

Along with our Approach to GenAl use, the following examples show effective GenAl use for learning that you can use in the classroom.

You can demonstrate effective GenAl use for building knowledge and enhancing retention through self-paced activities aligned to learning outcomes.

How can GenAl be used as a learning assistant?

Using generative AI (GenAI) as a learning assistant means using it like a tutor. As with any good tutor, it needs to know the learner context.

For example, GenAl will need to know:

- the stage of learning
- the area of study
- the English language abilities (B1, B2, C1) of the student, and
- the specific issue the student is facing.

Like a teacher, it will also ask questions and provide example prompts which are often helpful. Students can then:

- read them
- respond yes or no to suggestions
- click on sample prompts
- ask GenAl to provide memorisation strategies
- ask GenAl to create quizzes that can be done in real time with immediate feedback.



Example 1: Simplifying complex concepts

Context: Learners have different levels of knowledge about the topics being studied in their course. GenAl can help assist both under and over-achieving learners to simplify complex concepts.

Example prompt

I am a first-year university student studying media communications. English is an additional language, I am around B2 level. I am trying to understand concept 'X', but I'm finding it difficult. Can you help me?

Follow up prompt

Can you test my understanding of concept 'X'? I want to answer some quiz questions, and you check my answers and give me feedback.



Example 2: Exploring more about topics being studied

Context: Students don't generally have access to a teacher 24/7. If they have unanswered questions about what they're studying, they can use GenAl to help.

Example prompt

- Can you explain 'concept X'.
- Can you describe 'concept X' and why it's important to 'subject X'.
- What's the difference between 'concept X' and 'concept Y'?

Follow up prompt

- Can you test me on my understanding of 'concept X'.
- What are some helpful ways to remember 'concept X'?





Example 3: Conducting basic research

Context: Academic databases can be overwhelming for inexperienced users. GenAl can help narrow down searches for students by providing authors and titles, suggesting texts to read for specific concepts and identifying differing perspectives.

Example prompt

- Can you tell me the 5 most important authors and the title of their most important academic papers in the field of 'X'? (use the names and authors provided to search in a credible database, such as the UTS library database)
- What should I read if I want to know more about design thinking?
- l'm looking for an academic source that provides a counter argument to this statement: Museums are more inspiring to history students than textbooks.



Example 4: Unpacking assignment briefs

Context: Assessment briefs should always be as easy to understand as possible. However, some students still find them difficult to follow. GenAl can help with this, but when doing assessment related work, students should remind the GenAl tool that they do not want to breach academic integrity. Testing has shown that setting up a chat this way in Copilot or ChatGPT may lead to interactions that do not breach academic integrity. For example, the tool may not respond to requests to write the assessment for the student.

Example prompt

I want you to help me develop my assignment, but I only want help that does not breach academic integrity. Here is the assessment brief.





Example 5: Creating study plans

Context: Students may find it hard to manage their time, especially in the early stages of higher education.

Example prompt

I'm starting a new semester at my college.
I have 3 subjects to study that I need to do at least 10 hours of homework for per subject each week, and additional face-to-face class time. But I also have to work 20 hours per week. Can you make some suggestions on how to manage my time effectively?



Example 6: Creating word lists

Context: Students can use a text from their studies and ask GenAl to help them identify key terms for the subject or concept being studied.

Example prompt

I want to make a vocabulary list so that I can more easily learn this new vocabulary. Can you identify 20 of the key terms for this text, make a list and add definitions?

These six examples show how students can use GenAl to support learning and understanding, with prompts that encourage effective use while reducing misconduct.

Want to know more?

Visit our website to find a range of materials and information on GenAl and much more to support you and your students:

utscollege.edu.au/unlocked

Contact

If your school would like to find out more about UTS College or meet with our staff, please email:

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