Prompt Smarter, Cite Better

Learn how to craft effective prompts that guide AI tools toward providing clear, verifiable, and citable information. Design three thoughtful prompts that would help generate responses supported by identifiable sources. Then analyze how your wording choices could improve the accuracy, transparency, and reliability of the AI's output.

When you ask an AI a question, the way you *phrase* your prompt shapes the kind of answer you receive. A vague or general prompt may lead to generic, unsourced statements. A specific, citation-focused prompt encourages the AI to draw from identifiable evidence, reference credible publications, or clarify where its information originated. For example:

Weak prompt: "Explain climate change in simple terms."

Stronger prompt: "Explain climate change using data from peer-reviewed scientific studies or major research organizations, and describe where this information typically comes from."

Notice how the stronger prompt doesn't just ask *for information*-it asks for *traceability*. That's the foundation of academic citation and research integrity.

Design Three Prompts

Write three original prompts that would help produce AI responses with **traceable, credible sources.** Think about how a teacher, journalist, or scientist might phrase questions to demand specificity and source transparency.

Prompt 1:

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Prompt 2:

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Prompt 3:

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