

Below is a **reduced set of five main categories** (instead of eight) and a **generic three-tiered approach** that can be applied to the problems within each category. The same *basic* → *traditional ML* → *advanced AI* strategy is adaptable to nearly all the tasks in that category. Each category includes a quick listing of relevant tasks (by number and name), followed by a **generic** set of three possible solutions, along with notes on inputs/outputs, advantages, architecture, and domain constraints.

Category 1. NLP & Educational Tools

Tasks

- (1) Language Translation App
- (3) Basic Chatbot for FAQs
- (6) Automated Text Summarization
- (7) Simple Optical Character Recognition (OCR)
- (9) Automatic Handwriting Recognition
- (15) AI-based Spell Checker
- (17) Simple Email Auto-reply
- (18) Predictive Text Typing
- (19) Simple Handwritten Digit Recognition
- (20) Simple Language Understanding Chatbot
- (24) Simple Emoticon Recognition in Text
- (25) Simple Document Summarization Tool
- (27) Basic Time Management Assistant
- (28) Simple Job Application Screening
- (30) AI-powered Language Translation Keyboard
- (35) AI for Simple Sign Language Recognition
- (37) AI for Simple Barcode Scanner
- (50) Creating subjects for FIA exams using AI
- (51) Generating multiple choice problems on a specific topic, having as input a pdf file
- (52) Creating a list of topics for the exam, having as input the course notes
- (53) Recognizing hand-written exam papers with AI
- (Also includes tasks that mix text, scanning, or educational screening.)

Generic 3-Tier Solutions

1. Heuristic / Rule-based Approach

- **Idea:** Use simple dictionaries, regular expressions, or pattern matching.
- **Input/Output:**
 - *Input:* Short text, PDF files, or typed queries.
 - *Output:* Identified keywords, basic translations, or direct text replies.
- **Advantages:**
 - Easy to implement, minimal data requirements.
 - Highly interpretable and fast to run on basic hardware.
- **Architecture:**
 1. Ingest text input
 2. Apply rule-based or dictionary lookups
 3. Return result (translation, classification, or short answer)
- **Domain Constraints:**
 - Limited scalability and accuracy.
 - Doesn't handle ambiguous or complex sentences well.

2. Traditional Machine Learning

- **Idea:** Use classical NLP pipelines (e.g., bag-of-words, TF-IDF, SVM, or random forest) for classification or text generation tasks. For OCR/handwriting recognition, use standard image processing + an SVM/MLP for character classification.
- **Input/Output:**
 - *Input:* Labeled text data, possibly annotated images (for OCR tasks).
 - *Output:* Predicted category, recognized text, summarized text, or next-word suggestions.
- **Advantages:**
 - More robust than rule-based; can handle moderate complexity.
 - Generally requires less data and computational power than deep learning.
- **Architecture:**
 1. Data pre-processing (tokenization, cleaning, feature extraction)
 2. ML classification/regression model (e.g., SVM, logistic regression)
 3. Output text or predictions
- **Domain Constraints:**
 - Requires representative training data for best results.
 - May struggle with highly nuanced text or messy handwriting without specialized feature engineering.

3. Advanced / Deep Learning

- **Idea:** Use neural networks (CNNs for OCR, LSTM/Transformers for language tasks) for complex classification, translation, summarization, or handwriting recognition.
- **Input/Output:**
 - *Input:* Large corpora of text or large sets of labeled images/scanned documents.
 - *Output:* High-quality translations, accurate text classification, or recognized handwriting at scale.
- **Advantages:**
 - Superior handling of complex linguistic structures (Transformers, GPT-based).
 - End-to-end training often yields higher accuracy.
- **Architecture:**
 1. Neural network (RNN/LSTM/Transformers for text, CNN for OCR)
 2. Attention mechanisms for summarization or translation
 3. Output: text predictions, translations, or recognized text
- **Domain Constraints:**

- Requires large training datasets.
- Computationally expensive (GPU/TPU).
- Proper hyperparameter tuning and domain adaptation are often needed.

Category 2. Computer Vision & Multimedia Analysis

Tasks

- (2) Image Recognition for Dog Breeds
- (8) Basic Emotion Recognition
- (10) Smartphone Camera Object Recognition
- (13) Simple Object Counting in Images
- (16) Plant Disease Identification
- (22) Basic Handwritten Equation Solver
- (23) AI for Parking Space Detection
- (26) AI for Noise Classification in Environmental Sounds (*audio, but included in "multimedia"*)
- (29) Basic Facial Expression Emoji Generator
- (31) Simple Facial Recognition Attendance System
- (32) AI for Plant Identification
- (33) Basic Hand Gesture Control for Smart Devices
- (34) AI for Social Distancing Monitoring
- (36) Basic Traffic Sign Recognition
- (38) Basic Face Recognition for Photo Album Organization

Generic 3-Tier Solutions

1. Heuristic / Traditional Computer Vision

- **Idea:** Rely on feature extraction (e.g., edges, color histograms) + rule-based or classical CV algorithms. Possibly use thresholding for object counting or detection.
- **Input/Output:**
 - *Input:* Single images, video frames, or audio signals (for noise classification).
 - *Output:* Simple detection of shapes, categories, or approximate counts.
- **Advantages:**
 - Low computational overhead.
 - Understandable and interpretable.
- **Architecture:**
 1. Image pre-processing (grayscale, edge detection)
 2. Feature extraction (SIFT, SURF, or color histograms)
 3. Simple rule-based or distance-based classification
- **Domain Constraints:**
 - Struggles with complex variations (lighting, angles).
 - Not ideal for large-scale variability in images or audio signals.

2. Traditional Machine Learning (Classical ML + Feature Vectors)

- **Idea:** Use an SVM, decision tree, or random forest on top of extracted features (HOG, LBP, MFCC for audio).
- **Input/Output:**
 - *Input:* Pre-labeled images or audio clips with extracted feature vectors.
 - *Output:* Predicted label (dog breed, object type), or numeric value (object count).
- **Advantages:**
 - More robust than heuristic approaches for moderate complexities.
 - Less data-hungry than deep learning.
- **Architecture:**
 1. Data collection & labeling
 2. Feature extraction (e.g., HOG for images, MFCC for audio)
 3. ML model for classification or regression
- **Domain Constraints:**
 - Requires careful feature engineering.
 - Limited performance if the environment changes drastically (e.g., new lighting).

3. Deep Learning (CNNs / Transfer Learning)

- **Idea:** Use convolutional neural networks (CNNs) or pre-trained models (e.g., ResNet, VGG, MobileNet) and fine-tune them on domain-specific data. For audio, use spectrogram-based CNNs.
 - **Input/Output:**
 - *Input:* Raw images/audio frames.
 - *Output:* Detailed classification (breed, emotion, disease, traffic sign), bounding boxes, or counts.
 - **Advantages:**
 - High accuracy on complex tasks.
 - Automatically learns features, reducing manual engineering.
 - **Architecture:**
 1. Preprocessing (resize images, convert audio to spectrograms)
 2. CNN with several layers or a pre-trained model for feature extraction
 3. Classification/regression layer for final output
 - **Domain Constraints:**
 - Requires large labeled datasets.
 - High computational cost (GPUs).
 - Overfitting risk if training data is limited.
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Category 3. Predictive Analytics & Forecasting

Tasks

- (4) Predicting Weather Conditions
- (14) Weather Forecast for Outdoor Activities
- (21) AI-based Plant Watering Reminder
- (45) Giving loans in banks (credit risk assessment)
- (49) Predicting the price of a house based on textual description

Generic 3-Tier Solutions

1. Heuristic / Simple Statistical Methods

- **Idea:** Moving averages, simple regression, or threshold-based triggers.
- **Input/Output:**
 - *Input:* Historical data (weather, loan defaults, house listings).
 - *Output:* Basic forecast (next day's temperature, yes/no precipitation, loan approval decision).
- **Advantages:**
 - Highly interpretable.
 - Minimal data requirements and quick deployment.
- **Architecture:**
 1. Collect historical data
 2. Compute average or regression line
 3. Produce short-term predictions
- **Domain Constraints:**
 - Quickly becomes inaccurate with complex patterns.
 - Not adaptive to abrupt changes.

2. Machine Learning Models (Regression / Classification)

- **Idea:** Random Forest, Gradient Boosting, or SVM for numeric or binary outcome predictions (e.g., temperature or default vs. no-default).
- **Input/Output:**
 - *Input:* Features from historical data, e.g., meteorological measurements, financial metrics.
 - *Output:* Numerical forecasts (temperature, price) or probability (likelihood of loan default).
- **Advantages:**
 - Balances complexity and interpretability (with partial dependence plots).
 - Generally higher accuracy than simple heuristics.
- **Architecture:**
 1. Data pre-processing & feature engineering (e.g., date/time features, exogenous variables)
 2. ML model training (regression or classification)
 3. Output predicted values or probabilities
- **Domain Constraints:**
 - Needs consistent, good-quality historical data.
 - May overfit if hyperparameters are not tuned.

3. Advanced / Deep Learning (Time Series + Large Data)

- **Idea:** LSTM, Transformer-based time series, or deep neural networks.
- **Input/Output:**
 - *Input:* Large multi-year datasets, possibly external data (satellite images, economic indicators).
 - *Output:* More refined multi-step forecasts, confidence intervals, or classification.
- **Advantages:**
 - Can capture complex seasonality and patterns.
 - Potentially very accurate with sufficient data.
- **Architecture:**
 1. Sequence modeling (LSTM, 1D CNN, or temporal attention)
 2. Dense layers for final regression/classification
 3. Optionally produce multi-day or multi-output predictions
- **Domain Constraints:**
 - High computational needs (training on GPUs).
 - Requires large, clean datasets.
 - Model interpretability can be challenging.

Category 4. AI in Control & Interactive Systems

Tasks

- (5) Gesture-based Game Control
- (11) Simple Puzzle Solver
- (12) Automated Home Lighting System
- (41) Automation of warehouse workers
- (43) Moving a non-playable character (NPC)
- (44) Detecting the game illustrated in a video
- (46) Creating a player in the game Go
- (47) Programming a bot in an FPS game
- (48) A humanoid robot that learns to play tennis with AI

(Note that some tasks like #33 "Basic Hand Gesture Control for Smart Devices" were grouped under Computer Vision, but the concepts overlap.)

Generic 3-Tier Solutions

1. Heuristic / Scripted Rules

- **Idea:** Hard-code sequences or rules (e.g., if NPC sees an obstacle, turn left).
- **Input/Output:**
 - *Input:* Sensor data (camera feed, game state, user gestures).
 - *Output:* Specific actions (move left, turn on lights, pick up item).
- **Advantages:**
 - Predictable behavior, straightforward debugging.
 - Minimal data needed.
- **Architecture:**
 1. Sensor or environment reading
 2. Rule-based logic (e.g., finite state machines)
 3. Action command (turn on light, move to tile)
- **Domain Constraints:**
 - Cannot adapt well to new or unexpected scenarios.
 - Lacks intelligence once environment changes.

2. Traditional ML / Planning

- **Idea:** For robots or NPCs, use pathfinding (A*), decision trees, or Q-learning with discrete states.
- **Input/Output:**
 - *Input:* Simplified world representation, labeled training data for gestures or puzzle states.
 - *Output:* Next best move or predicted action.
- **Advantages:**
 - More robust than purely scripted; can learn from small datasets.
 - Good for simpler puzzles (Sudoku) or well-defined tasks.
- **Architecture:**
 1. State modeling (graph of possible moves, sensor readings)
 2. Planning or ML-based policy (Q-learning, BFS, decision trees)
 3. Action output (e.g., path step, next puzzle move)
- **Domain Constraints:**
 - Might still be limited to known states or pre-labeled data.
 - Tuning hyperparameters for specific tasks can be time-consuming.

3. Advanced / Deep Reinforcement Learning

- **Idea:** Use DQN, PPO, or policy gradients to learn optimal policies in dynamic environments (e.g., controlling a robot playing tennis, advanced game bots).
- **Input/Output:**
 - *Input:* Raw environment data (visual input from cameras or game screens, sensor streams).
 - *Output:* Continuous or discrete actions (move joystick, rotate servo).
- **Advantages:**
 - Can discover complex strategies over time.
 - Adapts to changing conditions if trained or fine-tuned properly.
- **Architecture:**
 1. Neural network processes states/frames
 2. Reinforcement learning algorithm updates a policy or Q-function
 3. Action selection based on policy output
- **Domain Constraints:**
 - Requires substantial training episodes and possibly simulation.
 - Risk of overfitting or convergence on suboptimal policies if not carefully managed.

Category 5. Optimization & Resource Allocation

Tasks

- (39) Aircraft parking at airports
- (40) Packing purchases
- (42) Determining the size of the aircraft fleet to serve a set of flights

Generic 3-Tier Solutions

1. Heuristic / Rule-based Optimization

- **Idea:** Use a set of if-then rules, “first-fit” or “greedy” strategies to allocate resources quickly.
- **Input/Output:**
 - *Input:* Constraints (e.g., flight schedules, packing sizes).
 - *Output:* Assignments (which plane goes to which gate, how to pack items).
- **Advantages:**
 - Fast to implement, good for smaller or simpler cases.
 - Easy to understand.
- **Architecture:**
 1. Gather constraints (size, weight, schedules)
 2. Apply rule-based or greedy algorithm (fill from smallest to largest, etc.)
 3. Produce assignment or packing plan
- **Domain Constraints:**
 - Not guaranteed to find the optimal solution.
 - Might fail in complex real-world scenarios.

2. Classical Optimization Methods

- **Idea:** Formulate as an Integer Linear Program (ILP) or Mixed Integer Programming (MIP). Use solvers like CPLEX or Gurobi.
- **Input/Output:**
 - *Input:* Mathematical formulation (objective function, constraints).

- *Output*: Optimal or near-optimal solution (parking allocation, packing arrangement).
- **Advantages**:
 - Well-studied methods with proven performance for small-medium scale.
 - Many optimization libraries readily available.
- **Architecture**:
 1. Define decision variables (e.g., $x_{ij} = 1$ if plane i uses gate j)
 2. Define constraints (capacity, scheduling)
 3. Solve using a standard optimizer to get best solution
- **Domain Constraints**:
 - May become computationally expensive at large scale.
 - Requires careful constraint definitions.

3. Metaheuristics / AI-based Search

- **Idea**: Use evolutionary algorithms, simulated annealing, or a custom heuristic guided by ML.
- **Input/Output**:
 - *Input*: Same data as classical optimization (flight times, item dimensions).
 - *Output*: Near-optimal or best-known allocation in a timeframe.
- **Advantages**:
 - Scalable to large, complex problems.
 - Flexible about constraints and objective changes.
- **Architecture**:
 1. Initialize random solutions
 2. Iteratively improve solutions (mutation, crossover, acceptance criteria)
 3. Return best solution found under resource/time constraints
- **Domain Constraints**:
 - No guaranteed global optimum.
 - Performance depends on parameter tuning (mutation rates, population size).

How to Use These Three Solutions

- Each **category** has different **domains** (NLP vs. computer vision vs. optimization), but the **3-tier approach** remains the same:
 1. Start with **basic / heuristic** methods.
 2. Move to **classical machine learning or formal optimization**.
 3. Adopt **advanced approaches (deep learning, advanced solvers, reinforcement learning)** if data, computational resources, and complexity demand it.
- **Input & Output**: Usually revolve around collecting domain-specific data (text, images, sensor data, scheduling constraints) and producing a classification, forecast, or plan.
- **Advantages of Proposed Solutions**:
 - Tiered approach allows projects to begin small and scale up.
 - Balances interpretability, data requirements, and accuracy.
 - Addresses constraints in each domain (e.g., limited data, time-critical tasks).
- **Architecture Considerations**:
 - Pipeline design (data ingestion → feature engineering → model/solver → output).
 - Potential for continuous deployment or online learning (especially in dynamic environments).
- **Domain Constraints**:
 - Data availability and quality.
 - Real-time or large-scale demands.
 - Ethical or regulatory constraints (especially for finance or sensitive image data).

This **generic framework** can be tailored to each specific problem in the list, ensuring that whether you are **translating text, recognizing objects, forecasting weather, automating robots, or optimizing resources**, you have a clear **progression from simple to advanced AI methods** that address **input/output requirements, domain constraints, and architectural considerations**.