

Name _____

Two-Perspective Reading: Small vs. Big AI Models

Read both opinion pieces carefully. Each one highlights a different perspective on whether small or big AI models are more valuable.

Opinion Piece 1: In Praise of Small Models - Small language models may not make the headlines like their massive counterparts, but they are the unsung heroes of AI. Their strength lies in efficiency. A small model can run directly on a laptop or even a smartphone, without relying on internet connections or powerful servers. This independence is vital for schools, small businesses, or communities with limited resources. Small models are also far cheaper to run, meaning more people can access them without worrying about costs. While they may not deliver the most advanced reasoning or handle highly technical problems, their speed, affordability, and practicality make them the smarter choice for everyday needs.



Opinion Piece 2: In Praise of Big Models - Big language models represent the cutting edge of artificial intelligence. Trained on vast amounts of data, they can produce highly detailed, nuanced, and accurate responses. They excel in advanced reasoning, creative writing, and accurate translations across many languages. This makes them indispensable for researchers, global companies, and professionals who need the very best performance. While big models are slower and more expensive to operate, their depth of knowledge and ability to handle complex problems cannot be matched by smaller systems. For tasks that demand accuracy and sophistication, big models are the clear winner.

Instructions: List at least three key arguments made in each opinion piece. Write them in your own words.

Arguments for Small Models

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Arguments for Big Models

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Reflection Questions

1. Which arguments do you find most convincing, and why?
2. Do you think small and big models should be seen as competitors, or as tools that complement each other? Explain.