Use case: Ramping up on a new domain (e.g. economics and technology development)

PRE-SHOW PROMPT

Use Case: Transform random notes or statements into a coherent work product (notes, impressions)

Brain dump prompt "The anniversary card."

PROMPT:

It's our anniversary and I need to write a message to my wife and I'm unable to get the words to come together. I love her deeply. Her humor, her nerdiness, her stubbornness, her resilience - these are all things I love about her. I'm so grateful for our 22 years together and I remain hopeful that we have 22 more but I really hope I die before she does because I don't really don't want to go on without her. Help me make something charming, sincere, and romantic out of that.

FOLLOW UP:

re write with -5 schmaltz and +10 snark

DISCUSSION:

- Prompt It is an example of a brain dump prompt where the LLM is given an assortment of ideas and asked to create something coherent out of them

- Sometimes you don't need a ton of context or instructions. LLMs can do a lot with a brain dump of sentences

- The follow up is a simple example of repairing the tone and persona of the result. It initially indexed heavily on "romantic" - the follow up added some spice that made if feel more authentic.

Another example of a brain dump: Bob's interview

LAB 1.1 PROMPT

Goal: Use dialogue methods to learn about a new subject

- Dialogue: Using a conversational format to interact (prompt) an LLM rather than giving it a single instruction.
    - Schema: Have a structure to a conversation to initiate and explore a topic
    - Multi turn: The intention is to have a two-sided discussion versus a single prompt

What this prompt lab does:

- Summary prompt creates an initial scaffold and context for dialogue
- Follow up prompts extend what the LLM has initially created

<mark>Note: This experiences is much better using voice chat.</mark>

PROMPT

Author: Monty Hammontree

Let's start a dialogue about book, as though we are in a book club. Write a thorough yet concise summary of ['title" - author]. Concentrate on only the most important takeaways and primary points from the book that together will give me a solid overview and understanding of the book and its topic.

Include all of the following in your **summary**:

7-10 Key ideas or arguments presented

Why should someone read this book (Be specific in this Heading)

5-7 Target audience groups or intended readership

3 of the best Quotes from this Book that change the way we think Main topic or theme of the book

Chapter titles or main sections of the book

Key takeaways or conclusions for each section

Any Techniques or special processes told by the author in the book

Author's background and qualifications

Comparison to other books on the same subject

Reception or critical response to the book

Recommendations [Other similar books on the same topic] in detail

To sum up: The book's biggest Takeaway and point in a singular sentence.

OUTPUT: Markdown format with #Headings, ##H2, ###H3, + bullet points, + sub-bullet points.

Book: "Design For a Better World", Don Norman

Prompt link: ChatGPT - Book club prompt

ChatGPT Agent: Agent link

Dialogue

Use these examples to aid in creating your dialogue, or discussion with the LLM. Follow up prompts should 1) expand the discussion (explain), 2) explore ideas from various points of view (eyes of the author, comparison), 3) clarify or correct misunderstandings, 4) connect new ideas to prior knowledge (reflection, comparison), and 5) support activation of this knowledge (application, annotated bibliography).

- **Compare with other works**: Compare and contrast with [alt example by title / author]. Where do they agree or diverge?

- **Delve through the eyes of the author**: Walk me through your initial summary, section by section, as though you were the author conducting a private coaching seminar for me on how to use this information. Use all the available knowledge you have e about the author and their other related works as you form your seminar. After each section, pause and ask me if I have any questions. Do not proceed to the next section until I say continue.

- **Explain**: Explain what the author means by [concept mentioned in the preceding section].

- **Application**:
    o How would I use this concept? How would you use it in [domain e.g. UX research]
    o Help me brainstorm ways I can use [concept mentioned] with or in [domain of interest]

- **Reflection:**
    o This is what it reminds me of [example].
    o Here are some examples or statements you've mentioned that resonate with me [list examples]

- **Critique**
    o What are the strengths and weakness in the author's main points?
    o What are the alternative perspectives on the author's main points?
    o What contradictions, if any, are evident in the work?

o   What controversies or disagreements are there in this domain that are relevant to the author's main points?

o   How credible are the book's main points? How should wone evaluate the book's credibility.

Wrap-up: Generate a bibliography: extract a list of all the books, titles and authors, mentioned in this discussion and produce a bibliography in APA style for me. For each title, create a summary of its relevance to the topic we've been discussing. Then generate another section called "related content" and create a list of other works, tightly related to this work, that we haven't discussed. Include the title, author and a short description of what the work talks about and it's relevance to our conversation today.

Agent

This prompt has been incorporated into a Chat GPT agent for experimentation: Click here to try the "Book Review" Agent.

Worked examples

"Design For a Better World", Don Norman

"Deep work" by Cal Newport

Exercises:

UC1: Choose a book from the executive reading list that you *haven't* already read. Use the book club prompts to explore the topic fully. Imagine you were going to meet with that Exec the next day for coffee. Are you ready to make small talk?

UC2: Choose one of the following titles that you are not familiar with. Use the book club prompts to explore the topic and its intersection with your research area. Imagine you were going to lead a talk with yoru team on what you learned. What would you talk about?

"The mismeasure of man", Stephen Jay Gould

"Phenomenology of Perception," by Maurice Merleau-Ponty , Donald Landesy

"Tripping on utopia" by Benjamin Breen

"Range" by David Epstein