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Text Mining

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Pledged

ChatGPT New Age Journalist

As an aspiring journalist, I personally believe that there is nothing better than the human mind, especially when it comes to journalism. Writing is something that people have done for many years and some people love it, but some people hate it. Those that hate it are big fans of AI technology such as ChatGPT which takes large amounts of text data, such as books, articles, and websites to generate answers to questions asked by users. So, why are these technologies important to journalists like me? The biggest reason and concern is that these technologies will replace actual journalists. The answer to this question is one that has yet to be found because these AI technologies are still a work in progress. It will be interesting to see how AI technology progresses because the one thing humans have over the AI is emotions and human understanding. With that advantage, humans have a leg up, but the progression of AI technology is something to watch out for. As someone who is hoping to go into the journalism field, it is scary to see that the job I have dreamed about could be taken over by an AI technology without having a chance to compete. Despite this concern, after doing research on ChatGPT, I do personally believe that human journalists will still have a place in the field, but AI technology like ChatGPT will be an easier way to find answers to questions instead of looking through articles. So, I believe that human journalists and AI technology will work hand in hand throughout the future of journalism.

So, to test my hypothesis on the subject, I wanted to do some research and questioning in regards to how well ChatGPT and Google would respond to certain questions. In regards to Google, I was trying to find out what sort of response it would spit out when asked different styles of questions. The answers Google would spit out are different articles and websites that contained the keywords in the question asked which is different from ChatGPT responses which is an actual answer to the question.

The research I conducted consisted of asking ChatGPT and Google the same questions to see what response was elicited. The first question I asked was “Who is the best baseball player ever?” The second question I asked was “Who is statistically the best baseball player ever?” Finally, the third question was “How will the yankees season play out?”

The results were interesting to say the least. In response to the first question, Google responded with multiple articles that all contained basically the same thing. Almost every article that Google showed were numbered lists ranking the top baseball players of all time, except a couple outliers that ranked players by franchise and position. There were basically zero articles that used emotion or human thought process to determine one single player. ChatGPT, on the other hand, had almost an opposite approach. “Determining the best baseball player ever is a subjective matter that is often debated among fans and experts. There have been many legendary players throughout baseball history, and different people may have different opinions on who was the best.

That being said, one player who is often considered among the greatest ever is Babe Ruth. Ruth revolutionized the game with his incredible hitting ability, leading the league in home runs 12 times and finishing his career with a batting average of .342. He was also an excellent pitcher earlier in his career, with a career ERA of 2.28.

Other players who are often considered among the best ever include Willie Mays, Hank Aaron, Ted Williams, and Barry Bonds. Each of these players had a long and highly productive career and left a lasting impact on the game of baseball. Ultimately, the answer to this question may depend on personal opinion and individual criteria for what makes a great baseball player.”

The second question produced around the same articles on Google as the first question. There were no articles within the first few shown that took the statistical approach when determining the top player. It again produced the same types of numbered lists. ChatGPT focused solely on the statistics. “Determining the statistical best baseball player ever is a matter of some debate among fans and experts, as there are many factors to consider. However, one widely accepted approach is to use advanced statistical metrics like Wins Above Replacement (WAR) to compare players across different eras.

By most measures, the player with the highest career WAR is Babe Ruth, who played from 1914-1935. Ruth amassed a WAR of 162.1 over his career, largely thanks to his incredible hitting ability. He led the league in home runs 12 times and had a career batting average of .342.

Other players who are often considered among the statistical best ever include Willie Mays, Hank Aaron, and Barry Bonds, all of whom had long and highly productive careers and amassed high WAR totals. However, Bonds' career is somewhat controversial due to his alleged use of performance-enhancing drugs.”

The third and final question was a bit different and it brought different responses with it. Google responded with articles that were written during the season last year and numerous websites that were just a schedule of the Yankee games for the 2023 season. ChatGPT had an actual response to the question. “As an AI language model, I do not have the ability to predict the future with certainty. However, I can provide some analysis based on current statistics and trends.

The New York Yankees have had a somewhat rocky start to the 2023 season, but they have a talented roster and many players with a history of success. If they can stay healthy and perform up to their potential, they could certainly make a push for a playoff spot.

One area where the Yankees have struggled this season is in their starting pitching, with several key players struggling with injuries or inconsistent performance. If they can get their pitching staff back on track, they could improve their chances of success.

Ultimately, the outcome of the Yankees' season will depend on many factors, including the performance of their players, injuries, and luck. It's possible that they could make a deep run in the playoffs, but there are no guarantees in baseball.”

What did we learn from the research? Well, for starters, it is much easier to find answers with ChatGPT if you do not want to do a lot of research. I wanted to ask an open ended question in regards to the third question about the Yankees season because I wanted to see whether or not ChatGPT would even be able to answer it. I was unsure whether or not ChatGPT would be able to give an answer to a question that really did not have one. I figured that Google would pull up some articles written from sports critics or sports writers that have recently been uploaded that were about the Yankees and their 2023 season so far, but I was wrong. There were zero articles about the current Yankees season and there were only a few that were written during the season last year. I know it is fairly early into the season, but surely someone has written an article about it. ChatGPT’s response was almost more human than any of the other articles I saw on Google. ChatGPT referenced the rough start to the season and the injuries surrounding the team and then gave its opinion on how it believes the Yankees season will play out. That is not at all how I thought the response would look like. I thought it would just say that it cannot answer the question because that is what response internet technology has given until this point. AI technology was only able to answer questions that had real answers until now. When it comes to the two questions about which baseball player is the best, the Google articles are mainly numbered rankings rather than an actual description of why one is better than the others. I was hoping to see at least a couple of articles that were an actual argument as to why a certain player was better than the rest. While most articles contained a numbered list that obviously put a player at number one, there was hardly any argument as to why they were placed where each player was. There were only descriptions of their career which does not tell why they are necessarily better than another player. ChatGPT did give answers and both questions concluded that Babe Ruth was the best baseball player ever. The first question was an opinion question and ChatGPT did not contain any statistical information and only descriptive information, but only used statistical information when asked.

After doing this experiment and looking over the research, I still believe that humans and AI technology will work hand in hand throughout the future of journalism. While ChatGPT did appear to be the perfect place to find any and all kinds of information, the AI technology has to get those answers from somewhere. ChatGPT uses articles, websites, and books from all over the internet to generate their answers and I would confidently say that humans wrote the majority of those articles, websites, and books that are used. While the research says that human articles are less viable when you can just ask the AI, the research was also very limited. I believe that with more questions asked and deeper research done, there would have been more human articles and websites that would have provided comparable answers to what ChatGPT was able to produce. I think more research should be done specifically with ChatGPT and other AI technologies to really push the limits and see what kind of answers will be produced with more complex questions. Overall, I am fairly surprised at the results due to the fact that ChatGPT was able to produce such good results compared to the Google articles. Despite the surprising results, I do still believe that human journalists are very viable and will continue to be even with the progression in AI technology.