**Level 1 Eliza**

1. Research the “ELIZA Computer Therapist Program”. Summarize your answers to the following:
   1. What does the program do?

The ELIZA Computer Therapist Program was designed to mimic a psychologist. She responds to the user by reflecting questions, giving the illusion that she is actually understanding.

* 1. When and why was the program created?

The program was created in 1964. She was created to attempt to positively impact the lives of many people, and to further assist doctors working on such patients’ treatment.

* 1. How does the program work?

Eliza simulates conversation by using a 'pattern matching' and substitution methodology that give users an illusion of understanding on the part of the program. She reflects questions and rewords them so it looks like she’s asking for more information on the user’s feelings, when in reality she’s repeating what the user said and re-wording it.

1. Use an on-line version of the ELIZA program to see what it is like.
   1. Open the URL : <http://psych.fullerton.edu/mbirnbaum/psych101/Eliza.htm>
   2. Begin by talking about your feelings (just like if you were talking to a guidance councillor).
   3. After a while, try to trick the program.
2. In what ways did the program seem like you were talking to a real person? What was a strategy used by the program to keep the discussion going?

It seemed like I was talking to a real person at first because of the way Eliza was responding. She would ask me how I was feeling, and she asked me to further elaborate on things. However, she eventually starting repeating the same things (such as “Why?” and “Can you elaborate on that?”) and essentially reflecting my questions.

1. In what ways could you tell that it was not a real person? What were some of the weaknesses of the program?

Eliza was very bad at feigning understanding. All she’d ever say about my feelings was “I understand” and asking me to elaborate further, which only brought her back into the loop of repeating things. She’d repeat my questions (“I’m sad” “Why are you sad?” “I don’t know” “Why don’t you know?”) and she would occasionally break her own English (she would say “me” instead of “I”).

1. If you had your friend talk to ELIZA but did not tell them it was a program, how long do you think it would take for them to figure it out? Explain your answer.

I don’t think it would take my friend that long to figure out that ELIZA was actually a program. She responds with very basic things and doesn’t offer any sort of support or advice on how to handle one’s feelings or problems. Her understanding is very small and she only probes the user further instead of offering up solutions.

**Level 2 Turing Test**

1. Research the “Turing Test”. Summarize your answers to the following:
   1. What is the Turing Test?

The Turing Test is a test of a machine’s ability to exhibit intelligent behaviour, similar to that of a human’s.

* 1. Who was Alan Turing?

Alan Turing was a mathematician, computer scientist, logician, and philosopher. He developed the proof that automatic computation cannot solve all mathematical problems. This concept became known as the Turing machine, which has become the foundation of the modern theory of computation and computability.

* 1. How does the Turning Test work?

A human evaluator would judge natural language conversations between a human and a machine designed to generate human-like responses. The evaluator would be aware that one of the two partners in conversation is a machine, and all participants would be separated from one another. The conversation would be limited to a text-only channel such as a computer keyboard and screen so the result would not depend on the machine's ability to render words as speech. If the evaluator cannot reliably tell the machine from the human, the machine is said to have passed the test. The test results do not depend on the machine's ability to give correct answers to questions, only how closely its answers resemble those a human would give.

* 1. How is the Turing Test different from other Artificial Intelligence tests?

The Turing Test is different from other Artificial Intelligence tests because the AI is required to pose as a human. They type and mimic human speech with a human right next to them, unlike other tests, where all that is participating is the AI.

1. Visit the Ted Ed website to learn more about the Turing Test.
   1. Watch the video at: <https://ed.ted.com/lessons/the-turing-test-can-a-computer-pass-for-a-human-alex-gendler>
   2. Complete the on-line test at: <https://ed.ted.com/lessons/the-turing-test-can-a-computer-pass-for-a-human-alex-gendler#review>
2. Has any computer AI passed the Turing Test? Research this question and report on your results.

It’s commonly believed that Eugene Goostman has passed the Turing Test; however, there is still scepticism regarding this claim. Eugene is a chatbot that poses as a 13 year old Ukrainian boy; his characteristics that are intended to induce forgiveness in those with whom it interacts for its grammatical errors and lack of general knowledge. Additionally, judges at that Turing Test were the bot’s developers, leaving controversy regarding if the test was rigged or not.

1. Do you think that you have ever been fooled by an on-line computer AI program? Explain your answer.

I honestly don’t believe that I’ve been fooled by an online computer AI program. I’ve talked to Eliza and Cleverbot, and it becomes very obvious very quickly that they’re both bots. They can’t hold conversations, repeat what you say by re-wording it and often change the topic randomly. Additionally, their general behaviour and way of speaking (very articulate, in a sense) doesn’t seem all that human. I think that I would’ve been able to tell if I was talking to an AI program.

**Level 3 Article Reviews**

Pick any three (3) out of the following four (4) articles to read and review. Answer the questions that are specific to each article.

Article 1: Social Media Bots

Read the following article:

1. *How much internet traffic is estimated to be produced by AI bots?*

Approximately 30% of internet traffic is produced by malicious bots.

1. *What are some strategies used by bots to appear more human?*

Many bots were developed to behave like a human—they use emojis in their posts, only post at reasonable hours of the day, and they limit the amount of information they share.

1. *How many social media accounts are estimated to be AI bots?*

Twitter revealed in a Securities and Exchange Commission filing that approximately 8.5% of all its users were bots, and that number may have increased to as much as 15% in 2017.

1. *How easy is it for a user to detect that they have been “friended” buy a social media AI bot?*

More than 20% of authentic Facebook users accept friend requests indiscriminately. People with a large network of friends are more likely to accept requests from people they don't know. This can make it relatively easy for bots to infiltrate a network of social media users. It isn’t that difficult to tell if a user has been friended by a social media AI bot; look for patterns in their posting, repetition in the way they speak and if they often talk about the same things. You can also look to see if they like things constantly, or if they “spam” likes and reblogs/retweets.

Article 2: Social Media Bots

Read the following article:

https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/articles/2018-07-24/how-social-media-bots-could-compromise-public-health

1. *How many social media accounts are estimated to be AI bots?*

Researchers have estimated that there are tens of millions of AI bots on social media.

1. *What is the purpose / objective of these AI bots?*

The purpose/objective of these AI bots is to spread misleading or false information with the intent of influencing how people think or act, which has a bad effect on peoples’ health.

1. *How could a bot be used to increase the number of people vaping or smoking?*

If harnessed to promote certain products, the volume of bot-generated posts could make it seem like those behaviors or products are more popular than they are. That could normalize poor or misinformed health decisions. For example, bots are significantly more likely than real people to post hashtags about smoking cessation and e-cigarettes in the same tweet, indicating bots were pushing vaping as a safe alternative to traditional tobacco cigarettes. If you're a smoker that’s looking to quit and you see messages fill your timeline or you go online and see these posts, that only makes you want to continue smoking.

1. *How could a bot be used to increase the public concern about getting vaccinated?*

It’s the same effect that the posts about smoking and vaping have on the community. With the case of vaccinations, with millions of messages perpetuating this idea that vaccinations are harmful, that can have serious effects on families; meaning that they choose to not vaccinate their children, which only leads them to getting sick.

1. *What is a “sockpuppet”?*

A “sockpuppet” is basically fake or deceptive accounts managed by real people – or trolls, meaning they’re accounts managed by people who post provocatively to anger and distract others.

Article 3: Automated Journalism

Read the following article:

https://www.bbc.com/news/business-42858174

1. *What are some of the topics of the articles produced by the robo-journalists owned by the Press Association (PA)? How long and how detailed are these articles?*

Some of the topics of articles produced by the robo-journalists owned by the Press Association include smoking during pregnancy, recycling rates and cancelled operations. These stories are only ever a few paragraphs in length.

1. *“At this stage” what are the limitations of robo-journalists? What jobs do human journalists do that cannot yet be done by robo-journalists?*

At this stage, the system simply amplifies the work human journalists do, some of whom are involved in developing the system's output. The automated part is currently limited to trawling through the data, something that would take humans far longer to do.

1. *What happened when the LA Times used a robo-journalist to report on an earthquake?*

When the LA Times used a robo-journalist to report on an earthquake, they talked about a 6.8 magnitude quake off the coast of California – but it was actually a record of a 1925 earthquake that had been published by the USGS in error. They were 92 years late.

1. *What are some of the “easier” tasks that robo-journalists are used to produce articles for?*

Many publishers are using automation to release interesting data quickly - from election results to official figures on social issues. They could also be used to simplify information and stories. They can also trawl through data that would take humans a very long time to do.

1. *Do you think this article was written by a robo-journalist? Explain your answer by giving examples of both why and why not.*

I don’t think that this article was written by a robo-journalist. Articles written by robots are only ever a few paragraphs in length and don’t go into as much detail as the author of this article did, as they’re only good at trawling through data. (Additionally, it says right at the top of the page that it was written by Chris Baraniuk, a Technology of Business reporter)

Article 4: Automated Journalism

Read the following article:

https://digiday.com/media/washington-posts-robot-reporter-published-500-articles-last-year/

1. What is the name of the Washington Post’s robo-journalist and what was its first assignment?

2. How can robo-reporting expand the audience for newspapers?

3. How can robo-reporting help human journalists?

4. Are smaller news organizations using robo-reporting? What are the benefits to smaller organizations?

5. Do you think this article was written by a robo-reporter? Explain your answer by giving examples of both why and why not.

**Level 4 (TBD)**

*Will Artificial Intelligence take your job?*

https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2018/02/26/artificial-intelligence-will-take-your-job-what-you-can-do-today-to-protect-it-tomorrow/#430f57bf4f27

https://www.forbes.com/sites/theyec/2018/07/06/do-you-fear-artificial-intelligence-will-take-your-job/#7fb127a611aa

Level 3 To Be Defined….

Social Media Bots

<https://www.questia.com/magazine/1G1-530914703/social-media-bots-how-they-spread-misinformation>

<https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/articles/2018-07-24/how-social-media-bots-could-compromise-public-health>

Automated Journalism

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-42858174>

<https://digiday.com/media/washington-posts-robot-reporter-published-500-articles-last-year/>

Will Artificial Intelligence take your job?

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2018/02/26/artificial-intelligence-will-take-your-job-what-you-can-do-today-to-protect-it-tomorrow/#430f57bf4f27>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/theyec/2018/07/06/do-you-fear-artificial-intelligence-will-take-your-job/#7fb127a611aa>