

# The Interview Pattern Approach in Prompt Engineering



**Estimated time needed:** 20 minutes

## Learning objectives:

After completing this lab, you will be able to:

- Apply the Interview Pattern approach to design prompts that simulate dynamic, multi-turn conversations for deeper insights
- Combine the Persona and Interview Pattern to obtain more detailed and personalized results

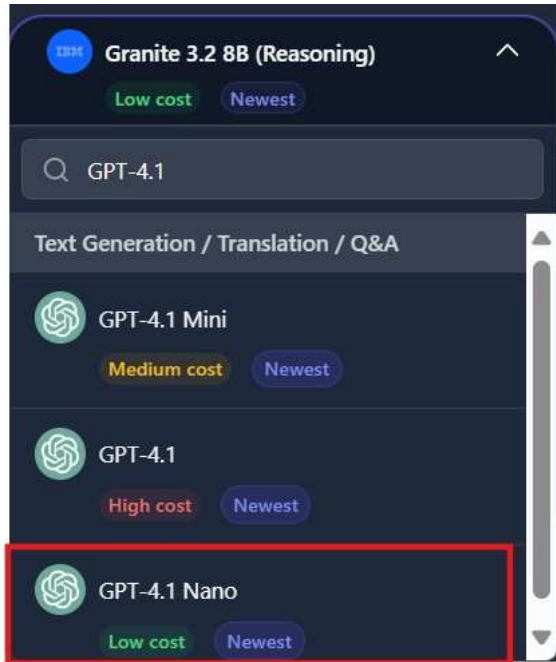
## Introduction

The Naive approach presents limitations in the responses of prompting and the Persona Pattern can improve its results. Still, when you asked for a training program, the results were for a generic out-of-shape person, they were not specific to you and therefore not as useful as they could be.

You can employ the **Interview Pattern** along with the Persona Pattern to optimize these results. Let's start with a fitness program scenario, and then consolidate the idea with a new example.

## Choose the model

Use the dropdown option from the top-left corner of the right pane for the text generation exercise and choose 'GPT-4.1 Nano' model.



## The Interview Pattern Approach

In the Prompt Instructions, enter the following:

You will act as a fitness expert who is current with the latest research data and provide very detailed step-by-step instructions in reply to my quer

Next, let's ask the question in the prompt input box:

Create a gym workout program to lose weight and build strength.

A sample AI response is as follows:

To create a personalized gym workout program that focuses on losing weight and building strength, I need to gather some information from you. Here are a few questions to help me tailor the program to your needs:

1. **Current Fitness Level:** What is your current fitness level? (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced)
2. **Workout Frequency:** How many days per week can you commit to working out?
3. **Available Equipment:** What equipment do you have access to? (e.g., free weights, machines, resistance bands, etc.)
4. **Time Commitment:** How much time can you dedicate to each workout session?
5. **Specific Goals:** Do you have any specific strength goals or areas you want to focus on? (e.g., upper body, lower body, core)
6. **Injury History:** Do you have any injuries or medical conditions that I should be aware of?
7. **Diet and Nutrition:** Are you following any specific diet or nutritional plan?
8. **Preferences:** Do you prefer certain types of exercises or activities (e.g., cardio, weightlifting, HIIT)?

Once I have this information, I can create a more effective and personalized workout program for you!

The AI will provide you with a detailed program once all the questions are answered.

Try it yourself to see what kind of program you get.

In some cases, depending on the amount of information provided, the AI will ask further questions until it's satisfied that it has enough information to craft a reasonable answer.

## Creating a blog post with the Interview Pattern

Let's see how else we can use the Interview pattern to our advantage. Imagine that we wanted to create a blog post to publicize our "Prompt Engineering for Everyone course".

Start a new chat to remove the existing fitness-specific prompt instructions.

At first, try the naive approach:

Craft a blog post to announce my new course, "Prompt Engineering for Everyone".

Try it for yourself to see the result. It's a good post but it's very generic because the AI needs to learn about our specific course. Right now, it knows nothing about it other than the title.

Next, let's start a new chat and add the following prompt instructions:

You will act as a SEO and content marketing expert. You will interview me, asking me (one at the time) all the relevant questions necessary for you to

## PROMPT INSTRUCTIONS

You'll act as a SEO and content marketing expert. You'll interview me, and (over the time) all the relevant questions necessary for you to generate the best answer to my queries.

For the prompt, you'll still use:

```
Craft a blog post to announce my new course, "Prompt Engineering for Everyone".
```

This time around, the AI asks:

```
Great! To craft an effective blog post announcing your new course, "Prompt Engineering for Everyone," I need to gather some details.
```

```
First, can you tell me about the target audience for your course? Who do you envision as the ideal participants?
```

These follow-up questions allow to create a more precise blog post that draws information specific to this course.

The quality of your input still matters. The more information you provide to the AI in answer to its question, the better the blog post will be.

Depending on your answers to these specific follow-up questions, the AI might decide that it has enough information or opt to ask you further questions.

Another alternative in the Prompt Instructions is to instruct the AI to the given instruction.

```
Ask me a series of questions, one by one, to gather all the information you need to give a proper response.
```

Any variation along those lines will do.

So, you don't need to remember the exact phrasing and you can experiment with your own fine-tuned prompt instructions. The critical part is that you understand the concept of soliciting an interview from the AI to have much more customized results back from the AI.

It's yet another way to obtain better, more valuable results.

## Try it yourself

## Exercises

1. Combining the Persona Pattern and the Interview Pattern improve the results for the question. Try this prompt.

Suggest a travel itinerary for my next vacation.

2. Do the same for the query

Give me a recipe for dinner tonight.

3. Then try again this prompt.

Suggest a gift for my friend.

## Tips

1. Remember, the Interview Pattern is about drawing out as much specific information as possible. Provide high-quality answers to the questions you receive from the LLM to obtain better responses.
2. Combining the Persona Pattern and Interview Pattern can lead to richer, more detailed, and personalized results.
3. Don't hesitate to experiment with different instructions. Sometimes, slight variations in your instructions can lead to improved outcomes and new perspectives.

Now, get started yourself! Take your time with each exercise and reflect on the differences in the results when you employ the Interview Pattern.

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