2. Student Handout

Crafting Effective Prompts: Student Handout

Key Principles of Crafting Effective Prompts

1. Clarity

- Definition: Ensure your prompt is easy to understand.
- Examples:
 - Vague: "Tell me about India."
 - Clear: "Tell me about the cultural significance of Diwali in India."
 - Clear: "Describe the main features of the Taj Mahal."

2. Specificity

- Definition: Narrow down your request for a focused response.
- Examples:
 - Non-specific: "What are the benefits of yoga?"
 - Specific: "What are the mental health benefits of practicing yoga daily?"
 - Specific: "List the physical benefits of yoga for seniors."

3. Context

- **Definition**: Provide background information for relevance.
- Examples:
 - Without context: "Explain the importance of teamwork."
 - With context: "Explain the importance of teamwork in a corporate environment."
 - With context: "Discuss teamwork in the context of a sports team."

Techniques for Refining Prompts

1. Iteration

- Definition: Improve your prompt step by step.
- Examples:
 - First prompt: "Tell me about yoga."
 - Refined: "Tell me about the mental health benefits of yoga."
 - Further refined: "How does yoga help reduce anxiety and stress?"

2. Context Setting

- Definition: Add necessary background information.
- Examples:
 - Initial: "Explain the importance of teamwork."
 - Refined: "Explain the importance of teamwork in project management."
 - Refined: "Discuss teamwork in remote work settings."

3. Framing Questions

- Definition: Use open-ended questions for detailed responses.
- Examples:
 - Closed-ended: "Is yoga good for mental health?"
 - Open-ended: "How does yoga benefit mental health?"
 - Open-ended: "What are the key mental health benefits of yoga?"

Understanding Biases in Al Responses

Mitigating Bias Through Prompt Design

- Examples:
 - Biased: "What are the best leadership qualities for men?"
 - Neutral: "What are the best leadership qualities for people in a corporate environment?"
 - Neutral: "Describe effective leadership qualities in diverse teams."

Creating Complex Prompts

1. Multi-Step Queries

- Definition: Ask the AI to perform multiple tasks.
- Examples:
 - "First, explain the history of yoga. Then, describe its mental health benefits."
 - "List the main ingredients of a recipe, then explain the cooking process."
 - "Summarize the plot of a book, then discuss its main themes."

2. Conditional Instructions

- **Definition**: Use conditions to guide the Al's response.
- Examples:
 - "If yoga has mental health benefits, explain how it helps reduce anxiety."
 - "If teamwork is important, describe its impact on project success."
 - "If meditation improves focus, explain the underlying mechanisms."

Conclusion

To craft effective prompts:

- 1. Clarity: Ensure your prompt is easy to understand.
- Specificity: Narrow down your request for a focused response.
- 3. **Context**: Provide enough background information.
- 4. **Refining Prompts**: Use iteration, context setting, and framing questions.
- 5. **Mitigating Bias**: Design prompts to be neutral and inclusive.
- 6. Creating Complex Prompts: Use multi-step queries and conditional instructions.

By applying these principles and techniques, you can communicate effectively with AI and receive the best possible responses.