

Experimenting with Words to See What Claude Does Next Answer Key

Experiment 1 - From Simple to Specific

Sample Claude Responses:

Version 1: "Cats are small mammals often kept as pets. They are known for their independence and hunting skills."

Version 2: Hunt small animals like birds or mice.

Use camouflage and patience when stalking prey.

Depend on sharp senses to detect danger and food.

What Changed:

- The first answer was general, almost like a Wikipedia summary.
- The second was organized, detailed, and clearly followed the instruction to use bullet points.
- Students should recognize that giving Claude *formatting instructions* ("using bullet points") and *context* ("in the wild") makes the response more useful and focused.

Experiment 2 - Controlling the Style

Sample Claude Responses:

- *Version 1:* "Space is a vast area filled with stars, planets, and galaxies. It is mostly empty and has no air."
- *Version 2:* "Space stretches endlessly, a velvet ocean of glittering lights whispering secrets from a million years ago."

What Changed:

- The first version was factual and scientific.
- The second used poetic language and emotion because the prompt changed the *tone and role*.
- A strong student will point out that Claude adjusted vocabulary, rhythm, and imagery to match the tone requested.