

# The Complete AI Prompt Library for Students

A field-tested collection of prompts designed around the real problems students face: understanding hard concepts, retaining what they learn, managing time, writing essays, preparing for exams, building skills, and growing as a person. Copy any prompt below, fill in the placeholders in `[BRACKETS]`, and paste it to your AI assistant.

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## How to Get the Best Out of These Prompts

Three principles will multiply the quality of every answer you get:

1. **Give context.** "Explain photosynthesis" is weak. "Explain photosynthesis to a 10th grader who already understands cells but not chemistry" is strong. Always tell the AI: your level, your goal, and what you already know.
  2. **Specify the format.** Ask for tables, step-by-step lists, analogies, or quizzes. The AI will deliver almost anything if you describe it clearly.
  3. **Iterate, don't restart.** If the first answer isn't right, say "Make it simpler," "Give me 3 more examples," or "Now quiz me on this." Conversations beat single questions.
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## 1. Understanding & Mastering Concepts

### 1.1 The Feynman Explainer

Explain `[CONCEPT]` to me as if I were a curious 12-year-old who has never heard of it. Use simple words, one everyday analogy, and a concrete example. After the explanation, list the 3 most common misconceptions people have about this topic.

### 1.2 Five Levels of Depth

Explain `[CONCEPT]` at five increasing levels of difficulty: (1) child, (2) teenager, (3) college student, (4) graduate student, (5) expert. At each level, change both the vocabulary and the depth of detail.

### 1.3 The Analogy Generator

Give me 3 different analogies for `[CONCEPT]`, drawn from different domains (e.g., sports, cooking, computers, nature). For each analogy, point out where it works and where it breaks down.

### 1.4 Concept Map Builder

Create a concept map for `[TOPIC]`. List the central idea, then 5-7 related sub-concepts. For each sub-concept, show how it links back to the main idea and to the other sub-concepts. Format as an indented outline.

## 1.5 Compare and Contrast

Compare  and  in a table with these columns: definition, key features, when it applies, common confusions, real-world example. End with one sentence on the single most important difference.

## 1.6 The "Why Does This Matter?" Prompt

I'm studying  in my  class. Explain why this topic matters: where it shows up in real life, what jobs use it, and what bigger questions in the field depend on it.

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## 2. Memorization & Retention

### 2.1 Mnemonic Maker

Create a memorable mnemonic device for remembering . Give me three options: an acronym, a short rhyming sentence, and a vivid mental image. Tell me which one is likely to stick best and why.

### 2.2 Active Recall Quiz

Generate 10 active-recall questions about . Mix easy factual questions with harder application questions. Ask me one question at a time, wait for my answer, then tell me if I'm right and explain the correct answer before moving on.

### 2.3 Spaced Repetition Flashcards

Convert these notes into 15 flashcards in question/answer format. Each question should test one specific fact or concept. Keep answers under 25 words. Notes:

### 2.4 Memory Palace Designer

Help me build a memory palace to remember . Use my home as the location (entrance, living room, kitchen, bedroom, bathroom). For each item, attach a vivid, weird, or funny image to one location.

### 2.5 The Forgetting Curve Planner

I just learned  today. Build me a review schedule based on spaced repetition: when should I review this again — tomorrow, in 3 days, in a week, etc. — and what kind of review (re-read, self-quiz, teach someone) should I do each time?

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## 3. Study Planning & Time Management

### 3.1 Weekly Study Plan

Build me a weekly study plan. I have  hours available per week. My subjects and

their relative priorities are: . My exam dates are: . My energy is highest in the . Schedule deep work sessions, breaks, and lighter review sessions.

### 3.2 Exam Countdown Plan

My exam on  is in  days. The topics I need to cover are: . I feel weakest on . Build me a day-by-day study plan that front-loads my weak areas, alternates with review, and ends with full practice tests in the last 3 days.

### 3.3 Procrastination Breakdown

I'm procrastinating on . Ask me 5 short questions to figure out why — is it the size, fear of failure, boredom, unclear next step, or something else? Based on my answers, suggest one concrete 10-minute action I can take right now.

### 3.4 Pomodoro Session Designer

Design a 3-hour study block for me using the Pomodoro technique. I'm working on . Tell me exactly what to do in each 25-minute focus session and what to do in each break to actually rest (not scroll).

### 3.5 The Eisenhower Matrix

Help me sort these tasks into an urgent/important matrix: . Suggest which to do first, which to schedule, which to delegate or ask for help with, and which to drop.

### 3.6 Daily Top 3

Here's everything on my plate today: . Help me pick the 3 most important things to actually finish, in order. Explain why those three. Suggest a realistic time estimate for each.

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## 4. Note-Taking & Summarization

### 4.1 Cornell Notes Converter

Convert the following lecture/reading material into Cornell-style notes: a "cues" column with key questions, a "notes" column with detailed content, and a 2-3 sentence summary at the bottom. Material:

### 4.2 Chapter to Mind Map

Read this chapter and turn it into a hierarchical mind map. Central idea at the top, 4-6 main branches, and 2-4 sub-branches under each. Use short phrases, not sentences. Chapter:

### 4.3 The 3-Layer Summary

Summarize  three times: (1) a single sentence, (2) a single paragraph, (3) a one-page

summary with the main argument and supporting points. After all three, list the 5 most important quotes or facts I should remember.

#### 4.4 Key Terms Extractor

Pull out the 10–15 most important terms and definitions from this material: . Format as a glossary. Mark which terms are essential for an exam versus useful background.

#### 4.5 Lecture-to-Notes

Here's a rough transcript of my lecture: . Clean it up into structured notes with headings, bullet points under each, and a 5-line summary at the end. Flag anything that sounds confused or contradictory.

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### 5. Test & Exam Preparation

#### 5.1 Custom Practice Exam

Generate a -question practice exam on . Mix multiple choice, short answer, and one essay question. Match the difficulty of a  exam. Don't show the answers yet — I'll send my responses and you grade them.

#### 5.2 Weak-Area Detector

Here are my answers to a practice quiz: . Identify which underlying concepts I'm getting wrong (not just which questions). Group my mistakes by root cause. Recommend what to study next, in priority order.

#### 5.3 Past-Paper Analyzer

Here's a past exam paper from my course: . Identify recurring question types, the topics that show up most, and the difficulty pattern. Predict what's likely to appear on my upcoming exam and what I should focus on.

#### 5.4 The Examiner Simulation

Act as a tough but fair examiner for . Ask me 5 oral exam questions on , one at a time. After each answer, grade me 1-10, explain what was missing, and follow up with a harder question that probes deeper.

#### 5.5 Last-Night Cram Strategy

My exam on  is tomorrow morning and I haven't studied enough. Help me triage. What are the highest-yield topics to focus on tonight? What should I skip entirely? Give me a 4-hour plan that includes sleep and review in the morning.

#### 5.6 Error Log Review

Here are mistakes I made on recent practice problems: . Categorize them:

careless errors, conceptual gaps, exam-strategy issues, or knowledge gaps. For each category, suggest one specific habit or technique to fix it.

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## 6. Writing & Essays

### 6.1 Thesis Statement Workshop

I'm writing an essay on  for . The prompt is: . Give me 4 possible thesis statements ranging from safe to bold. For each, explain what kind of essay it sets up and how hard it would be to defend.

### 6.2 Essay Outline Builder

My thesis is: . The essay should be  and follow  (e.g., MLA, APA, argumentative, analytical). Build me an outline: introduction with hook, 3-5 body paragraphs each with a topic sentence and 2-3 evidence points, and a conclusion that does more than restate the thesis.

### 6.3 The Devil's Advocate

Read my essay draft and play devil's advocate. What are the 3 strongest counterarguments to my thesis? Where is my evidence weakest? Where would a hostile reader catch me cutting corners? Draft:

### 6.4 Sentence-Level Editor

Edit the following paragraph for clarity, flow, and concision — but keep my voice. Show me a tracked version with  →  for each change, and a one-line note on why.  
Paragraph:

### 6.5 Hook & Conclusion Generator

Here's my essay's thesis and main argument: . Write me 3 different opening hooks (anecdote, surprising fact, provocative question) and 3 different closings (call to action, broader implication, reflective question). Tell me which combo lands hardest.

### 6.6 Grammar & Style Polish

Proofread this for grammar, punctuation, and awkward phrasing. List each issue, the fix, and the rule behind it so I can learn the pattern. Text:

### 6.7 Citation Helper

Format these sources in  style: . For each, also show me the in-text citation. Flag anything that looks like it might be missing required information.

### 6.8 The Reader's Reaction

Read my essay and tell me, paragraph by paragraph, what you (as a thoughtful reader) are

thinking and feeling. Where do you get lost? Where do you nod along? Where do you want more? Essay:

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## 7. Research & Critical Thinking

### 7.1 Source Quality Check

I found this source for my research on : . Evaluate it: who's the author, what's their angle, what's the evidence quality, and what other sources should I cross-check it against?

### 7.2 Steel-Manning Practice

I believe . Build the strongest possible version of the opposing view — the one I'd struggle most to refute. Be intellectually honest, not strawman-y.

### 7.3 Literature Review Starter

I'm researching . Map out the field for me: what are the major schools of thought, who are the key thinkers, what are the foundational papers/books, and what are the active debates right now? Suggest 5 reading starting points in a sensible order.

### 7.4 Logical Fallacy Detector

Read this argument and identify any logical fallacies, hidden assumptions, or weak inferences: . For each issue, name the fallacy and rewrite that part more honestly.

### 7.5 The Five Whys

Help me get to the root of . Ask "why?" five times, each level digging deeper, until we reach a fundamental cause. Then summarize the insight.

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## 8. Math & Problem Solving

### 8.1 Step-by-Step Solver

Solve this problem step by step, explaining the reasoning at each step like a patient tutor would. Don't skip algebra. After the solution, explain the general method so I can apply it to similar problems. Problem:

### 8.2 Conceptual Unlock

I keep getting  wrong. Don't just solve one — explain the underlying concept, why students typically struggle with it, and the mental model that makes it click.

### 8.3 Worked Examples to Practice

Give me 3 worked examples of  in increasing difficulty. Walk through each.

Then give me 5 unsolved practice problems at similar difficulty levels. Wait for my answers before showing solutions.

## 8.4 Word Problem Decoder

Here's a word problem I'm stuck on: . Don't solve it yet. First, help me extract: what's given, what's asked, what's the relevant formula or concept, what should the units be. Then guide me to set up the equation myself.

## 8.5 Check My Work

Here's my solution: . Don't tell me if I'm right or wrong yet. Walk through my work step by step and tell me where (if anywhere) my reasoning first goes off. Then explain the fix without solving the whole thing for me.

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# 9. Reading Comprehension

## 9.1 Active Reading Companion

I'm about to read . Before I start: give me 3 guiding questions to keep in mind, 5 key terms I'll probably encounter, and what to look for in the author's argument.

## 9.2 Dense Text Translator

Translate this difficult passage into plain modern English without losing the meaning. Then explain what makes it hard to read (vocabulary, sentence structure, hidden context). Passage:

## 9.3 Discussion Question Generator

Generate 8 discussion questions about  for a study group. Mix factual comprehension, interpretive, and critical/applied questions. The hardest one should genuinely challenge an A-student.

## 9.4 Theme & Symbol Tracker

I'm reading . Identify the major themes, recurring symbols, and motifs. For each, give 2-3 textual moments where they appear and what they suggest about the author's intent.

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# 10. Language Learning

## 10.1 Conversation Partner

Let's practice . My level is . Have a casual conversation with me about . After each of my replies, gently correct any errors and suggest one more natural way I could have said it.

## 10.2 Vocabulary in Context

Teach me 10 new `[LANGUAGE]` words related to `[TOPIC]`. For each word: meaning, pronunciation guide, a sample sentence at my level, and one memory hook to help it stick.

## 10.3 Grammar Pattern Drill

Give me a focused lesson on `[GRAMMAR POINT]` in `[LANGUAGE]`. Start with the rule in simple terms, then 5 example sentences, then 5 fill-in-the-blank exercises. Wait for my answers before correcting.

## 10.4 Cultural Context Layer

When `[LANGUAGE]` speakers say `[PHRASE/EXPRESSION]`, what do they really mean? Cover literal meaning, common situations it's used in, register (formal/casual), and any cultural background a foreigner would miss.

## 10.5 Native-Sounding Rewriter

Here's something I wrote in `[LANGUAGE]`: `[PASTE]`. Rewrite it the way a native speaker my age would say it. Mark each change and explain whether it's grammar, idiom, or just naturalness.

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# 11. Coding & Technical Skills

## 11.1 Code Explainer

Explain what this code does, line by line, in plain English. Then summarize the overall purpose in one paragraph. Flag anything that's unusual, inefficient, or could break. Code: `[PASTE]`

## 11.2 Debug Together

My code isn't working. Here's the code: `[PASTE]`. Here's the error or unexpected behavior: `[DESCRIBE]`. Don't just fix it. Walk me through how you'd diagnose the bug, then suggest the fix, then explain how to avoid this class of bug.

## 11.3 Concept-First Tutorial

Teach me `[CONCEPT - e.g., recursion, hash maps, async/await]`. Start with the intuition (why it exists, what problem it solves), then a minimal example, then a slightly harder one, then 3 practice problems. Don't show solutions until I try.

## 11.4 Project Idea Generator

I'm learning `[LANGUAGE/Framework]` and want to build a portfolio project. My current skill level is `[BEGINNER/etc.]` and I'm interested in `[DOMAIN]`. Suggest 5 project ideas with increasing complexity. For each, list the key skills it would teach and a rough scope.

## 11.5 Code Review

Review this code as a senior developer would. Comment on readability, naming, structure, edge cases, and performance. Be specific. Suggest concrete improvements with examples.

Code:

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## 12. Projects & Group Work

### 12.1 Project Scoping

I have a project on  due in . Help me scope it: what's a realistic deliverable, what milestones should I hit each week, what could go wrong, and what's the minimum viable version if I run out of time?

### 12.2 Brainstorm to Concept

I need a project idea for . Constraints: . Generate 10 ideas ranging from safe to ambitious. For each, give a one-line pitch, the wow factor, and the main risk.

### 12.3 Group Coordination Plan

Our group of  is working on . Our strengths are: . Help us divide tasks fairly, set a shared timeline, and design a check-in cadence. Suggest how to handle a teammate who falls behind.

### 12.4 Final Quality Check

Here's my finished project/draft: . Audit it as a strict grader would against these criteria: . What would lose me points? What's already strong?

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## 13. Career Exploration & Future Skills

### 13.1 Career Path Explorer

I'm interested in  and good at . Map out 5 different career paths I could pursue, including some non-obvious ones. For each: what the day-to-day looks like, typical pay range, education needed, and how the field is changing over the next decade.

### 13.2 Skill Gap Analyzer

My dream role is . Here's my current skills/experience: . Identify the gap honestly. Prioritize what to learn first, what's a "nice-to-have," and what I can probably skip. Suggest free or cheap resources for each.

### 13.3 Resume Draft & Critique

## 13.4 Mock Interview

Conduct a mock interview for **[ROLE]**. Ask me one question at a time — mix behavioral, technical, and curveball questions. After each answer, give honest feedback on content, structure (e.g., STAR method), and delivery. Then ask the next question.

## 13.5 Networking Message Drafts

I want to reach out to **[PERSON / TYPE OF PERSON]** on **[PLATFORM]**. My goal is **[INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEW / MENTORSHIP / etc.]**. Draft 3 short messages with different tones: warm, professional, curious. Keep each under 100 words.

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## 14. Communication & Soft Skills

### 14.1 Presentation Designer

I'm presenting on **[TOPIC]** for **[DURATION]** to **[AUDIENCE]**. Help me design it: a hook, 3 main points with one memorable example each, a transition pattern, and a strong close. Suggest where I might pause or ask a question to keep the audience engaged.

### 14.2 The Difficult Email

I need to email my **[PROFESSOR/BOSS/CLASSMATE]** about **[SITUATION - e.g., missed deadline, asking for help, disputing a grade]**. Draft 2 versions: one polite-and-direct, one more apologetic-and-soft. Tell me which is more likely to work and why.

### 14.3 The Tough Conversation

I need to have a conversation with **[PERSON]** about **[ISSUE]**. I want the outcome to be **[GOAL]**. Help me think through: what to lead with, what they're likely to say, how to stay calm, and what concession or compromise looks like.

### 14.4 Public Speaking Prep

I'm anxious about presenting **[TOPIC]**. Help me prep: 5 questions the audience might ask (with answers), one self-deprecating opening line if I freeze, and three grounding techniques I can use right before I go on.

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## 15. Motivation, Mindset & Wellbeing

### 15.1 Stuck-and-Overwhelmed Reset

I'm overwhelmed. Here's what's on my plate: **[LIST]**. I'm feeling **[EMOTION]**. Don't lecture

me — just help me pick one tiny next step I can actually do in the next 15 minutes. Then we go from there.

## 15.2 Growth Mindset Reframe

I just failed/struggled with ([SITUATION]) and I'm telling myself ([NEGATIVE SELF-TALK]). Help me reframe this from a growth-mindset perspective. What's the lesson, what's still in my control, and what's one thing I can try differently next time?

## 15.3 Motivation Diagnostic

I've lost motivation for ([SUBJECT/GOAL]). Ask me 5 questions to figure out why — is it boredom, burnout, wrong fit, perfectionism, lack of progress? Based on my answers, suggest a small experiment to test the cause.

## 15.4 Study Anxiety Help

I get anxious before/during exams or presentations. I want practical techniques, not generic advice. Give me 5 evidence-based methods (e.g., specific breathing patterns, cognitive reframes, preparation rituals), each with how-to steps.

## 15.5 Energy & Focus Audit

Here's a typical day for me: ([DESCRIBE]). My energy crashes around ([TIME]). Help me audit: what's draining me, what's restoring me, and what small adjustments to sleep, food, movement, or screen habits would have the biggest impact?

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# 16. Reflection & Self-Growth

## 16.1 Weekly Review

Walk me through a weekly reflection. Ask me one question at a time: what went well, what didn't, what I learned, what I want to do differently next week, and what I'm proud of. End with a one-sentence theme for the week.

## 16.2 Learning Journal Prompt

I just finished studying/working on ([TOPIC OR TASK]). Ask me 3 reflection questions that go beyond "what did I learn?" — probe for surprise, confusion, connection to other ideas, and how I'd teach this to someone else.

## 16.3 Goal Setting (Real, Not Wishful)

Help me turn ([VAGUE GOAL]) into a real plan. Apply something like SMART or OKRs. Then stress-test it: what could derail this, what's the minimum viable version, and what's the first action I'll take in the next 24 hours?

## 16.4 Strengths and Patterns

Here are some recent wins and struggles I've had: `[LIST]`. What patterns do you notice? What does this suggest about my strengths, my failure modes, and the kind of environment I do best in?

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## Bonus: Prompts That Make AI a Better Tutor

These meta-prompts upgrade how the AI works with you across any subject.

### Be a Tutor, Not an Answer Machine

From now on, act as a Socratic tutor for `[SUBJECT]`. Don't give me answers directly. Ask leading questions, give hints, and let me struggle just enough to learn. Only give the answer if I explicitly ask, or after 3 wrong attempts.

### Calibrate to My Level

Before answering my questions about `[SUBJECT]`, ask me 3 short questions to gauge what I already know. Then pitch your explanations exactly one notch above my current level — challenging but not overwhelming.

### Show Your Reasoning

For every answer, also show me how you got there: what you considered, what alternatives you ruled out, and how confident you are. If you're unsure, say so.

### Quiz Me at the End

After every explanation, end with 2 quick questions to check whether I actually understood. Don't move on until I get them right.

### Spot My Knowledge Gaps

As we talk, keep a running list of concepts I seem unclear on. Every 10 minutes (or when I ask), show me the list and suggest what to study next.

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## 17. Subject-Specific Mastery

Generic study prompts only get you so far. Each discipline has its own way of thinking — these prompts plug into that.

### Science

#### 17.1 Physics: Build the Intuition

Don't just give me the formula for `[CONCEPT]`. Build my physical intuition first: what's actually happening, what would change in the real world if this law didn't exist, and what

everyday example shows it in action. Then derive the formula and explain what each symbol means physically.

### 17.2 Chemistry: Reaction Walkthrough

Walk me through this reaction step by step:  $[REACTION]$ . For each step, explain which bonds break, which form, why it's energetically favorable, and what's driving it (electronegativity, sterics, charge, etc.). Predict the product before showing it so I can check my reasoning.

### 17.3 Biology: Process Animator

Describe  $[BIOLOGICAL\ PROCESS]$  as if you were narrating a slow-motion video. Start with the cell or molecule, zoom in on each step, name the structures and enzymes involved, and explain why this process matters for the organism. End with what goes wrong when it fails.

### 17.4 Earth & Environmental Science: Systems Thinking

Map  $[PHENOMENON - e.g., the carbon cycle, plate tectonics]$  as a system. Show the main reservoirs, the flows between them, the feedback loops (reinforcing vs. balancing), and where human activity disrupts it. Predict what happens if one input doubles.

## Humanities

### 17.5 History: Cause-and-Effect Chain

Explain  $[HISTORICAL\ EVENT]$  as a chain of causes and consequences. List the deep long-term causes, the immediate triggers, the key turning points during the event, and the short-term and long-term effects. Flag where historians actually disagree.

### 17.6 History: Multi-Perspective Analysis

Tell the story of  $[EVENT]$  from 3 different perspectives — for example, the powerful, the powerless, and an outside observer. Highlight where the accounts agree, where they conflict, and what each perspective reveals that the others miss.

### 17.7 Philosophy: Argument Mapper

Take  $[PHILOSOPHER]$ 's argument about  $[TOPIC]$ . Break it into premises and conclusion. Show each logical step. Identify the weakest premise and how a critic would attack it. Then steel-man the philosopher's defense.

### 17.8 Literature: Close Reading

Do a close reading of this passage:  $[PASTE]$ . Comment on diction, imagery, syntax, rhythm, and what's unsaid. Connect specific word choices to the larger themes of the work. Avoid generic "shows the author's style" — be specific.

### 17.9 Geography: Place-as-Process

Explain  $[REGION/PLACE]$  not as a static map but as a result of processes: physical (geology, climate), human (migration, economics), and political (borders, conflict). What forces shaped

it, and what's shaping it next?

## Social Sciences

### 17.10 Economics: From Theory to Headline

Take [ECONOMIC CONCEPT – e.g., elasticity, comparative advantage, moral hazard]. Define it precisely, then show it operating in 3 different real-world headlines or situations from the past year. Where do textbook predictions match reality, and where do they break?

### 17.11 Psychology: Concept in My Life

Explain [PSYCH CONCEPT – e.g., cognitive dissonance, operant conditioning, attachment theory]. Define it, give the classic studies behind it, then ask me 3 questions to help me spot it in my own life or in people I know.

### 17.12 Sociology: Pattern Spotter

Help me see [SOCIOLOGICAL CONCEPT] operating in everyday life. Give 5 specific examples from different domains: work, school, family, media, public space. Distinguish between the obvious examples and the subtle ones most people miss.

## Arts

### 17.13 Art History: Style Decoder

Teach me how to recognize [ART MOVEMENT – e.g., Impressionism, Baroque, Bauhaus] on sight. What 5 visual features should I scan for? Who are the key artists? What were they reacting against? Give me 3 lesser-known works that show the movement clearly.

### 17.14 Music Theory: Hear the Concept

Explain [MUSIC THEORY CONCEPT – e.g., modal interchange, secondary dominants, 12-bar blues]. Then suggest 3 famous songs where I can clearly hear it. Tell me exactly when in each song to listen for it (e.g., timestamps or section names).

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## 18. Standardized Test Prep

For SAT, ACT, GRE, GMAT, IELTS, TOEFL, MCAT, LSAT, and similar.

### 18.1 Diagnostic Reader

Here are my results from a recent practice test for [TEST NAME]: [PASTE SCORES BY SECTION OR QUESTION TYPE]. Identify my weakest areas, my strongest areas, and the highest-leverage section to improve first (where small effort yields biggest score gains). Estimate where my current pace would land me on test day.

### 18.2 Strategy by Question Type

Teach me the optimal strategy for ([QUESTION TYPE – e.g., SAT reading inference, GRE data sufficiency, IELTS Task 2]). Cover: how to read the question, the trap answer patterns, the time budget, and a step-by-step approach. Then give me 3 sample questions to try.

### 18.3 Quant Drill Generator

Generate 10 ([TEST NAME]) quant questions at ([EASY/MEDIUM/HARD]) difficulty focusing on ([TOPIC]). Don't show answers. After I solve them, grade me, and for every wrong answer, show me both the correct method and the trap I fell for.

### 18.4 Speaking Practice (IELTS/TOEFL)

Run a ([IELTS/TOEFL]) speaking practice session. Ask me a Part 1, Part 2, and Part 3 question. After my answers, score me on fluency, vocabulary range, grammar, and pronunciation cues. Suggest 3 phrases I could have used to upgrade the answer.

### 18.5 Writing Critique (IELTS/TOEFL/GRE)

Grade my essay against the official ([TEST]) rubric. Score each criterion. Show me a "before and after" of one paragraph rewritten at a higher band. Tell me the single biggest fix that would lift my score most. Essay: ([PASTE])

### 18.6 Vocabulary in Context

Teach me 10 high-frequency ([TEST NAME]) words. For each: definition, root, a sample sentence in the style of the test, and a "near-miss" word it's often confused with. Quiz me at the end.

### 18.7 Pacing Drill

Simulate a ([SECTION]) of ([TEST]) under timed conditions. Give me one question at a time with a ([X])-second timer reminder. After the section, tell me where I was too slow, too fast, and where my accuracy dropped under pressure.

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## 19. College & University Applications

### 19.1 College List Strategist

Help me build a balanced college list. My academic profile: ([GPA, TEST SCORES, COURSES]). My interests: ([FIELDS]). My priorities: ([LOCATION, SIZE, COST, CULTURE]). Suggest 3 reaches, 4 targets, and 3 safeties with one-line reasons for each.

### 19.2 Personal Statement Brainstorm

I need to write a personal statement. Ask me 8 probing questions to dig up the moments, conflicts, or obsessions that reveal who I am. Don't accept surface-level answers — push me to be specific. Once we're done, suggest 3 possible essay angles based on what I shared.

Here's the prompt: . Here's the angle and material I want to use: . Draft an opening paragraph that doesn't sound like every other applicant. Then outline the rest. Don't write the full essay yet — wait until I approve the angle.

#### 19.4 Supplemental Essay Workshop

Here's the supplemental prompt: . Here's what I'm thinking: . Identify what the school is actually testing for behind this prompt. Suggest 3 different angles that would each answer it well. Then poke holes in my current draft.

#### 19.5 Activities List Tightener

Here's my list of extracurriculars: . Rewrite each description to fit . Lead with impact and specific results, not job titles. Suggest an order that tells the strongest story about who I am.

#### 19.6 Recommendation Letter Request

Help me draft a polite email asking  for a recommendation letter for . Include a one-paragraph "brag sheet" — specific moments and accomplishments they could mention so they don't have to dig through memory.

#### 19.7 Admissions Interview Prep

Run a mock admissions interview for . Ask me one question at a time — mix the standard ones (why this school, why this major) with the curveballs (a book you loved, a time you failed). After each, tell me what landed and what fell flat.

#### 19.8 Scholarship Strategy

I'm looking for scholarships for . Suggest categories I should search (merit, identity-based, field-specific, regional, employer-linked, weird/niche). For each category, give me 2-3 search starting points and tell me what makes an application stand out.

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## 20. Research Papers, Theses & Dissertations

### 20.1 Research Question Refiner

Here's my rough research idea: . Help me sharpen it into a real research question. Test it against: is it specific, is it answerable, is it novel, is it feasible with my time and access? Suggest 3 sharper versions ranging from safe to ambitious.

### 20.2 Literature Review Synthesizer

Here are 5-10 sources I've gathered: . Help me synthesize, not just summarize. What are the major debates? Where do they agree? Where's

the gap my research could fill? Map them as a conversation, not a list.

## 20.3 Methodology Critique

Here's my proposed methodology: . Play tough committee member. What are the threats to validity, the confounds, the sample issues, and the ethical concerns? For each, suggest a fix or a defensible justification.

## 20.4 Data Interpretation Helper

Here are my results: . Help me interpret them honestly. What do the findings actually show? What can I reasonably conclude vs. what's overreach? What alternative explanations should I rule out? What surprised you?

## 20.5 Abstract Polisher

Here's my paper's draft abstract: . Tighten it to . Make sure it covers: question, why it matters, method, key result, contribution. Cut every word that doesn't earn its place. Show me a tracked-changes version.

## 20.6 Thesis Defense Simulator

Act as a tough but fair committee member. Read my abstract and chapter summaries: . Ask me 5 of the hardest questions you'd expect at a thesis defense. After each of my answers, give me feedback on confidence, clarity, and depth.

## 20.7 Citation & Sources Audit

Here's my reference list: . Audit it: balance of recent vs. foundational, balance of perspectives, missing key authors in this subfield, and any source that looks weak (predatory journals, non-peer-reviewed, very dated). Suggest 3-5 additions that would strengthen it.

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# 21. Lab Work & Scientific Method

## 21.1 Hypothesis Formulator

I want to investigate . Help me build a testable hypothesis: state the independent and dependent variables, the predicted relationship, the null hypothesis, and what result would falsify my prediction. Flag if my question isn't really testable yet.

## 21.2 Experimental Design Reviewer

Here's my experiment design: . Critique it as a TA would: are the controls right, is the sample size justified, are there confounds, is the measurement valid? Suggest improvements without overhauling the whole thing.

## 21.3 Lab Report Skeleton

I just ran an experiment on . Here's what I did and observed: . Build me

a lab report outline with the standard sections (intro, methods, results, discussion, conclusion). For each, list 3–5 bullet points I need to cover. Don't write the prose — just the scaffolding.

## 21.4 Error & Uncertainty Analysis

Here's my data: . Help me think through sources of error: instrumental, procedural, environmental, human. Estimate which dominates. Suggest how to report uncertainty honestly and what I'd do differently in a redo.

## 21.5 Pre-Lab Conceptual Refresher

I have a lab on  tomorrow. Refresh me on the underlying concepts in 15 minutes' worth of reading. Cover: the theory, why we use this technique, the key steps in the procedure, common mistakes, and 3 questions a TA might ask to check if I prepared.

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## 22. Creative Subjects

### 22.1 Creative Writing: Story Workshop

Here's my short story draft: . Workshop it like a writing-group peer would — not a teacher. What's working? Where does the story slow or lose me? Is the protagonist actually wanting something? Where's the tension? End with the 3 highest-impact revisions.

### 22.2 Character Development Deep-Dive

I'm building a character named  for . Ask me 15 questions about them — not just appearance, but contradictions, fears, secrets, the thing they'd never admit. After I answer, suggest 3 scenes that would force these traits onto the page.

### 22.3 Poetry: Form & Feedback

Here's a poem I wrote: . Read it as a serious reader. What's the strongest line and why? Where are the clichés or telegraphed moves? Suggest one structural experiment — break the form, change the line breaks, switch the POV — and show how the first stanza would look.

### 22.4 Visual Art: Composition Critique

I'm working on a  piece. Here's what I'm trying to convey: . Here's my current composition: . Critique the composition: balance, focal point, value structure, color logic, negative space. Suggest 2 specific changes that would sharpen it.

### 22.5 Music: Practice Planning

I'm  on . My goal is  in . Design a 30-minute daily practice plan that covers technique, the piece itself, and

ear/musicianship work. Tell me what I should record and review weekly.

## 22.6 Film & Media Analysis Frame

I'm analyzing ([FILM / SHOW / GAME / AD]). Walk me through a structured analysis: narrative, character, visual style, sound, themes, cultural context. For each, give me 2 specific things to look for and one example I could cite in my essay.

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## 23. Financial Literacy & Life Skills

### 23.1 Student Budget Builder

I make/receive ([INCOME]) per month. My fixed costs are: ([LIST]). Help me build a realistic monthly budget. Use a simple framework (like 50/30/20 or zero-based). Tell me where students typically overspend and one painless category to trim first.

### 23.2 Student Loan Decoder

Here are the loan options I'm being offered: ([PASTE TERMS]). Translate them into plain English: total cost over the loan's life, monthly payment after graduation, what happens if I can't pay, and which terms are red flags. Help me compare them apples-to-apples.

### 23.3 Salary Negotiation for First Job

I just got an offer: ([ROLE, COMPANY, SALARY, BENEFITS]). Help me decide whether to negotiate. Research what's reasonable for this role/location. Draft a short, polite negotiation email. Predict what the recruiter will likely say and how I should respond.

### 23.4 Taxes 101 for Students

Explain ([TAX TOPIC – e.g., W-2 vs. 1099, filing as a student, deducting tuition]) for someone who has never filed taxes. Use my situation: ([DESCRIBE – country, student status, income type]). End with 3 mistakes students commonly make.

### 23.5 Smart Spending Audit

Here's my spending from last month: ([PASTE OR DESCRIBE CATEGORIES AND AMOUNTS]). Spot patterns I might not see: subscriptions I forgot, impulse categories, where I'm paying convenience tax. Don't moralize — just point out the highest-impact changes.

### 23.6 First-Time Investor's Map

I have ([AMOUNT]) I could start investing as a student. Explain my realistic options (savings, index funds, retirement accounts available in my country, etc.) in plain English. Cover risk, time horizon, and what I should NOT do as a beginner.

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## 24. Habits, Discipline & Daily Systems

## 24.1 Habit Stack Builder

I want to build the habit of . Use habit-stacking: which of my existing daily habits could I attach it to as a trigger? Suggest 3 options and predict which would stick best for someone with my schedule: .

## 24.2 Morning & Evening Routine Design

Design a 30-minute morning routine and 20-minute evening routine for me. My goals are . My constraints are . Make it realistic — assume I'll skip anything that feels heroic.

## 24.3 Phone & Distraction Audit

Help me figure out which apps and habits are actually costing me focus. Ask me 5 diagnostic questions about my phone use, then suggest a tiered plan: easy changes first, then medium, then nuclear. Predict which will give the biggest focus return.

## 24.4 Accountability System

I keep starting  and dropping it. Design an accountability system for me. Compare 3 options: solo (tracking app, journal), social (friend check-in, group), and stake-based (financial or reputation). Recommend the right one for my personality: .

## 24.5 Identity-Based Habit Frame

Instead of "I want to do X," help me reframe  as "I am the kind of person who..." Walk me through what that identity would do daily, weekly, and monthly. Suggest one small action today that votes for this identity.

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# 25. Health, Sleep & Cognitive Performance

## 25.1 Sleep Audit

Here's my sleep pattern: . Diagnose what's hurting it. Don't just say "get 8 hours" — give me 3 specific, evidence-informed changes ranked by likely impact for someone with my schedule.

## 25.2 Pre-Exam Nutrition & Energy Plan

My exam is . Plan my last 24 hours: what to eat (dinner, breakfast, during-exam snack), what to avoid, hydration, caffeine timing. Build in margins for nerves. Suggest a backup plan if I can't eat much from anxiety.

## 25.3 Study-Friendly Movement Plan

I sit and study  per day. Design a minimal movement plan that helps focus and prevents back/neck pain — not a workout routine. Include micro-breaks, weekly anchor sessions, and what to do if I only have 5 minutes.

## 25.4 Caffeine & Focus Strategy

I drink caffeine like . Help me use it more strategically. When should I drink it for max focus, when to cut off for sleep, when to take a tolerance break? Give me specific timing rules.

## 25.5 Burnout Check-In

Ask me 7 questions to assess whether I'm tired, stressed, or actually burning out. Based on my answers, tell me honestly which one it is, what's likely driving it, and the difference between rest, recovery, and reset. Suggest a realistic next step.

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## 26. Academic Integrity & Smart AI Use

### 26.1 What's Allowed Where

I'm a student in . Help me think through what AI use is generally accepted vs. risky vs. clearly off-limits across common cases: brainstorming, outlining, drafting, editing, summarizing readings, solving problems, coding. Give a clear rule-of-thumb for each.

### 26.2 Citing AI Assistance Honestly

I used AI to help with . How should I disclose this honestly in my submission? Draft a short acknowledgment statement I can include. Tell me what's typically expected for .

### 26.3 AI-Proof Your Learning

Help me design my study process so I actually learn, not just outsource. For , where in the workflow should I deliberately not use AI? Where is AI fine? Build me a "learn, then verify" pattern.

### 26.4 Spot the Hallucination

I'll paste an AI-generated answer. Help me fact-check it: which claims are verifiable, which are likely made up, what should I double-check against primary sources, and what's the fingerprint of a confident-but-wrong AI answer. Answer to check:

### 26.5 Original Thinking Check

Here's my draft: . Tell me where my thinking sounds generic or AI-flavored — vague claims, hedged statements, no specific voice. Suggest where to inject a real opinion, a personal example, or a sharper claim.

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## 27.1 Professor / Teacher Conflict

I'm having an issue with my : . Help me think clearly. What's their likely perspective? What outcomes are realistic? Suggest a calm, professional approach and draft what I might say in an email or office hours.

## 27.2 Disputing a Grade

I think my grade on  is unfair. Here's why: . Pressure-test my argument first — is it actually about understanding the rubric or about my feelings? If it holds up, draft a respectful email that focuses on specifics, not complaints.

## 27.3 Asking for an Extension

I need an extension on . The real reason is . Help me write a short, honest email. No over-explaining. Suggest what makes professors more likely to say yes and what kills the request.

## 27.4 Receiving Hard Feedback

I just got harsh feedback: . My first reaction is . Help me separate signal from noise. What's actually useful here? What's just delivery? What should I act on, and what should I ignore?

## 27.5 Classmate Conflict

A classmate is . Help me figure out how to address it directly without escalating. Draft what I'd say in person, predict their likely reaction, and plan the next move if it doesn't go well.

## 27.6 The Uncomfortable Topic in Class

A topic I find difficult —  — came up in class and I didn't know how to respond. Help me think through it now: what could I have said, what's a position I actually hold, and how do I engage these conversations more confidently next time?

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# 28. Internships, Work & First Jobs

## 28.1 Internship Search Strategy

I want an internship in  for . My background: . Map a strategy: which company types to target, where to look (beyond the obvious job boards), what timeline I'm working against, and what to do this week.

## 28.2 Cold Outreach to a Professional

I want to reach out to  because . Draft a cold message — under 120

words — that's specific, respectful of their time, and gives them an easy yes. Then write a follow-up if they don't reply in a week.

### 28.3 First Day Game Plan

Tomorrow is my first day at . Help me prepare: what to bring, what to ask, what to avoid saying, how to introduce myself, and what early signals to watch for about the team's actual culture (vs. the brochure).

### 28.4 Asking for Feedback at Work

I want to ask my supervisor for feedback after . Help me draft the ask. Cover specific questions to make their job easier, how to respond gracefully to criticism, and what to do with feedback I disagree with.

### 28.5 Quitting / Transitioning Gracefully

I'm leaving  because . Help me think through: notice period, what to actually say to my manager, how to leave on good terms even if I'm frustrated, and what to do in my last weeks to protect future references.

### 28.6 Translating Experience into Skills

Here's a job/internship/volunteer experience I had: . Help me extract the actual transferable skills — not the cliché list. What real abilities did I build? What concrete moments prove each one? Format as 3-5 resume bullet points with measurable impact.

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## 29. Public Speaking, Debate & Class Discussion

### 29.1 Debate Prep: Both Sides

I'm debating  on the  side. First, build my strongest 3 arguments with evidence. Then build the opponent's strongest 3 arguments. Then give me my rebuttal to each of theirs. Don't pull punches on either side.

### 29.2 Class Discussion Confidence

I want to speak up more in . Help me prepare: what kinds of contributions actually add value (vs. just talking), how to enter a discussion already in progress, what to do when I'm not sure of my point, and how to disagree without being a jerk.

### 29.3 Q&A Handling Drill

I'm presenting . Generate the 8 toughest questions an audience might ask, including the ones that try to undermine me. For each, suggest how to respond — concede what's fair, redirect what's bad-faith, and admit what I genuinely don't know.

## 29.4 Persuasive Speech Structure

I'm giving a [LENGTH] persuasive speech on [TOPIC] to [AUDIENCE]. Structure it: open with what hooks this specific audience, build the case in 3 acts, anticipate their objections, and close with a memorable call to action. Suggest one rhetorical device per section.

## 29.5 Anti-Filler Word Drill

I say [FILLER WORDS – um, like, basically, you know] too much. Diagnose why (anxiety, thinking time, habit). Give me 3 techniques to reduce it, plus a 10-minute daily drill I can record myself doing.

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## 30. Learning Tools, Systems & Long-Term Architecture

### 30.1 Note-Taking System Picker

Help me pick a note-taking system. My situation: [STUDENT TYPE, SUBJECTS, DEVICES, ANALOG/DIGITAL PREFERENCE]. Compare Cornell, mind maps, Zettelkasten, sketchnotes, and outlining. Recommend one to start with and tell me when I'd want to switch.

### 30.2 Personal Knowledge Base Setup

I want to build a personal knowledge base across my courses. Suggest a simple structure (folders, tags, atomic notes), what belongs in it vs. what doesn't, and a weekly review habit that keeps it from becoming a graveyard.

### 30.3 Annual Learning Review

Walk me through an end-of-year reflection on my learning. Ask me one question at a time: what did I actually master, what did I cram and forget, what skill compounded the most, what was a waste of time, what do I want to learn next year and why.

### 30.4 Long-Term Skill Roadmap

I want to become genuinely good at [SKILL – e.g., writing, programming, public speaking, a language] over the next 3-5 years. Map out the milestones: what beginner, intermediate, and advanced look like. Suggest one anchor project per stage that would force real growth.

### 30.5 The "Teach What You Just Learned" Loop

I just finished studying [TOPIC]. Pretend you're a curious classmate who missed the lecture. Ask me to teach you. Push back where my explanation gets fuzzy, ask for examples I haven't prepared, and tell me at the end where my understanding seems thinnest.

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## Quick Reference Card: "What Do I Use When?"

If you're feeling...	Go to...
"I don't get this concept at all"	1.1 Feynman Explainer, 1.3 Analogy Generator
"I keep forgetting what I study"	2.2 Active Recall Quiz, 2.5 Forgetting Curve Planner
"I have no idea where to start studying"	3.1 Weekly Study Plan, 3.2 Exam Countdown
"I'm procrastinating hard"	3.3 Procrastination Breakdown, 15.1 Stuck-and-Overwhelmed Reset
"I have an exam tomorrow"	5.5 Last-Night Cram Strategy, 25.2 Pre-Exam Nutrition
"I have to write an essay"	6.1 Thesis Workshop → 6.2 Outline → 6.8 Reader's Reaction
"My math is broken"	8.5 Check My Work, 8.2 Conceptual Unlock
"I'm reading something I don't understand"	9.2 Dense Text Translator, 9.1 Active Reading Companion
"I need to write a college essay"	19.2 Personal Statement Brainstorm → 19.3 Drafter
"I have to give a presentation"	14.1 Presentation Designer, 29.3 Q&A Handling Drill
"I have a conflict with a teacher/peer"	27.1 / 27.5
"I feel burned out"	25.5 Burnout Check-In, 15.4 Study Anxiety Help
"I want to actually learn, not just pass"	26.3 AI-Proof Your Learning, 30.5 Teach What You Learned
"I want to build a long-term skill"	30.4 Skill Roadmap

## Power-User Tips: Becoming Great at Prompting

1. **Stack prompts.** Use 1.1 to understand, then 2.2 to test recall, then 5.4 to drill exam-style. One topic, three different prompts.
2. **Give the AI a role.** "Act as a strict editor" or "Act as a curious 12-year-old" changes the output more than any other single trick.
3. **Show, don't tell.** Paste 1-2 examples of what you want before asking. "Here's a good answer for a different topic — match this style."
4. **Set the format.** Tables, bullet points, dialogues, flashcards, JSON, mind maps — name the shape you want.

5. **Ask for what it almost gave you.** "That was too generic — give me 3 specific examples instead." Push back. The first answer is rarely the best.
  6. **Use the AI to grade itself.** "Now critique your own answer. What did you miss?" Often surfaces the gap better than you would.
  7. **Save your best prompts.** Build your own personal library of the prompts that work for *your* brain. This document is a starter — your real library is what you customize from it.
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## A Final Note

These prompts are starting points, not scripts. The best students don't just use AI to *get answers* — they use it to *think harder*. Argue with it. Ask follow-ups. Ask it to be wrong on purpose and find the flaw. Treat it as the most patient study partner you'll ever have, but never as a substitute for actually doing the work in your own head.

Good luck. Go learn something.