

Name _____

The Case of the Missing Context Sample Answer Key

Case 1 - Bad Prompt: "Write about sports."

What's Missing? Type of sport, perspective, audience, purpose, and format.

Improved Prompt: "Write a one-page article for a school newspaper about why soccer is the most popular sport in the world, including at least two examples of international tournaments."

Case 2 - Bad Prompt: "Explain technology."

What's Missing? Which technology? Explain for whom? In what depth?

Improved Prompt: "Explain how smartphones have changed daily life in the past 20 years, using simple language that a middle school student could understand."

Case 3 - Bad Prompt: "Make a presentation."

What's Missing? Topic, audience, number of slides, tone.

Improved Prompt: "Create a 5-slide presentation for 6th graders about the importance of recycling, with each slide containing a short title and 2–3 bullet points."

Case 4 - Bad Prompt: "Write about animals."

What's Missing? Which animal(s)? Scientific or creative approach? Audience?

Improved Prompt: "Write a two-paragraph informative piece about sea turtles, focusing on their life cycle and why they are endangered."

Case 5 - Bad Prompt: "Tell me how to do something."

What's Missing? What task? Level of detail? Who is the learner?

Improved Prompt: "Give clear step-by-step instructions for teaching someone how to tie their shoes, written as if you're explaining it to a young child."