

Last week I asked students in both of my classes what they would say to their teachers about ChatGPT if they could. Below are some of their responses.

- Why are you so hysterical about this particular program? Students—and teachers—have always found ways to access sources of information that they can paraphrase or copy. ;-)
- Teachers take it for granted that they're the only valid and reliable sources of information. They decide the texts we should read, they lecture in class as if their “pearls of wisdom” are the only ones that matter, and they waste valuable class time making us copy their notes on the board or in their slideshows, which they could have put in documents for us to read when we have the time.
- Almost every teacher I've had sits at the front and lectures from their notes, expecting the information to go from their mouth to our memory. And when students can't or won't answer their “prepared” questions, they answer them themselves. Most of the English courses I've taken have basically been a game of “guess the teacher's answers.” (No wonder students won't play. And then teachers have the nerve to penalize them for not participating in class!)
- I've been using ChatGPT since its first iteration and I'll continue to regardless of what teachers say. Anything that makes information easily accessible is a net good **for everyone**. Collective knowledge is always better than one person's subjective perceptions and opinions.
- In my computer classes, we're learning about how multimodal AI that can combine text, images, audio, and video in order to detect, express, and mimic people's emotions and even act on them. Eventually, multimodal AI will replace millions of people and jobs. Denying it, resisting it or moaning about it is pointless.