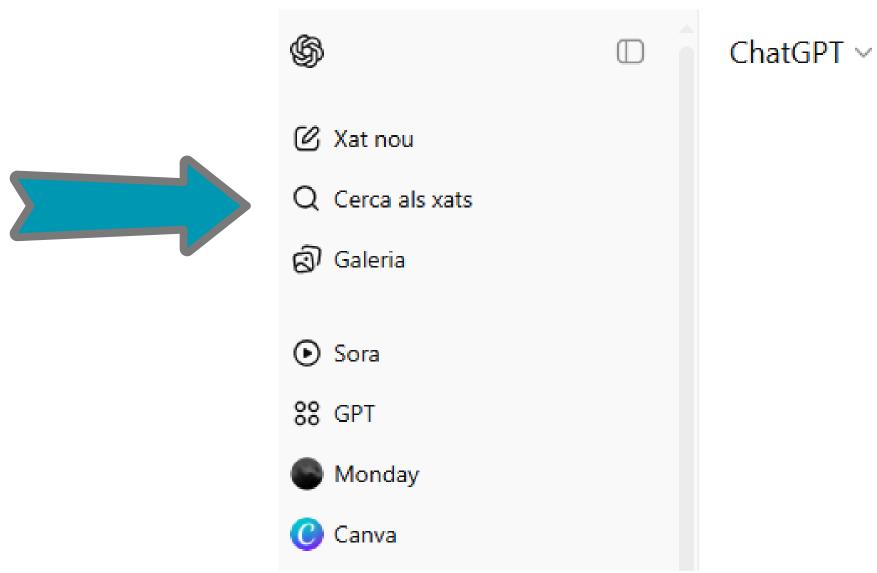


- **1. Add photos and files:** Upload images, documents, or files for ChatGPT to analyze, explain, or edit.
- **2. Deep Search:** Enables advanced web searches to get current, reliable information.
- **3. Create an image:** Generates images from descriptions—drawings, illustrations, logos, icons, etc.
- **4. Agent Mode:** Activates specialized agents that can perform specific tasks (coding, data work, etc.).
- **5. Study and Learn:** tutoring style. Educational tools such as summarizing, exam prep, concept explanations, or creating activities.
- 6. Search the web: Searches for real-time information online.
- **7. Canvas:** Opens a writing and editing workspace to reorganize, expand, or refine text easily.



CHATGPT BASICS

5. Search & GPT's





Improve a Weak Prompt (Using ROCEF or TREE)

Instructions:

Choose one of these weak prompts (or another from your own research area):"Explain this."

- "Write something about my project."
 "Help me summarize this article."
- "Fix this text."

Task:

Rewrite the chosen weak prompt using ROCEF or TREE to make it clear, specific, structured, and actionable.



OUTCOME

The promt shouyld include:

- A clear Role
- A precise Objective
- Relevant Context or Examples
- Required Format
- Any Restrictions