

C.L.A.S.S tips for writing generative AI prompts



A prompt is the instruction we give to the generative AI tool. With good prompts, gen AI tools can produce useful outputs we want and save us time, which can help us with many different tasks. Follow the 5 tips below to write effective prompts. Remember: **C.L.A.S.S.**

Tip 1

Clarify your language

Write your **instructions** in everyday, **conversational language** and make the message **easy to understand**. Give direct instructions as if you are talking to a helpful friend with knowledge about the topic.



Example:

“Write a **summary** of the development of the UK video game industry.”



Tip 2

Limit length

By including a word limit in your prompts, the output created will suit your purpose better.



Example:

“Write a summary of the development of the UK video game industry **in less than 500 words**.”

Tip 3

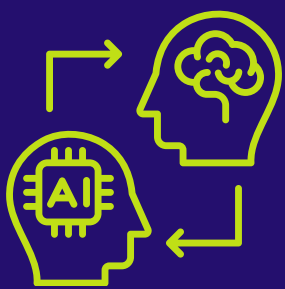
Add detail

Give details. Specify the topic, the purpose, who the output is for. Experiment with prompts; if the output is not perfect, give follow-up prompts and get the AI tool to refine the output.



Example:

“Write a summary of the development of the UK video game industry in less than 500 words **as an article for an online magazine for international students in the UK**.”



Tip 4

Seek clarification

Tell the gen AI tool to ask you questions to get any additional information it needs before producing the output. This ensures the output includes the specific information or focus you want.



Example:

“Write a summary of the development of the UK video game industry in less than 500 words as an article for an online magazine for international students. **Before starting your output, ask me any relevant questions that will make the article better.**”

Tip 5

Specify the format

State how you want your output to be presented, e.g. as a list, an email, an academic article. This helps generative AI to tailor it to your needs.



Example:

“Write a summary of the development of the UK video game industry in less than 500 words **as a 4-paragraph article** for an online magazine for international students. Before starting your output, ask me any relevant questions that will make the article better.”