

SPECIALIZED ENGLISH PROGRAM 1  
READER RESPONSE FORM

Name: Geronimo, Matt Gabriel A. Section: AVII-25 Date: Nov. 27, 2024 Score: ...../50

Title of Reading Selection: Noam Chomsky: The False Promise of ChatGPT

Summary

Direction: Write a one-paragraph (approximately 10 sentences) summary of the reading selection. It should include the title of the reading selection, the author’s name, author’s thesis, and supporting points.

In Noam Chomsky's "The False Promise of ChatGPT", the author argues that while AI systems like ChatGPT are impressive, they fundamentally lack the true intelligence and reasoning of humans. Chomsky's thesis is that AI operates based on statistical patterns rather than causal understanding, which limits its ability to think critically, explain phenomena, or engage in moral reasoning. He supports this by explaining how ChatGPT and similar systems excel at description and prediction but fail to provide meaningful explanations or consider what is not the case. Chomsky compares machine learning with human cognition, emphasizing that humans can generate causal explanations, which is absent in AI. He uses examples, such as ChatGPT's inability to provide moral insight on issues like terraforming Mars, to demonstrate its lack of ethical reasoning. Chomsky further critiques the ethical implications of AI, pointing to the failure of Microsoft's Tay chatbot as an example of AI's vulnerability to bias. Ultimately, Chomsky argues that AI, while useful in certain contexts, cannot replicate human reasoning, creativity, or ethical judgment, making it far from the revolutionary technology some claim it to be.

Response

Direction: Write a one-paragraph (approximately 10 sentences) response to the reading selection. It should include your reaction to the author’s thesis, and assessment of author’s achievement of the text’s purpose, clarity, and objectivity.

I found Noam Chomsky's thesis in "The False Promise of ChatGPT" both enlightening and thought-provoking, especially as someone who frequently uses ChatGPT for simple questions or to break down complex reading materials. While I agree with his point that AI lacks the deeper reasoning and ethical considerations humans possess, I also see the value in its utility for tasks that don't require complex thought. Chomsky clearly communicates the limitations of AI in a way that challenges the vast, widespread hype surrounding it, highlighting the crucial difference between machine learning's statistical processing and human's emotion and reasoning. His arguments are well-structured, though at times, the language feels quite formal for a general audience. Nonetheless, Chomsky's thorough analysis of AI's lack of causal understanding and moral reasoning strengthens his purpose, making the article engaging for those invested in understanding the limits of AI. His examples, like the failure of Microsoft's Tay chatbot, effectively support his criticism of AI's ethical shortcomings. While the text is clear in its critique, it could benefit from acknowledging some of the practical applications of AI, especially for users like me who appreciate its simplicity and efficiency. Overall, Chomsky accomplishes his goal of challenging AI's supposed promise, but his perspective may seem too one-sided for those who view AI as a helpful tool rather than a potential threat.

Rubric

This reader response will be evaluated based on the criteria below:

Criteria	6-10 Points	1-5 Points	Score
Comprehension	Summary demonstrates understanding of main idea and supporting points in the source text	Summary contains inaccurate information.	
Critical Reading	Response demonstrates sound reasoning in reacting to author’s thesis and in justifying analysis and assessment of the text’s communicative value	Response contains one or more logical fallacies.	
Clarity	Ideas in sentences are clearly stated. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provides pertinent details of the text (i.e., title, author’s name, some publication details) in an introductory sentence.</li><li>Uses transitional devices and accurate words</li></ul>	Ideas in sentences are not clearly stated.	
Completeness	Important ideas/information from the text are quoted to prove reader’s reaction/rhetorical analysis.	Lacks ideas/information from text which is necessary to prove reader’s reaction/rhetorical analysis.	
Conventions	Writing displays correct grammar, spelling, and mechanics.	Writing displays incorrect grammar, spelling, and mechanics.	