

Scenario 04 — Moving into AI-Adjacent Roles

Scenario category: Career Transition and Employability

Framework: CloudPedagogy AI Capability Framework (2026 Edition)

Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 4.0

Scenario overview

This scenario supports professionals who are **transitioning into AI-adjacent roles** — positions where AI influences workflows, decision-making, or strategy, but where the role holder is not expected to be a technical AI specialist.

The focus is on **credible repositioning**: articulating human judgement, domain expertise, ethical awareness, and responsible collaboration with AI systems without overstating technical capability.

Context narrative

You are considering roles that reference AI more explicitly than your previous position. Examples include:

- Digital or transformation-focused roles
- AI-enabled teaching, research, policy, or service roles
- Programme, product, or operations roles with AI exposure

You are confident in your professional experience but concerned about:

- Over-claiming AI expertise
- Being dismissed as “not technical enough”
- Sounding vague or generic when discussing AI

You decide to use the AI Capability Framework to **reframe your profile** around capability rather than tools.

Applying the AI Capability Framework

Domain 1 — AI Awareness & Orientation

Purpose in this scenario: Understand what “AI-adjacent” really means.

You begin by clarifying:

- Which parts of the role involve AI systems
- Where decision-making, interpretation, and governance sit
- What technical depth is *actually* required

Example orientation prompt:

“Based on this role description, what aspects are AI-enabled versus human-led, and where is judgement most critical?”

This prevents unnecessary technical overreach.

Domain 2 — Human–AI Co-Agency

Purpose in this scenario: Position yourself as a capable collaborator.

You focus on:

- How you frame problems for AI tools
- How you evaluate and contextualise outputs
- How you work with technical colleagues

Example co-agency prompt:

“Help me articulate how I collaborate with AI systems and technical specialists while retaining responsibility for outcomes.”

This signals maturity and teamwork.

Domain 3 — Applied Practice & Innovation

Purpose in this scenario: Show relevant, honest practice.

You prepare examples of:

- Using AI to support analysis, synthesis, or communication
- Piloting tools cautiously
- Translating AI outputs into action

You avoid claiming:

- Model development
- Algorithm design
- Technical ownership you do not have

Example applied prompt:

“Help me frame an example where AI supported my work, clearly distinguishing between what AI did and what I decided.”

Domain 4 — Ethics, Equity & Impact

Purpose in this scenario: Address organisational concerns.

You prepare to discuss:

- Risks of inappropriate AI use
- Bias and exclusion
- Impact on users, learners, or staff

Reflection question:

“What ethical risks would I be expected to notice and escalate in this role?”

This aligns you with institutional values.

Domain 5 — Decision-Making & Governance

Purpose in this scenario: Demonstrate reliability.

You articulate:

- When AI outputs require human review
- How decisions are documented
- How accountability is maintained

Example governance prompt:

“Help me prepare an explanation of how I would manage AI-related decisions responsibly in this role.”

This reassures employers.

Domain 6 — Reflection, Learning & Renewal

Purpose in this scenario: Signal sustainable growth.

You describe:

- How you stay informed without chasing hype
- How reflection guides learning priorities
- How you adapt as AI evolves

Reflection prompt:

“How can I show that I am developing AI capability responsibly over time rather than claiming fixed expertise?”

Cross-domain synthesis

Across all domains, moving into AI-adjacent roles becomes:

A shift from technical performance to responsible capability.

The framework enables candidates to:

- Avoid false expertise claims
 - Communicate value clearly
 - Align with organisational trust and risk priorities
-

Adaptation notes

This scenario can be adapted for:

- Mid-career transitions
- Academic leadership roles
- Professional services
- Public-sector and NGO contexts

It can also support mentoring and career-coaching programmes.

Licensing and reuse

This scenario is part of the **CloudPedagogy AI Capability Framework (2026 Edition)** :
<https://www.cloudpedagogy.com/pages/ai-capability-framework>

You may reuse and adapt this material under the **CC BY-NC-SA 4.0 licence**, with attribution.
