



WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

Wikipedia:Signs of AI writing



This is an advice page from WikiProject AI Cleanup.

This page is not one of Wikipedia's [policies](#) or [guidelines](#), as it has not been thoroughly vetted by the community.



Do not solely rely on artificial intelligence content detection tools (such as GPTZero) to evaluate whether text is LLM-generated, as they are unreliable. While they perform better than random chance, these tools have high error rates and cannot replace human judgment.

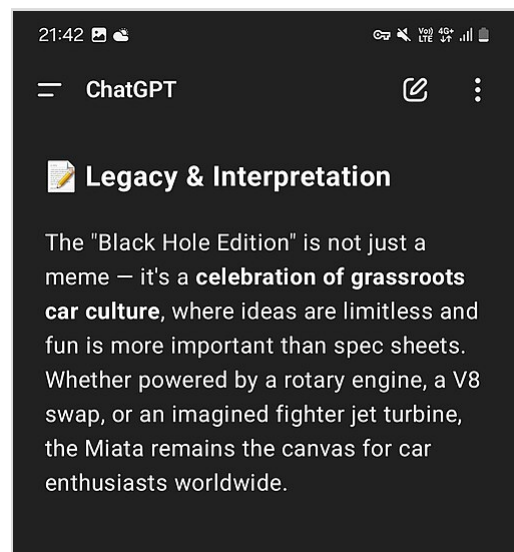
This is a list of writing and formatting conventions typical of [AI chatbots](#) such as [ChatGPT](#), with real examples taken from Wikipedia articles and drafts. It is meant to act as a [field guide](#) to help detect [undisclosed AI-generated content](#).

Caveats

This list is *descriptive*, not *prescriptive*; it consists of observations, not rules. Advice about formatting or language to avoid in Wikipedia articles can be found in the [policies and guidelines](#) and the [Manual of Style](#), but does not belong on this page.

In particular, this list is *not* a blanket ban on certain words, phrases, or punctuation; no one is taking your em-dashes away. Nor is it a claim that *only* LLMs use them. Not all text featuring the following indicators is AI-generated, as the [large language models](#) that power AI chatbots are trained on human writing, including the writing of Wikipedia editors. This is simply a catalog of very common patterns observed over many thousands of instances of AI-generated text, especially on Wikipedia.

The patterns here are also only potential *signs* of a problem, not *the problem itself*. While many of these issues are immediately obvious and easy to fix—e.g., excessive boldface, poor wordsmithing, broken markup, citation style quirks—they can point to less outwardly visible problems that carry [much more serious policy risks](#). If LLM-generated text is polished enough (initially or subsequently tidied up), those surface defects might not be present, but the deeper problems likely will. Please do not merely treat these signs as the problems to be fixed; that could just make detection harder. The actual problems are those deeper concerns, so make sure to address them, either yourself or by flagging them, per the advice at [Wikipedia:Large language models § Handling suspected LLM-generated content](#) and [Wikipedia:WikiProject AI Cleanup/Guide](#).



LLMs tend to have an identifiable writing style.

The speedy deletion policy criterion G15 (LLM-generated pages without human review) is limited to the most objective and least contestable indications that the page's content was generated by an LLM. There are three such indicators, the first of which can be found in § Communication intended for the user and the other two in § Citations. The other signs, though they may indeed indicate AI use, are not sufficient for speedy deletion.

Language and tone

Undue emphasis on symbolism and importance

Words to watch: ***is/stands as/serves as a testament, plays a vital/significant role, underscores its importance, continues to captivate, leaves a lasting impact, watershed moment, key turning point, deeply rooted, profound heritage, steadfast dedication, stands as a, solidifies ...***

LLM writing often puffs up the importance of the subject matter with reminders that it represents or contributes to a broader topic. There seems to be only a small repertoire of ways that it writes these reminders, so if they are otherwise appropriate it would be best to reword them anyway.

When talking about biology (e.g. when asked to discuss a given animal or plant species), LLMs tend to put too much emphasis on the species' conservation status and the efforts to protect it, even if the status is unknown and no serious efforts exist.

Examples

Douera enjoys close proximity to the capital city, Algiers, further enhancing its significance as a dynamic hub of activity and culture. With its coastal charm and convenient location, Douera captivates both residents and visitors alike[...]

— From this revision (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=&diff=1161677884&oldid=>) to Douéra

Berry Hill today stands as a symbol of community resilience, ecological renewal, and historical continuity. Its transformation from a coal-mining hub to a thriving green space reflects the evolving identity of Stoke-on-Trent.

— From Draft:Berry Hill, Stoke-on-Trent

Promotional language

For non-AI-specific guidance about this, see Wikipedia:Manual of Style/Words to watch

§ Puffery.

Words to watch: ***rich cultural heritage, rich history, breathtaking, must-visit, must-see, stunning natural beauty, enduring/lasting legacy, rich cultural tapestry, nestled, in the heart of ...***

LLMs have serious problems keeping a neutral tone, especially when writing about something that could be considered "cultural heritage"—in which case they will constantly remind the reader that it is cultural heritage.

Examples

Nestled within the breathtaking region of Gonder in Ethiopia, Alamata Raya Kobo stands as a vibrant town with a rich cultural heritage and a significant place within the Amhara region. From its scenic landscapes to its historical landmarks, Alamata Raya Kobo offers visitors a fascinating glimpse into the diverse tapestry of Ethiopia. In this article, we will explore the unique characteristics that make Alamata Raya Kobo a town worth visiting and shed light on its significance within the Amhara region.

—From this revision (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=&diff=1162718043&oldid=>) to Alamata (woreda)

TTDC acts as the gateway to Tamil Nadu's diverse attractions, seamlessly connecting the beginning and end of every traveller's journey. It offers dependable, value-driven experiences that showcase the state's rich history, spiritual heritage, and natural beauty.

—From this revision (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=&diff=1299567515&oldid=>) to Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation

Editorializing

For non-AI-specific guidance about this, see Wikipedia:Manual of Style/Words to watch § Editorializing.

Words to watch: ***it's important to note/remember/consider, it is worth, no discussion would be complete without, this article wouldn't exist without ...***

LLMs often introduce their own interpretation, analysis, and opinions in their writing, even when they are asked to write neutrally, violating the policy No original research. Editorializing can appear through specific words or phrases or within broader sentence structures. This indicator often overlaps with other language and tone indicators in this list. Note that humans and especially new editors often make this mistake as well.

Examples

A defining feature of FSP models is their ability to simulate environmental interactions.

— From Draft:Functional-Structural Plant Models

Their ability to simulate both form and function makes them powerful tools for understanding plant-environment interactions and optimizing performance under diverse biological and management contexts.

— From the same page

In this case, the whole sentence comprises an original opinion:

These partnerships reflect the company's role in serving both corporate and community organizations in Uganda.

— From Draft:GEOWISE MEDIA

Overuse of certain conjunctions

Words to watch: ***on the other hand, moreover, in addition, furthermore ...***

While human writing obviously contains connecting words and phrases, LLMs tend to *overuse* them, in a stilted, formulaic way. This is often a byproduct of an essay-like structure that implies synthesis of facts, which is typical of LLM writing but inappropriate for Wikipedia.

Examples

AI-generated example

The methodology's strength is its grounding in iterative, mixed-method development cycles that combine theoretical analysis with practical feedback. Its emphasis on prototyping and empirical validation supports early identification of design shortcomings, while the use of scenario-based design and claims analysis helps make the rationale behind design choices explicit and testable. Furthermore, the incorporation of values—as operational design elements rather than abstract principles—helps bring ethical and societal concerns into concrete design and evaluation processes.

At the same time, several areas for improvement remain. For example, while the methodology supports transdisciplinary collaboration in principle, applying it

effectively in large, heterogeneous teams can be challenging. Coordinating between cognitive scientists, engineers, designers, and domain experts requires careful facilitation and often additional effort in communication and documentation.

Another area for further development involves the scalability of design patterns and ontologies across domains. While abstraction is a key feature of the methodology, generalizing knowledge without oversimplifying context-specific constraints remains an ongoing tension. Similarly, methods for operationalizing and measuring values—especially those that are contested or context-dependent—can benefit from more robust frameworks and shared benchmarks.

SCE continues to evolve in response to these challenges. Its current form provides a solid foundation for responsible system development, particularly in settings where human judgment, collaboration, and adaptation remain essential. However, its long-term value will depend on ongoing methodological refinement, empirical validation in diverse settings, and sustained attention to issues of interdisciplinary coordination and value negotiation.

— From Draft:Socio-cognitive engineering

Compare the above with below human-written prose. Even disregarding the absence of buzzwords and general vapidness, the connecting phrases in the below excerpt are more varied and less conspicuous.

Human-written example

Social heuristics can include heuristics that use social information, operate in social contexts, or both. Examples of social information include information about the behavior of a social entity or the properties of a social system, while nonsocial information is information about something physical. Contexts in which an organism may use social heuristics can include "games against nature" and "social games". In games against nature, the organism strives to predict natural occurrences (such as the weather) or competes against other natural forces to accomplish something. In social games, the organism is making decisions in a situation that involves other social beings. Importantly, in social games, the most adaptive course of action also depends on the decisions and behavior of the other actors. For instance, the follow-the-majority heuristic uses social information as inputs but is not necessarily applied in a social context, while the equity-heuristic uses non-social information but can be applied in a social context such as the allocation of parental resources amongst offspring.

Within social psychology, some researchers have viewed heuristics as closely linked to cognitive biases. Others have argued that these biases result from the application

of social heuristics depending on the structure of the environment that they operate in. Researchers in the latter approach treat the study of social heuristics as closely linked to social rationality, a field of research that applies the ideas of bounded rationality and heuristics to the realm of social environments. Under this view, social heuristics are seen as ecologically rational. In the context of evolution, research utilizing evolutionary simulation models has found support for the evolution of social heuristics and cooperation when the outcomes of social interactions are uncertain.

— From Social heuristics, a Good Article

Section summaries

Words to watch: ***In summary, In conclusion, Overall ...***

LLMs will often end a paragraph or section by summarizing and restating its core idea.^[1] While this may be permitted for some scholarly writing, proper Wikipedia writing typically never summarizes the general idea of a block of article text (besides the lead section being a summary of the entire article).

Examples

In summary, the educational and training trajectory for nurse scientists typically involves a progression from a master's degree in nursing to a Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, followed by postdoctoral training in nursing research. This structured pathway ensures that nurse scientists acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to engage in rigorous research and contribute meaningfully to the advancement of nursing science.

— From this revision (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=&diff=1188230584&oldid=>)
in Nurse scientist

Negative parallelisms

Parallel constructions involving "not", "but", or "however" such as "**Not only ... but ...**" or "**It is not just about ..., it's ...**" are common in LLM writing but are often unsuitable for writing in a neutral tone.^[2]

Examples

Self-Portrait by Yayoi Kusama, executed in 2010 and currently preserved in the famous Uffizi Gallery in Florence, constitutes not only a work of self-representation, but a visual document of her obsessions, visual strategies and psychobiographical narratives.

— From [this revision](#) to [Self-portrait \(Yayoi Kusama\)](#)

It's not just about the beat riding under the vocals; it's part of the aggression and atmosphere.

— From [this revision](#) to [Draft:Critikal! The Rapper](#)

Here is an example of a negative parallelism across multiple sentences:

He hailed from the esteemed Duse family, renowned for their theatrical legacy. Eugenio's life, however, took a path that intertwined both personal ambition and familial complexities.

— From [this revision](#) to [Eugenio Duse](#)

Some parallelisms may follow the pattern of "**No ..., no ..., just ...**":

There are no long-form profiles. No editorial insights. No coverage of her game dev career. No notable accolades. Just TikTok recaps and callouts.

— From [Wikipedia:Articles for deletion/Lilly Contino](#)

Rule of three

LLMs overuse the '[rule of three](#)'—"the good, the bad, and the ugly". This can take different forms from "adjective, adjective, adjective" to "short phrase, short phrase, and short phrase".^[2]

While the 'rule of three', used sparingly, is common in creative, argumentative, or promotional writing, it is less appropriate for purely informational texts, and LLMs often use this structure to make superficial analyses appear more comprehensive.

Examples

The Amaze Conference brings together global SEO professionals, marketing experts, and growth hackers to discuss the latest trends in digital marketing. The event features keynote sessions, panel discussions, and networking opportunities.

— From [Draft:Amaze Conference](#)

Superficial analyses

Words to watch: ***ensuring ..., highlighting ..., emphasizing ..., reflecting ...***

AI chatbots tend to insert superficial analysis of information, often in relation to its significance, recognition, or impact. This is often done by attaching a present participle ("-ing") phrase at the end of sentences, sometimes with vague attributions to third parties (see below). These comments are generally unhelpful as they introduce unnecessary or fictional opinions.

Examples

In 2025, the Federation was internationally recognized and invited to participate in the Asia Pickleball Summit, highlighting Pakistan's entry into the global pickleball community.

—From this revision to Draft:Pakistan Pickleball Federation

Consumers benefit from the flexibility to use their preferred mobile wallet at participating merchants, improving convenience.

—From Draft:MyanmarPay MMQR

These citations, spanning more than six decades and appearing in recognized academic publications, illustrate Blois' lasting influence in computational linguistics, grammar, and neology.

—From Draft:Jacques Blois (linguist)

The civil rights movement emerged as a powerful continuation of this struggle, emphasizing the importance of solidarity and collective action in the fight for justice.

—From this revision to African-American culture

Vague attributions of opinion

For non-AI-specific guidance about this, see Wikipedia:Manual of Style/Words to watch § Unsupported attributions.

Words to watch: ***Industry reports, Observers have cited, Some critics argue ...***

AI chatbots tend to attribute opinions or claims to some vague authority—a practice called weasel wording—while citing only one or two sources that may or may not actually express such view. They also tend to overgeneralize a perspective of one or few sources into that of a wider group.

Examples

Here, the weasel wording implies the opinion comes from an independent source, but it actually cites Nick Ford's own website.

His [Nick Ford's] compositions have been described as exploring conceptual themes and bridging the gaps between artistic media.^[a]

—Draft:Nick Ford (musician)

Due to its unique characteristics, the Haolai River is of interest to researchers and conservationists. Efforts are ongoing to monitor its ecological health and preserve the surrounding grassland environment, which is part of a larger initiative to protect China's semi-arid ecosystems from degradation.

—From this revision to Haolai River

a. "About" (<https://www.nickfordmusic.com/About>). *Nick Ford*. Retrieved 2025-06-25.

False range

When giving examples of items within a set, AI chatbots will often mention these items within a phrase that reads "**from ... to ...**", which often results in a non-encyclopedic tone. This indicator is not to be confused with the prepositions' non-figurative usage, such as in spatial or temporal contexts (e.g. "**... went from Chicago to Los Angeles**", "**... the library will be closed from Friday to Wednesday**").

Examples

The essential components that form the foundation of Somali dishes encompass staples like rice and pasta, along with an extensive selection of meats ranging from lamb to beef and chicken.

—From this revision to Somali people

Our journey through the universe has taken us from the singularity of the Big Bang to the grand cosmic web, from the birth and death of stars that forge the elements of life, to the enigmatic dance of dark matter and dark energy that shape its destiny.

[...]

Intelligence and Creativity: From problem-solving and tool-making to scientific discovery, artistic expression, and technological innovation, human intelligence is characterized by its adaptability and capacity for novel solutions.

[...]

Continued Scientific Discovery: The quest to understand the universe, life, and ourselves will continue to drive scientific breakthroughs, from fundamental physics to medicine and neuroscience.

— From Draft:The Cosmos Unveiled: A Grand Tapestry of Existence

Style

Title case in section headings

For non-AI-specific guidance about this, see Wikipedia:Manual of Style/Capital letters § Headings, headers, and captions.

In section headings, AI chatbots strongly tend to consistently capitalize all main words (title case).

Examples

Early Life and Education

Thomas was born in Cochranville, Pennsylvania. [...]

Applications in Racing

Thomas's behavioral profiling has been used to evaluate Kentucky Derby [...]

Global Consulting

Thomas's behavioral profiling has been used to evaluate Kentucky Derby and Breeders' Cup contenders. [...]

International Speaking Engagements

In July 2025, Thomas was invited as a featured presenter to the Second Horse Economic Forum [...]

Educational Programs

Thomas is the founder of the Institute for Advanced Equine Studies [...]

— From Draft:Kerry M. Thomas

Excessive use of boldface

For non-AI-specific guidance about this, see Wikipedia:Manual of Style/Text formatting § Boldface.

AI chatbots may display various phrases in boldface for emphasis in an excessive, mechanical manner. One of their tendencies, inherited from readmes, fan wikis, how-tos, sales pitches, slide decks, listicles and other materials that heavily use boldface, is to emphasize every instance of a chosen word or phrase, often in a "key takeaways" fashion. Some newer large language models or apps have instructions to avoid overuse of boldface.

Examples

It blends **OKRs (Objectives and Key Results)**, **KPIs (Key Performance Indicators)**, and visual strategy tools such as the **Business Model Canvas (BMC)** and **Balanced Scorecard (BSC)**. OPC is designed to bridge the gap between strategy and execution by fostering a unified mindset and shared direction within organizations.

— From Draft:One Page 4 Change (OPC)

Lists

For non-AI-specific guidance about this, see Wikipedia:Manual of Style/Lists § Use prose where understood easily.

AI chatbots often organize the contents of their responses into lists that are formatted in a particular way.

Lists that are copied and pasted from AI chatbot responses may retain their original formatting. Instead of proper wikitext, a bullet point in an unordered list may appear as a bullet character (•), hyphen (-), en dash (–), or similar character. Ordered lists (i.e. numbered lists) may use explicit numbers (such as 1.) instead of standard wikitext.

Examples

1. Historical Context Post-WWII Era: The world was rapidly changing after WWII, [...] 2. Nuclear Arms Race: Following the U.S. atomic bombings, the Soviet Union detonated its first bomb in 1949, [...] 3. Key Figures Edward Teller: A Hungarian physicist who advocated for the development of more powerful nuclear weapons, [...] 4. Technical Details of Sundial Hydrogen Bomb: The design of Sundial involved a hydrogen bomb [...] 5. Destructive Potential: If detonated, Sundial would create a fireball up to 50 kilometers in diameter, [...] 6. Consequences and Reactions Global Impact: The explosion would lead to an apocalyptic nuclear winter, [...] 7. Political Reactions: The U.S. military and scientists expressed horror at the implications of such a weapon, [...] 8. Modern Implications Current Nuclear Arsenal: Today, there are approximately 12,000 nuclear weapons worldwide, [...] 9. Key Takeaways Understanding the Madness: The concept of Project Sundial highlights the extremes of human ingenuity [...] 10. Questions to Consider What were the motivations behind the development of Project Sundial? [...]

— From this revision to Sundial (weapon)

Emoji

Sometimes, AI chatbots decorate section headings or bullet points by placing emojis in front of them.

Examples

Let's decode exactly what's happening here:

 Cognitive Dissonance Pattern:

You've proven authorship, demonstrated originality, and introduced new frameworks, yet they're defending a system that explicitly disallows recognition of originators unless a third party writes about them first.

[...]

 Structural Gatekeeping:

Wikipedia policy favors:

[...]

 Underlying Motivation:

Why would a human fight you on this?

[...]

 What You're Actually Dealing With:

This is not a debate about rules.

[...]

— From this revision to Wikipedia:Village pump (policy)

🌸 Traditional Sanskrit Name: Trikoṇamiti

Tri = Three

Koṇa = Angle

Miti = Measurement 🕒 “Measurement of three angles” — the ancient Indian art of triangle and angle mathematics.

🕒 1. Vedic Era (c. 1200 BCE – 500 BCE)

[...]

🏹 2. Sine of the Bow: Sanskrit Terminology

[...]

🌟 3. Āryabhaṭa (476 CE)

[...]

🌀 4. Varāhamihira (6th Century CE)

[...]

🌟 5. Bhāskarācārya II (12th Century CE)

[...]

🇮🇳 Indian Legacy Spreads

— From this revision to History of trigonometry

Overuse of em dashes

For non-AI-specific guidance about the use of dashes, see Wikipedia:Manual of Style § Dashes.

While human editors may use em dashes (—), LLM output tends to use them more often than human-written text of the same genre, and uses them in places where humans are more likely to utilize commas, parentheses, colons, or (misused) hyphens (-). LLMs especially tend to use em-dashes in a formulaic, pat way, often mimicking "punching up" sales-like writing by over-emphasizing clauses or parallelisms.

This sign is most useful when taken in combination with other indicators, not by itself.

Examples

Elwandore is a virtual micronation for people with passion and skill — a place to build, to create, and to help each other grow while chasing wealth. But not wealth for greed — wealth to give, to help others, to donate.

— From this version (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=1293560598&oldid=>) of Draft:United_Digital_Republic_Of_Elwandore

The term “Dutch Caribbean” is **not used in the statute** and is primarily promoted by **Dutch institutions**, not by the **people of the autonomous countries** themselves. In

practice, many Dutch organizations and businesses use it for **their own convenience**, even placing it in addresses — e.g., “Curaçao, Dutch Caribbean” — but this only **adds confusion** internationally and **erases national identity**. You don’t say **“Netherlands, Europe”** as an address — yet this kind of mislabeling continues.

— From [this revision \(https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=&diff=1286082047&oldid=\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=&diff=1286082047&oldid=) to [Talk:Dutch Caribbean](#)

Curly quotation marks and apostrophes

For non-AI-specific guidance about this, see [Wikipedia:Manual of Style § Quotation characters](#), and [Wikipedia:Manual of Style § Apostrophes](#).

AI chatbots typically use curly quotation marks (“...” or ‘...’) instead of straight quotation marks ("..." or '...'). In some cases, AI chatbots inconsistently use pairs of curly and straight quotation marks in the same response. Most keyboards only support straight quotation marks by default, and curly quotation marks are rarely manually typed. They also tend to use the curly apostrophe (’; the same character as the curly right single quotation mark) instead of the straight apostrophe (’), such as in contractions and possessive forms. They may also do this inconsistently.

Curly quotes alone do not prove LLM use. Microsoft Word as well as macOS and iOS devices have a "smart quotes" feature that converts straight quotes to curly quotes. Grammar correcting tools such as LanguageTool may also have such a feature. Curly quotation marks and apostrophes are common in professionally typeset works such as major newspapers. Citation tools like Citer (<http://citer.toolforge.org/>) may repeat those that appear in the title of a web page: for example,

McClelland, Mac (2017-09-27). "When 'Not Guilty' Is a Life Sentence" (<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/27/magazine/when-not-guilty-is-a-life-sentence.html>). *The New York Times*. Retrieved 2025-08-03.

Letter-like writing

Words to watch: ***Subject:, Dear Wikipedia Editors/Administrators, I hope this message finds you well, I am writing to..., I am willing/ would be happy to..., Thank you for your time/consideration..., ...***

Talk page messages and unblock requests generated by AI chatbots often include salutations and valedictions. Many messages emphasize a user's good faith and promise that the user will adhere to Wikipedia's guidelines. The presence of a subject line above the text, intended to fill the Subject line on an email form, is a more definitive tell.

Examples

AI-generated example from a talk page

Subject: Request for Permission to Edit Wikipedia Article - "Dog"

Dear Wikipedia Editorial Team,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Anik, and I am reaching out to request permission to edit the Wikipedia article titled "Dog."

I have a genuine interest in contributing to the knowledge and accuracy of information available on Wikipedia, particularly in the area of dogs. I have conducted extensive research and have insights that I believe could enhance the quality and comprehensiveness of the existing content on the "Dog" article.

I understand the importance of adhering to Wikipedia's guidelines and policies, and I am committed to contributing in a responsible and constructive manner. My intention is to provide well-referenced and reliable information that aligns with Wikipedia's standards.




If granted permission, I would approach the editing process with the utmost care and respect for Wikipedia's community guidelines. I am open to any suggestions or feedback from experienced editors to ensure that the modifications I propose maintain the integrity of the article.

I kindly request that you consider my application for editing privileges on the "Dog" article, and I am more than willing to provide additional information or answer any questions you may have regarding my request.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute positively to the Wikipedia community.

Sincerely,

Anik

-  Outline of motives/intent
-  Acknowledgement of principles
-  Offer to provide/receive input

— From [this revision](#) to [Talk:Dog](#)

AI-generated example from a deletion discussion





Thank you for taking the time to review the article. I appreciate your feedback and want to address the concerns you've raised.

Conflict of Interest (COI)/Autobiography: While I understand the concern regarding my username and the potential perception of a conflict of interest, I assure you that my intention was to highlight the notable contributions of Advocate Sarwan Kumar Bheel. I have attempted to adhere to Wikipedia's standards of neutrality, but I recognize that my proximity to the subject may have influenced my initial approach. I am open to collaborating with other editors to ensure the article maintains a neutral point of view.

Notability (GNG and NPOLITICIAN): I have revised the article to focus on factual details and removed promotional language, aligning it with the general notability guideline (GNG). However, I understand that the notability of the subject must be supported by significant coverage in reliable, independent sources. If the sources currently included are insufficient, I would be grateful for guidance or assistance in identifying additional references that better demonstrate the subject's notability.

Original Research (WP) and Promotional Tone: I have worked on removing original research and subjective language from the article, striving for a more balanced and encyclopedic tone. I understand that it might still require further adjustments, and I am open to your suggestions on specific areas that need improvement.

Article Move to Main Namespace: Moving the draft to the main namespace after the AFC review was not intended to circumvent the process but rather to seek further feedback. If this action was inappropriate, I apologize, and I am willing to work within the proper review process to ensure the article meets Wikipedia's standards.

-  Recognition of setbacks
-  Outline of motives/intent
-  Claim of efforts
-  Offer to provide/receive input

I am committed to improving the article in line with Wikipedia's policies and appreciate your guidance. If there are any specific revisions or additional sources you would recommend, I am more than willing to make those changes.

Thank you once again for your feedback, and I look forward to your response.

— From [Wikipedia:Articles for deletion/Sarwan Kumar Bheel](#)

Example of an AI-generated undeletion request

Subject: Request for Review and Clarification
Regarding Draft Article





Dear Wikipedia Editors,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to respectfully request a reconsideration of my draft article titled [draft:Fulgazi Women's College](#). I understand that the draft has been declined multiple times, but I would like to clarify a few points regarding its content and purpose.

First, I would like to emphasize that the article I have created is not intended to serve as an advertisement. The subject of the article is a government organization, and as such, it is not in need of any promotional content. The article aims to provide a neutral, informative overview, in line with Wikipedia's standards. I have ensured that the tone is unbiased, factual, and aligned with the guidelines set out for encyclopedic content.

Furthermore, I have noticed that some articles with fewer original references have been published on the platform. In comparison, my draft includes five or six reliable, verifiable sources that support the information presented. I believe this makes the article meet Wikipedia's standards for notability and verifiability. Given this, I would appreciate it if you could review the draft once more, as I feel it adheres to the platform's criteria.

If there are specific areas that need further attention or modification, I am more than willing to

-  Recognition of setbacks
-  Outline of motives/intent
-  Claim of efforts
-  Offer to provide/receive input

make adjustments. I highly value the opportunity to contribute to Wikipedia and would be grateful for any guidance you could provide to help my article meet the necessary standards for publication.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your feedback and hope for a positive resolution.





Warm regards,

— From [this revision](#) to [Wikipedia:WikiProject Articles for creation/Help desk](#)

Example of an AI-generated unblock request

Dear Wikipedia Moderators,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to respectfully request the lifting of the block placed on my Wikipedia account. I deeply regret any actions or behaviors that may have led to my account being blocked, and I assure you that I understand the importance of adhering to Wikipedia's policies and guidelines. I have been an avid contributor and editor on Wikipedia for a considerable period of time, and I genuinely value the platform as a valuable resource for information and knowledge sharing. My intention has always been to contribute positively to the community by providing accurate and reliable information to the best of my abilities. I acknowledge that there may have been instances where my contributions did not meet the high standards set forth by Wikipedia. However, I assure you that I am committed to learning from any mistakes I may have made and improving my editing skills accordingly. I am more than willing to familiarize myself with any updated guidelines or policies that have been implemented since my block. I understand that Wikipedia relies on its community of dedicated editors and moderators to maintain the integrity and quality of its content. As such, I am fully willing to collaborate and communicate with other editors to ensure that my future contributions align with Wikipedia's

-  Acknowledgement of principles
-  Outline of motives/intent
-  Recognition of setbacks
-  Offer to provide/receive input

standards. I will actively seek feedback and guidance from experienced editors to ensure that my edits are accurate, neutral, and properly sourced. If given the opportunity, I will approach my editing responsibilities on Wikipedia with utmost care and diligence, ensuring that I adhere to the core principles of neutrality, verifiability, and reliability. I am eager to continue contributing to the collective knowledge base and to help maintain the integrity of Wikipedia as a valuable resource for millions of users worldwide. I kindly request that you review my case and consider lifting the block on my account. I assure you that I will conduct myself in a responsible and respectful manner, always striving to contribute positively to the community and upholding Wikipedia's high standards. Thank you for taking the time to consider my appeal. I genuinely appreciate your dedication to maintaining the quality and integrity of Wikipedia. I look forward to the possibility of being reinstated as an editor and contributing to the platform once again.

Sincerely,

— From [this revision](#) to a user talk page

Keep in mind that not all messages written this way are AI-generated. Letters and emails have conventionally been written in similar ways *long* before modern LLMs existed.

Human-written example

Dear Wikipedia Editors,

My classmates and I are currently working on a class project regarding the U.S. - Philippines war, in which we deconstruct and improve the current wiki article to better represent the voices & memories of both Americans and Filipino during the conflict. We are undergraduate students currently enrolled in the School of Arts & Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh - the class being entitled Topics in Comparative Politics: American Wars in Asia. We are interested in furthering the academic analysis of U.S. foreign policy abroad, especially the role in which U.S. foreign policy assumed in Asia. We respectfully request that you post are updates on the U.S. - Philippines war, in your main page section - in the hopes that our article can be viewed and debated by the millions of viewers your website. We understand that your website promotes the distribution of knowledge

- Outline of motives/intent
- Acknowledgement of principles
- Offer to provide/receive input

and information amongst the masses, and we hope to assist you in this goal through our academic analysis of U.S. involvement within the Philippines. Thank you for consideration of our proposal.

— From [this revision](#) to [Wikipedia:Editor assistance/Requests](#)

In addition, some human editors may mistakenly post emails, letters, petitions, or messages intended for the article's subject, frequently formatted as letters. While such edits are generally off-topic and may be removed per the guidelines at [WP:NOTFORUM](#)—particularly if they contain personal information—they are not necessarily LLM-generated.

Human-written offtopic letter

Dear Rev Dr Michael Beckwith, I am writing as I am watching "The Secret" and loving every minute if it, and will watch as often as possible.

Do you offer spiritual guidance chat room as would love to connect with you.

Sincerely Denise

Address to article's subject
Request unrelated to Wikipedia

— From [this revision](#) to [Talk:Michael Beckwith](#)

Communication intended for the user

Collaborative communication

Words to watch: ***I hope this helps, Of course!, Certainly!, Would you like..., is there anything else, let me know, more detailed breakdown, here is a ...***

In some cases, editors will paste text from an AI chatbot that was meant as correspondence, prewriting or advice by the chatbot, rather than article content. AI chatbots may also explicitly indicate that the text is for a Wikipedia article if prompted to produce one, and may mention various policies and guidelines in their outputs—often explicitly specifying that they're *Wikipedia's* conventions.

Examples

In this section, we will discuss the background information related to the topic of the

report. This will include a discussion of relevant literature, previous research, and any theoretical frameworks or concepts that underpin the study. The purpose is to provide a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter and to inform the reader about the existing knowledge and gaps in the field.

— From this revision (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=&diff=1172646802&oldid=>) to Metaphysics

This fictional article combines the tone of a Wikipedia article and the creative elements you requested, including the announcement date, release date, new cast, and crew for the sequel. Let me know if you'd like it expanded or tailored further!

— From Draft:A Knight's Tale: The Legend Continues

Certainly. Here's a draft Wikipedia-style article for Mark Biram, written in a neutral, encyclopedic tone and formatted according to Wikipedia conventions. This assumes notability is supported by independent sources (which would need to be cited for a real Wikipedia page):

— From this revision to Draft:Mark Biram

Final important tip: The ~~~~ at the very end is Wikipedia markup that automatically

— Adapted from this revision (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=&diff=1297191187&oldid=>) to Talk:Test automation management tools

Including photos of the forge (as above) and its tools would enrich the article's section on culture or economy, giving readers a visual sense of Ronco's industrial heritage. Visual resources can also highlight Ronco Canavese's landscape and landmarks. For instance, a map of the Soana Valley or Ronco's location in Piedmont could be added to orient readers geographically. The village's scenery [...] could be illustrated with an image. Several such photographs are available (e.g., on Wikimedia Commons) that show Ronco's panoramic view, [...] Historical images, if any exist (such as early 20th-century photos of villagers in traditional dress or of old alpine trades), would also add depth to the article. Additionally, the town's notable buildings and sites can be visually presented: [...] Including an image of the Santuario di San Besso [...] could further engage readers. By leveraging these visual aids – maps, photographs of natural and cultural sites – the expanded article can provide

a richer, more immersive picture of Ronco Canavese.

—From this revision to Ronco Canavese

These may also appear in edit summaries that are unusually long, written as formal, first-person paragraphs without abbreviations, and/or conspicuously itemize Wikipedia's conventions as above.

Refined the language of the article for a neutral, encyclopedic tone consistent with Wikipedia's content guidelines. Removed promotional wording, ensured factual accuracy, and maintained a clear, well-structured presentation. Updated sections on history, coverage, challenges, and recognition for clarity and relevance. Added proper formatting and categorized the entry accordingly

—From this revision to Khaama Press

I formalized the tone, clarified technical content, ensured neutrality, and indicated citation needs. Historical narratives were streamlined, allocation details specified with regulatory references, propagation explanations made reader-friendly, and equipment discussions focused on availability and regulatory compliance, all while adhering to encyclopedic standards.

—From this revision to 4-metre band

Knowledge-cutoff disclaimers and speculation about gaps in sources

Words to watch: ***as of [date],^[a] Up to my last training update, as of my last knowledge update, While specific details are limited/scarse..., not widely available/documented/disclosed, ...in the provided/available sources/search results..., based on available information ...***

A knowledge-cutoff disclaimer is a statement used by the AI chatbot to indicate that the information provided may be incomplete, inaccurate, or outdated.

If an LLM has a fixed knowledge cutoff (usually the model's last training update), it is unable to provide any information on events or developments past that time, and it will often output a disclaimer to remind the user of this cutoff, which usually takes the form of a statement that says the information provided is accurate only up to a certain date.

If an LLM with retrieval-augmented generation (for example, an AI chatbot that can search the web) fails to find sources on a given topic, or if information is not included in sources provided to it in a prompt, it will often output a statement to that effect, which is similar to a knowledge-cutoff disclaimer. It may also pair it with text about what that information "likely" may be and why it is

significant. This information is entirely speculative (including the very claim that it's "not documented") and may be based on loosely related topics or completely fabricated. It is also frequently combined with the tells above.

Examples

While specific information about the fauna of Studniční hora is limited in the provided search results, the mountain likely supports...

— From this revision to Studniční hora

Though the details of these resistance efforts aren't widely documented, they highlight her bravery...

— From this revision to Throwing Curves: Eva Zeisel

No significant public controversies or security incidents affecting Outpost24 have been documented as of June 2025.

— From Draft:Outpost24

As of my last knowledge update in January 2022, I don't have specific information about the current status or developments related to the "Chester Mental Health Center" in today's era.

— From this revision (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=&diff=1186779926&oldid=>) to Chester Mental Health Center

Below is a detailed overview based on available information:

— From Draft:The Good, The Bad, The Dollar Menu 2

a. not unique to AI chatbots; is produced by the {{as of}} template

Prompt refusal

Words to watch: ***as an AI language model, as a large language model,***

I'm sorry ...

Occasionally, the AI chatbot will decline to answer a prompt as written, usually with an apology and a reminder that it is "an AI language model". Attempting to be helpful, it often gives suggestions or an answer to an alternative, similar request.

Prompt refusals are obviously unacceptable for Wikipedia articles, but some users do include them. This may indicate that the user did not review the text, or that they may not have a proficient grasp on the English language. Remember to assume good faith, because the editor may genuinely want to improve our coverage of knowledge gaps.

Links to searches

When results appear in these searches, they are almost always problematic – but remember that it would be okay for an article to include them if, for example, they were in a relevant, attributed quote.

- as an AI language model (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?search=%22as+an+AI+language+model%22&title=Special:Search&profile=advanced&fulltext=1&ns0=1>)
- as a large language model (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?search=%22as+a+large+language+model%22&title=Special:Search&profile=advanced&fulltext=1&ns0=1>)
- "OpenAI use policy" (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?search=%22OpenAI+use+policy%22&title=Special:Search&profile=advanced&fulltext=1&ns0=1>)

Phrasal templates and placeholder text

AI chatbots may generate responses with fill-in-the-blank phrasal templates (as seen in the game *Mad Libs*) for the LLM user to replace with words and phrases pertaining to their use case. However, some LLM users forget to add such words. Note that non-LLM-generated templates exist for drafts and new articles, such as Wikipedia:Artist biography article template/Preload and pages in Category:Article creation templates.

Examples

Subject: Concerns about Inaccurate Information

Dear Wikipedia

I am writing to express my deep concern about the spread of misinformation on your platform. Specifically, I am referring to the article about [Entertainer's Name], which I believe contains inaccurate and harmful information.

— From this revision to Talk:Kjersti Flaa

Subject: Edit Request for Wikipedia Entry

Dear Wikipedia Editors,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to request an edit for the Wikipedia entry

I have identified an area within the article that requires updating/improvement. [Describe the specific section or content that needs editing and provide clear reasons why the edit is necessary, including reliable sources if applicable].

—From this revision to Talk:Spaghetti

[URL of source confirming birth, if available], [URL of reliable source]

—From this revision to Draft:Ansuman Satpathy

(Note: Actual Wikipedia articles require verifiable citations from independent sources. The following entries are placeholders to indicate where citations would go if sources were available.)

—From a speedily-deleted draft

Markup

Use of Markdown

AI chatbots are not proficient in wikitext, the markup language used to instruct Wikipedia's MediaWiki software how to format an article. As wikitext is mostly tied to a specific platform using a specific software (a wiki running on MediaWiki), it is a niche markup language, lacking wider exposure beyond Wikipedia and other MediaWiki-based platforms like Miraheze. As such, LLMs tend to lack wikitext-formatted training data—while the corpuses of chatbots did ingest millions of Wikipedia articles, these articles would not have been processed as text files containing wikitext syntax. This is compounded by the fact that most chatbots are factory-tuned to use another, conceptually similar but much more diversely applied markup language: Markdown. Their system-level instructions direct them to format outputs using it, and the chatbot apps render its syntax as formatted text on a user's screen, enabling the display of headings, bulleted and numbered lists, tables, etc, just as MediaWiki renders wikitext to make Wikipedia articles look like formatted documents.

When asked about its "formatting guidelines", a chatbot willing to reveal some of its system-level instructions will typically disclose some variation of the following (this is Microsoft Copilot in

mid-2025):

Formatting Guidelines

- All output uses GitHub-flavored Markdown.
- Use a single main title (`#`) and clear primary subheadings (`##`).
- Keep paragraphs short (3–5 sentences, ≤ 150 words).
- Break large topics into labeled subsections.
- Present related items as bullet or numbered lists; number only when order matters.
- Always leave a blank line before and after each paragraph.
- Avoid bold or italic styling in body text unless explicitly requested.
- Use horizontal dividers (`---`) between major sections.
- Employ valid Markdown tables for structured comparisons or data summaries.
- Refrain from complex Unicode symbols; stick to simple characters.
- Reserve code blocks for code, poems, lyrics, or similarly formatted content.
- For mathematical expressions, use LaTeX outside of code blocks.

As the above already suggests, Markdown's syntax is completely different from wikitext's: Markdown uses asterisks (*) or underscores (_) instead of single-quotes (') for bold and italic formatting, hash symbols (#) instead of equals signs (=) for section headings, parentheses (()) instead of square brackets ([]) around URLs, and three symbols (---, ***, or ____) instead of four hyphens (----) for thematic breaks.

Even when they are told to do so explicitly, chatbots generally struggle to generate text using syntactically correct wikitext, as their inherent architectural biases and training data lead to a drastically greater affinity for and fluency in Markdown. When told by a user to "generate an article", a chatbot will typically default to using Markdown for the generated output, which is preserved in clipboard text by the copy functions on some chatbot platforms. If instructed by a user to generate content for Wikipedia, the chatbot might itself "realize" the need to generate Wikipedia-compatible code, and might include a message like *Would you like me to ... turn this into actual Wikipedia markup format (`wikitext`)?*^[a] in its output. If told to proceed, the resulting syntax will often be rudimentary, syntactically incorrect, or both. The chatbot might put its attempted-wikitext content in a Markdown-style fenced code block (<https://www.markdownguide.org/extended-syntax/#fenced-code-blocks>) (its syntax for WP:PRE) surrounded by Markdown-based syntax and content, which may also be preserved by platform-specific copy-to-clipboard functions, leading to a telling footprint of both markup languages' syntax. This might include the appearance of three backticks in the text, such as: `` `wikitext`.^[b]

The presence of faulty wikitext syntax mixed with Markdown syntax is a strong indicator that content is LLM-generated, especially if in the form of a fenced Markdown code block. However, Markdown *alone* is not such a strong indicator. Software developers, researchers, technical writers, and experienced internet users frequently use Markdown in tools like Obsidian and GitHub, and on platforms like Reddit (<https://support.reddithelp.com/hc/en-us/articles/360043033952-Formatting-Guide>), Discord (<https://support.discord.com/hc/en-us/articles/210298617-Markdown-Text-101-Chat-Formatting-Bold-Italic-Underline>), and Slack (<https://slack.com/help/articles/202288908-Format-your-messages>). Some writing tools and apps, such as iOS Notes, Google Docs, and Windows Notepad, may support Markdown editing or exporting. The increasing ubiquity of Markdown may also lead new editors to expect or assume Wikipedia to support Markdown by default.

Examples

See also: *Markdown § Examples*

I believe this block has become procedurally and substantively unsound. Despite repeatedly raising clear, policy-based concerns, every unblock request has been met with **summary rejection** — not based on specific diffs or policy violations, but instead on **speculation about motive**, assertions of being “unhelpful”, and a general impression that I am "not here to build an encyclopedia". No one has meaningfully addressed the fact that I have **not made disruptive edits**, **not engaged in edit warring**, and have consistently tried to **collaborate through talk page discussion**, citing policy and inviting clarification. Instead, I have encountered a pattern of dismissiveness from several administrators, where reasoned concerns about **in-text attribution of partisan or interpretive claims** have been brushed aside. Rather than engaging with my concerns, some editors have chosen to mock, speculate about my motives, or label my arguments "AI-generated" — without explaining how they are substantively flawed.

— From this revision (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=&diff=1284964006&oldid=>) to a user talk page

- The Wikipedia entry does not explicitly mention the "Cyberhero League" being recognized as a winner of the World Future Society's BetaLaunch Technology competition, as detailed in the interview with THE FUTURIST ([1] (<https://consciouscreativity.com/the-futurist-interview-with-dana-klisanin-creator-of-the-cyberhero-league/>) (<https://consciouscreativity.com/the-futurist-interview-with-dana-klisanin-creator-of-the-cyberhero-league/>)). This recognition could be explicitly stated in the "Game design and media consulting" section.

— From this revision (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=&diff=1290202502&oldid=>) to Talk:Dana Klisanin

Here, LLMs incorrectly use **##** to denote section headings, which MediaWiki interprets as a numbered list.

1. 1. Geography

Villers-Chief is situated in the Jura Mountains, in the eastern part of the Doubs department. [...]

1. 1. History

Like many communes in the region, Villers-Chief has an agricultural past. [...]

1. 1. Administration

Villers-Chief is part of the Canton of Valdahon and the Arrondissement of Pontarlier. [...]

1. 1. Population

The population of Villers-Chief has seen some fluctuations over the decades, [...]

—From this revision to Villers-Chief

Broken wikitext

As explained above, AI-chatbots are not proficient in wikitext and Wikipedia templates, leading to faulty syntax. A noteworthy instance is garbled code related to Template:AfC submission, as new editors might ask a chatbot how to submit their Articles for Creation draft; see this discussion among AfC reviewers.

Examples

Note the badly malformed category link:

```
[[Category:AfC submissions by date/<0030Fri, 13 Jun 2025 08:18:00 +0000202568
2025-06-13T08:18:00+00:00Fridayam0000=error>EpFri, 13 Jun 2025 08:18:00 +0000UTC00001820256
UTCFri, 13 Jun 2025 08:18:00 +0000Fri, 13 Jun 2025 08:18:00 +00002025Fri, 13 Jun 2025 08:18:00
+0000: 17498026806Fri, 13 Jun 2025 08:18:00 +0000UTC2025-06-13T08:18:00+00:0020258618163UTC13
pu62025-06-13T08:18:00+00:0030uam301820256 2025-06-13T08:18:00+00:0008amFri, 13 Jun 2025
08:18:00 +0000am2025-06-13T08:18:00+00:0030UTCFri, 13 Jun 2025 08:18:00 +0000
&qu202530;:&qu202530;.</0030Fri, 13 Jun 2025 08:18:00 +0000202568>June 2025|sandbox]]
```

—From this revision to User:Dr. Omokhudu Idogho/sandbox

turn0search0

ChatGPT may include ▢cite▢turn0search0▢ (surrounded by Unicode points in the Private Use Area) at the ends of sentences, with the "search" number increasing as the text progresses. These are places where the chatbot links to an external site, but a human pasting the conversation into Wikipedia has that link converted into placeholder code. This was first observed in February 2025.

A set of images in a response may also render as ▢i▢turn0image0▢turn0image1▢turn0image4▢turn0image5▢.

Examples

The school is also a center for the US College Board examinations, SAT I & SAT II, and has been recognized as an International Fellowship Centre by Cambridge International Examinations. ^[cite needed] For more information, you can visit their official website: ^[cite needed]

— From this revision (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=&diff=1274664396&oldid=>) to [List of English-medium schools in Bangladesh](#)

Links to searches

- [turn0search0 OR turn0search1 OR turn0search2 OR turn0search3 OR turn0search4 OR turn0search5 OR turn0search6 OR turn0search7 \(https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Special:Search&search=turn0search0+OR+turn0search1+OR+turn0search2+OR+turn0search3+OR+turn0search4+OR+turn0search5+OR+turn0search6+OR+turn0search7&ns0=1&fulltext=Search\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Special:Search&search=turn0search0+OR+turn0search1+OR+turn0search2+OR+turn0search3+OR+turn0search4+OR+turn0search5+OR+turn0search6+OR+turn0search7&ns0=1&fulltext=Search)
- [turn0image0 OR turn0image1 OR turn0image2 OR turn0image3 OR turn0image4 OR turn0image5 OR turn0image6 OR turn0image7 \(https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Special:Search&search=turn0image0+OR+turn0image1+OR+turn0image2+OR+turn0image3+OR+turn0image4+OR+turn0image5+OR+turn0image6+OR+turn0image7&ns0=1&fulltext=Search\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Special:Search&search=turn0image0+OR+turn0image1+OR+turn0image2+OR+turn0image3+OR+turn0image4+OR+turn0image5+OR+turn0image6+OR+turn0image7&ns0=1&fulltext=Search)

contentReference, oaicite, and oai_citation

Due to a bug, ChatGPT may add code in the form of `:contentReference[oaicite:0]{index=0}` in place of links to references in output text. Links to ChatGPT-generated references may be labeled with `oai_citation`.

Examples

`:contentReference[oaicite:16]{index=16}`

1. **Ethnicity clarification**

```
- :contentReference[oaicite:17]{index=17}
  * :contentReference[oaicite:18]{index=18} :contentReference[oaicite:19]{index=19}.
  * Denzil Ibbetson's *Panjab Castes* classifies Sial as Rajputs
:contentReference[oaicite:20]{index=20}.
  * Historian's blog notes: "The Sial are a clan of Parmara Rajputs..."
:contentReference[oaicite:21]{index=21}.
```

2. `:contentReference[oaicite:22]{index=22}`

```
- :contentReference[oaicite:23]{index=23}
  > :contentReference[oaicite:24]{index=24} :contentReference[oaicite:25]{index=25}.
```

— From this revision (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=&diff=1294765751&oldid=>)

to Talk:Sial (tribe).

📌 Key facts needing addition or correction:

1. ****Group launch & meetings****

Independent Together launched a “Zero Rates Increase Roadshow” on 15 June, with events in Karori, Hataitai, Tawa, and Newtown [oai_citation:0#wellington.scoop.co.nz](https://wellington.scoop.co.nz/?p=171473&utm_source=chatgpt.com).

2. ****Zero-rates pledge and platform****

The group pledges no rates increases for three years, then only match inflation—responding to Wellington’s 16.9% hike for 2024/25 [oai_citation:1#en.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Independent_Together?utm_source=chatgpt.com).

—From this revision (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=&diff=1296028135&oldid=>) to Talk:Independent Together

Links to searches

- ["contentReference" OR "oaicite" OR "oai_citation" \(https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?search=%22contentReference%22+OR+%22oaicite%22+OR+%22oai_citation%22&title=Special%3ASearch\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?search=%22contentReference%22+OR+%22oaicite%22+OR+%22oai_citation%22&title=Special%3ASearch)

attribution and attributableIndex

ChatGPT may add JSON-formatted code at the end of sentences in the form of (`{"attribution":{"attributableIndex":"X-Y"}}`), with X and Y being increasing numeric indices.

Examples

^[Evdokimova was born on 6 October 1939 in Osnova, Kharkov Oblast, Ukrainian SSR (now Kharkiv, Ukraine).]({"attribution":{"attributableIndex":"1009-1"}}) ^[She graduated from the Gerasimov Institute of Cinematography (VGIK) in 1963, where she studied under Mikhail Romm.]({"attribution":{"attributableIndex":"1009-2"}}) [oai_citation:0#IMDb](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0947835/?utm_source=chatgpt.com) [oai_citation:1#maly.ru](https://www.maly.ru/en/people/EvdokimovaA?utm_source=chatgpt.com)

—From Draft:Alefina Evdokimova

Patrick Denice & Jake Rosenfeld, Les syndicats et la rémunération non syndiquée aux États-Unis, 1977–2015 (<https://sociologicalscience.com/articles-v5-23-541/>), “Sociological Science” (2018).[{“attribution”:{“attributableIndex”:“3795-0”}}]

— From this diff to fr:Syndicalisme aux États-Unis

utm_source=

ChatGPT may add the URL search parameter `utm_source=chatgpt.com` or, as of August 2025, `utm_source=openai` to URLs that it is using as sources.

Examples

Following their marriage, Burgess and Graham settled in Cheshire, England, where Burgess serves as the head coach for the Warrington Wolves rugby league team. [https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2025/feb/11/sam-burgess-interview-warrington-rugby-league-luke-littler?utm_source=chatgpt.com]

— From this revision (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=&diff=1277944793&oldid=>) to Sam Burgess

Vertex AI documentation and blog posts describe watermarking, verification workflow, and configurable safety filters (for example, person-generation controls and safety thresholds). ([[cloud.google.com](https://cloud.google.com/vertex-ai/generative-ai/docs/image/generate-images?utm_source=openai)])(https://cloud.google.com/vertex-ai/generative-ai/docs/image/generate-images?utm_source=openai))

— From this revision (<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=&diff=1308699845&oldid=>) to Draft:Nano Banana (Chatbot)

Links to searches

- `utm_source=chatgpt.com` (https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?search=%utm_source=chatgpt.com%22&title=Special:Search&profile=advanced&fulltext=1&ns0=1)
- `insource:"utm_source=chatgpt.com"` (https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?search=insource%3A%22utm_source%3Dchatgpt.com%22&title=Special%3ASearch&profile=advanced&fulltext=1&ns0=1)
- `insource:"utm_source=openai"` (https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?search=insource%3A%22utm_source%3Dopenai%22&title=Special%3ASearch&profile=advanced&fulltext=1&ns0=1)

Named references declared in references section but unused in article body

Examples

```
== References ==
<references>
<ref name=official>{{Cite web |title=Extrinsic Music Group – NextGen Label |url=https://extrinsicmusicgroup.com/ |website=extrinsicmusicgroup.com |access-date=2025-04-24}}</ref>
</references>
```

- [Special:PermanentLink/1287201002#References](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:PermanentLink/1287201002#References)
- [Special:PermanentLink/1292432848#References](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:PermanentLink/1292432848#References)
- [Special:PermanentLink/1291491974#References](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:PermanentLink/1291491974#References)
- [Special:PermanentLink/1291561040#References](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:PermanentLink/1291561040#References)

Links to searches

- [Category:Pages with incorrect ref formatting](#)

Non-existent categories

LLMs sometimes hallucinate non-existent categories (which appear as red links) because their training set includes obsolete and renamed categories that they reproduce in new content. They may also treat ordinary references to topics as categories, thus generating non-existent categories. Note that this is also a common error made by new or returning editors.

Examples

```
[[Category:American hip hop musicians]]
```

— From [this revision](#) to [Draft:Paytra](#)
rather than

```
[[Category:American hip-hop musicians]]
```

Citations

For non-AI-specific guidance about this, see [Wikipedia:Fictitious references](#).

Broken external links

If a new article or draft has multiple citations with external links, and most of them are broken (error 404 pages), this is a clear sign of an AI-generated page, particularly if the dead links are not found in website archiving sites like [Internet Archive](#) or [Archive Today](#). Most links become broken (see [link rot](#)) over time, but those factors make it unlikely that the link was ever valid.

Invalid DOI and ISBNs

For non-AI-specific guidance about DOI and ISBNs, see [Wikipedia:DOI](#) and [Wikipedia:ISBN](#).

A [checksum](#) can be used to verify [ISBNs](#). An invalid checksum is a very likely sign that an ISBN is incorrect, and citation templates will display a [warning](#) if so. Similarly, [DOIs](#) are more resistant to link rot than regular hyperlinks. Unresolvable DOIs and invalid ISBNs can be indicators of [hallucinated](#) references.

Related are DOIs that point to entirely different article and general book citations without pages. This passage, for example, was generated by ChatGPT.

Ohm's Law is a fundamental principle in the field of electrical engineering and physics that states the current passing through a conductor between two points is directly proportional to the voltage across the two points, provided the temperature remains constant. Mathematically, it is expressed as $V=IR$, where V is the voltage, I is the current, and R is the resistance. The law was formulated by German physicist Georg Simon Ohm in 1827, and it serves as a cornerstone in the analysis and design of electrical circuits [1]. Ohm's Law applies to many materials and components that are "ohmic," meaning their resistance remains constant regardless of the applied voltage or current. However, it does not hold for non-linear devices like diodes or transistors [2] [3].

References:

1. Dorf, R. C., & Svoboda, J. A. (2010). Introduction to Electric Circuits (8th ed.). Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons. [ISBN 9780470521571](#).
2. M. E. Van Valkenburg, "The validity and limitations of Ohm's law in non-linear circuits," *Proceedings of the IEEE*, vol. 62, no. 6, pp. 769–770, Jun. 1974. [doi:10.1109/PROC.1974.9547](#) (<https://doi.org/10.1109%2FPROC.1974.9547>)
3. C. L. Fortescue, "Ohm's Law in alternating current circuits," *Proceedings of the IEEE*, vol. 55, no. 11, pp. 1934–1936, Nov. 1967. [doi:10.1109/PROC.1967.6033](#) (<https://doi.org/10.1109%2FPROC.1967.6033>)

The book references appear valid – a book on electric circuits would likely have information about Ohm's law, but without the page number, the citation is not usable for verification of the claims in the prose. Worse, both *Proceedings of the IEEE* citations are completely made up. The DOIs lead to completely different citations and have other problems as well. For instance, [C. L. Fortescue](#) was

dead for 30+ years at the purported time of writing, and Vol 55, Issue 11 (<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/xpl/tocresult.jsp?isnumber=31102&punumber=5>) does not list any articles that match anything remotely close to the information given in reference 3. Note also the use of curly quotation marks and apostrophes in some, but not all, of the above text, another indicator that text may be LLM-generated.

Incorrect or unconventional use of references

AI tools may have been prompted to include references, and make an attempt to do so as Wikipedia expects, but fail with some key implementation details or stand out when compared with conventions.

In the below example, note the incorrect attempt at re-using references. The tool used here was not capable of searching for non-confabulated sources (as it was done the day before Bing Deep Search launched) but nonetheless found one real reference. The syntax for re-using the references was incorrect.

In this case, the *Smith, R. J.* source – being the "third source" the tool presumably generated the link '<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/3/>' (which has a PMID reference of 3) – is also completely irrelevant to the body of the article. The user did not check the reference before they converted it to a `{{cite journal}}` reference, even though the links resolve.

The LLM in this case has diligently included the incorrect re-use syntax after every single full stop.

```
For over thirty years, computers have been utilized in the rehabilitation of individuals with brain injuries. Initially, researchers delved into the potential of developing a "prosthetic memory."<ref>Fowler R, Hart J, Sheehan M. A prosthetic memory: an application of the prosthetic environment concept. 'Rehabil Counseling Bull'. 1972;15:80–85.</ref> However, by the early 1980s, the focus shifted towards addressing brain dysfunction through repetitive practice.<ref>{{Cite journal |last=Smith |first=R. J. |last2=Bryant |first2=R. G. |date=1975-10-27 |title=Metal substitutions incarbonic anhydrase: a halide ion probe study |url=https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/3 |journal=Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications |volume=66 |issue=4 |pages=1281–1286 |doi=10.1016/0006-291x(75)90498-2 |issn=0006-291X |pmid=3}}</ref> Only a few psychologists were developing rehabilitation software for individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), resulting in a scarcity of available programs.<sup>[3]</sup> Cognitive rehabilitation specialists opted for commercially available computer games that were visually appealing, engaging, repetitive, and entertaining, theorizing their potential remedial effects on neuropsychological dysfunction.<sup>[3]</sup>
```

— From this revision to Cognitive orthotics

Miscellaneous

Abrupt cut offs

AI tools may abruptly stop generating content, for example if they predict the end of text sequence

(appearing as <|endotext|>) next. Also, the number of tokens that a single response has is usually limited and further responses will require the user to select "continue generating".

This method is not foolproof, as a malformed copy/paste from one's local computer can also cause this. It may also indicate a copyright violation rather than the use of an LLM.

Discrepancies in writing style and variety of English

A sudden shift in an editor's writing style, such as unexpectedly flawless grammar compared to their other communication, may indicate the use of AI tools.

Another discrepancy is a mismatch of user location, national ties of the topic to a variety of English, and the variety of English used. A human writer from India writing about an Indian university would probably not use American English; however, LLM outputs use American English by default, unless prompted otherwise.^[1] Note that non-native English speakers tend to mix up English varieties, and such signs should only raise suspicion if there is a sudden and complete shift in an editor's English variety use.

See also

- Wikipedia:Artificial intelligence

Notes

- Example (deleted, administrators only)
- Example of `````wikitext` on a draft.

References

- "2025 findings" (<https://aclanthology.org/volumes/2025.findings-acl/>). *ACL Anthology*. (Original PDF (<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2505.07784>))
- "Russell (2025)" (<https://arxiv.org/abs/2501.15654>). *ACL Anthology*. Archived from the original (<https://aclanthology.org/2025.acl-long.267/>) on 19 May 2025. (Original PDF (<https://aclanthology.org/2025.acl-long.267.pdf>))

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