

ChatGPT: Observations

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I [started playing](#) with ChatGPT on Friday. I kept playing with it over the weekend. While it's always hard to judge in the moment, I'm convinced it's the most important new technology to come out in my lifetime. Or maybe a better way to think about it is this: ChatGPT is a demonstration that all the hype about AI in recent years was actually not hype enough.

All weekend I was in that weird state where you look at people around you and they're just going about their business, and you want to scream "the whole world has changed! Half of what you're doing is now pointless! To try to shake sense into my neighbors, my parents, and my kids, I took something real they were each working on and we tried it in ChatGPT, and in each case they were blown away by the output. By Sunday night my son figured out it could easily do his programming and writing assignments.

I wish I could better describe how I'm feeling. I saw this tweet on Friday:

And that does capture some of it. I imagine many people back then had heard of Einstein, but the moment the world learned of an actual nuclear explosion, suddenly it was no longer just theory, and nothing looked the same.

You can read my long [chat transcript](#) and see how the more I talked with it the more I learned how amazing it was, and you can find tons and tons of much crazier and more impressive examples if you look on twitter. Now after three days, here are ten synthesized observations:

1. It's like a human who read, memorized, understood, and made sense of all written information.
2. It's a better communicator and writer than the vast, vast majority of humans.
3. It's more creative than most humans (it can imagine stuff).
4. It has an insane amount of common sense (and since common sense is sometimes wrong and biased, it has those same problems, which will cause the biases to get even more locked in).
5. Like some people, it sometimes sounds very confident when it should not be.
6. It's a faster writer than any human.
7. It speaks more languages (natural and programming) than any human.
8. In the next few years, the internet will be flooded with more AI-generated content than human-produced content and it will be impossible to tell the difference.
9. In the next decade, every knowledge profession will undergo dramatic change and some will be wiped out.
10. The positronic brains in Asimov novels are no longer science fiction.



Write a poem about probability and python in the style of Homer's The Odyssey.



In a world of uncertainty, where fate doth lay
The gods of chance, they hold the sway
But fear not, brave adventurer, for there is a way
To navigate these perilous waters and make your own luck
With the power of Python, a tool of great muck

~~With its libraries and functions, so vast and diverse~~

Example from long conversation with chatGPT