

WAF Challenge 2020

The WAF challenge for 2020 will be drawing data from a popular kaggle competition, “Trending videos on Youtube”(<https://www.kaggle.com/datasnaek/youtube-new>). The kaggle competition contains data collected from Youtube videos across different geographic zones. For this challenge, we would like you to only focus on the specific dataset of **US audiences**. The data dictionary and context can be found in the link above.

We designed **three prompts** for this challenge, of which you’re **only required to do one**. You may choose to do two or all three if you’d like, but the number of prompts completed will not impact our assessment.

Prompt 1: Imagine that you are working on the recommendation engine team of Youtube, please design a recommendation engine (i.e., clustering engine) for Youtube videos (Note: we are not looking for extremely fancy methods involving video processing or recognition. We want to gauge your ability to perform unsupervised learning tasks with both structured and unstructured data). Explain your rationale in designing the engine and make sure to include some examples of working recommendations.

Prompt 2: Imagine that you are working on the digital ranking team of Youtube, please create a predictive model to assess which Youtube videos should be on the front page (Note: We purposefully left the specific metric of this open-ended and up to your discretion. For example, you can predict the number of views, number of likes, or likelihood of being a mega-hit or receiving more than 600 million views). Like most classic ML tasks, while the quality of the model is important, your thought process, including why you chose the metric that you chose, is just as essential for our assessment.

Prompt 3: Imagine that you are a product analyst at Youtube and you work extremely close with the product management team in designing new features, please explore the dataset to find interesting inferences and come up with a product recommendation for Youtube. This prompt is less technical relative to the other prompt, so we would like you to focus on showcasing your abilities in data story-telling and product intuition. For the assessment, we would be focusing on your data exploration, creativity, and your ability to turn data into real-world insights.

When putting up the final report, we would advise you to explain your work as concisely as possible. The deliverable that we are expecting is a **3-page summary slide deck**, along with the **code/excel document you used for the challenge**. Please do not surpass the page limit because only the first 3 pages will get reviewed. The deadline for the submission will be **January 31st at midnight**. Please submit the challenge to whartonanalyticsfellow@wharton.upenn.edu. Thank you and we look forward to seeing your work!