**AI Use Writeup**

Creating a social app for university students has been quite a strenuous task, as it involves both technical challenges and a need for engaging and meaningful content. ChatGPT has been a valuable resource along the way, helping to streamline the development process and boost the app’s functionality and appeal. Here are some ways ChatGPT has contributed to the UniTalk application:

**1. Coding Support**

* **Choosing the Right Tools**: ChatGPT has provided insights on the best tools and technologies to use. It recommended Firebase for its strong support of real-time data and user authentication, which is essential for a social media app where students can instantly connect. These suggestions helped shape the app’s backbone.
* **Building Key Features**: ChatGPT has been like an extra set of hands, helping with the coding needed for features like user login, messaging, and profile customisation. Breaking down the coding steps has made the whole process much more manageable, allowing us to work through each feature without feeling overwhelmed.
* **Fixing Errors and Streamlining Code**: Debugging is always a time-consuming part of any project. ChatGPT has been quick to offer fixes and alternative approaches whenever errors popped up, especially in Kotlin, which sped up troubleshooting and led to cleaner, more efficient code.
* **Keeping Data Secure**: ChatGPT has been helpful for setting up secure user authentication and data management practices in Firebase. It shared insights on safely handling API keys and user data, which is critical for protecting users’ privacy and building trust.

**2. Creating Content that Connects with Users**

* **Designing a Friendly UI/UX**: One of the key challenges was making sure the app is user-friendly and fun for students. ChatGPT suggested ways to make the layout more intuitive, to would catch students’ interest.
* **Crafting Engaging Content**: ChatGPT has also helped with the app’s content strategy, offering ideas on how to keep the feed fresh and interesting. This includes tips for promoting campus events via the notices section, sharing academic resources, and posting updates that would keep students engaged and returning to the app via the ‘Socials’ section.

**3. Continuous Improvement and Documentation**

* **Improving Features Over Time**: ChatGPT has been a sounding board for refining features as they’re developed, helping identify areas for improvement and suggesting ways to enhance functionality based on best practices.
* **Detailed Documentation**: ChatGPT has been helpful for documenting how each feature works, making it easier to maintain the app and keep it organised for future updates.

In summary, the project received assistance from ChatGPT for guidance in coding, debugging, and content generation, which supported feature development and user experience. ChatGPT has played an important role in enhancing our original ideas for the UniTalk application.