

KRITIK Assignments

L00: Intro to Kritik

During my senior year of high school, I served as the leader of my school's robotics team. I dedicated a significant amount of time to improving the robot's design and programming, focusing on making it as competitive as possible. However, one day, my mentors offered me advice that changed my perspective. They emphasized that while my technical skills were valuable, my greatest responsibility was to teach and guide the younger students. They helped me realize that leadership wasn't just about achieving success for that season, but about ensuring the team's continued success in the years to come.

This advice fundamentally changed how I viewed leadership. Initially, I believed my success was measured by how much I personally contributed to the robot. However, I soon realized that effective leadership involves helping others grow, fostering collaboration, and sharing knowledge. When I shifted my focus to mentoring, I saw the younger students gain confidence and develop their skills. It was incredibly rewarding to see them learn and improve through my guidance.

This experience taught me valuable lessons about leadership and teamwork that I continue to apply in college and beyond. I learned that true success is not just about personal achievement, but about empowering others and ensuring the strength of the team for the future.

L02: Group Activity 1: Virtual Info Treasure Hunt: Self and Group Evaluation

How did the group interact together?

We created a Teams chat to talk and store our files for the project. We started out with the individual briefs of the project, and then read each others briefs. Talking over Teams, we came to a conclusion that was shown by our papers.

What have you learned and how have you learned it?

Raw information is a bad way to make decisions, if you compile the information into helpful graphics and chart it help inform your decision-making, as well helps back up those decisions.

What were your contributions to the group?

Research and synthesis, I found an article on how compiling information into helpful graphics can help decision making. Then worked with my group to discuss the conclusions of our project.

What was done well? What could be improved?

Communication, I am really bad at getting messages. My canvas and emails are a nightmare to organize and read. It took me a while to see Zach's initial message, but once we were on teams it was easier to communicate.

L05: Letter to an OS (Kritik): GenAI Use is Optional in this Activity

Dear Fire TV,

We need to talk. I thought we had something special when I brought you into my home a mere 1.5 years ago. You promised me seamless streaming, a world of entertainment at my fingertips, and a smooth, effortless experience. But here we are, and I feel like I'm dating a TV from 2016.

You're so slow. It takes you forever to launch apps, and navigating menus is like wading through molasses. I press a button, and by the time you respond, I've already forgotten why I pressed it in the first place. I thought technology was supposed to make life easier, not test my patience daily.

It honestly feels like you've aged in dog years. Are you tired? Have I done something wrong? Or is this just some elaborate scheme of planned obsolescence, forcing me to replace you far sooner than I should have to? Because if that's the case, it's working—I find myself longing for a "dumb TV" just to avoid dealing with your sluggish nonsense.

And another thing—why do you unmute yourself whenever you feel like it? It's aggravating! It makes me feel like you don't understand that your sole purpose is to do what I say, not make autonomous decisions like some rogue AI trying to assert its dominance. The TV exists to follow my commands, not the other way around.

My roommates have heard this rant hundreds of times, but you never seem to listen. So, Fire TV, it's time to part ways. I'm moving on to something faster, something that respects my time. Maybe a Roku, maybe a Chromecast, maybe just reading a book instead—literally anything would be more responsive than you.

No hard feelings (okay, maybe a few), but I deserve better.

Frustratingly,

Sean

-- GPT Prompt --

Break-up Letter Picture yourself writing a break-up letter to an operating system or application that has caused you frustration, annoyance, or disappointment. Express your feelings honestly while using a touch of humor.

Write a breakup letter to fire tv in my tv.

Why did you choose the particular operating system or application for your letter?

- the tv is so slow, it is only 1.5 years old and yet it seems to be operating like a 7 year old tv. its borderline feels like planned obsolescence.

What emotions did you feel while writing the letter?

- anger, frustration, disappointment

How does this activity reflect the role that technology plays in our lives?

- its exists to make my life easier, and when it fails to complete that task it is annoying, but when the tv makes everything 5x slower it makes me wish for "dumb TVs" again.

Did the process of writing the letter help you better understand your feelings toward the technology you interact with?

- I'm already well aware of the technology in my life and appreciate when tech works well, and I definitely know when it works bad. I have written this letter many times every time I have to use the tv. everything i wrote here is something I've said to my roommates 100s of time.

also add that it is aggravating that the tv decides to unmute itself when it feels like it, makes me feel like it doesn't understand the tv exists to only do what i say

L10: Group Activity 3: Infographic on Sec: Self and Group Evaluation

How did the group interact together?

It started out with someone reaching out via email, then created a text group chat where we were able to organize the project better. Then one of us created a canvas and we divided up the work. Then everyone completed their work.

What have you learned and how have you learned it?

I learned of the worst malware incidents in history. Many of them cause billions of dollars worth of damage or ransoms.

What were your contributions to the group?

I complete the "Worst Malware Incidents" section and styling the graphics.

What was done well? What could be improved?

Communication worked pretty well with group, comparing it to my previous groups. I think we could have done a better job organizing the layout of the sections of the graphic, or include some charts.