



PROMPT ENGINEERING

Tips and Tricks

Take Coffee For Breakfast, Eat Prata Pancakes For Teatime

This is a mnemonic to help you remember how to design your prompts



Task instruction

(represented by Take)

- Provide the task instruction that you wish the Generative AI model to do for you.
- E.g. **Write** a haiku about Singapore Merlion
 - This is a writing task that you wish the GenAI do for you.

Context

(represented by Coffee)

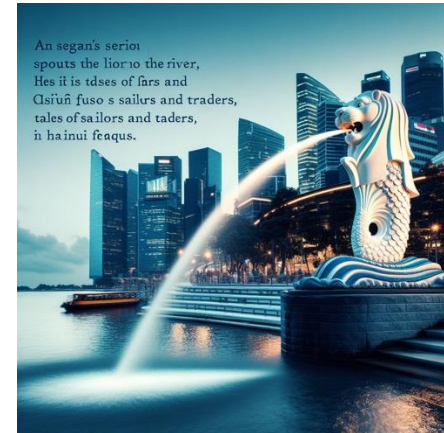
- Provide the context for the task.
- E.g. Write a haiku about **Singapore Merlion**
 - A well-defined context helps the AI understand the scope and nuances of the prompt.

Form

(embodied in For)

- Provide the form of the output that AI will do for you.
- E.g. Write a **haiku** about Singapore Merlion
 - The output is in the form of a written japanese style poem or haiku.
- E.g. Create an **image** for a haiku about Singapore Merlion
 - The output is in the form of an image

*Majestic Merlion,
Overlooking Marina Bay,
Singapore's pride, bright.*



Bulletpoints

(represented by Breakfast)

- Provide some indication of the length of output that you want from the AI.
- Or indicate how many bulletpoints you want or sub-bulletpoints that you want to expand on.
- E.g. Write a haiku about Singapore Merlion **with 7 lines**

*Majestic Merlion,
Guardian of Singapore,
Waves crash at your base.*

*Mane of ocean's spray,
Gaze cast over Marina,
Symbol of pride, grace.*

In the city's heart.

Examples

(embodied by Eat)

- Offer guiding instances, illustrations, or references relevant to the task. These examples assist AI in comprehending the desired output by providing tangible models that align with the respective outcomes, enhancing the clarity of instructions

- E.g. Write a haiku about Singapore Merlion. For example,

Proud Guardian Lion

Adaptable fish

Multicultural Multisymbolism

- This is a writing task that you wish the GenAI do for you.

Proud guardian stands,
Lion of the sea, steadfast,
Symbol of the land.

Fish tail in the waves,
Adaptable, strong, and free,
Merlion's grace displayed.

Cultures intertwine,
Multisymbol of the port,
Singapore's pride shines.

Persona

(Denoted by Prata)

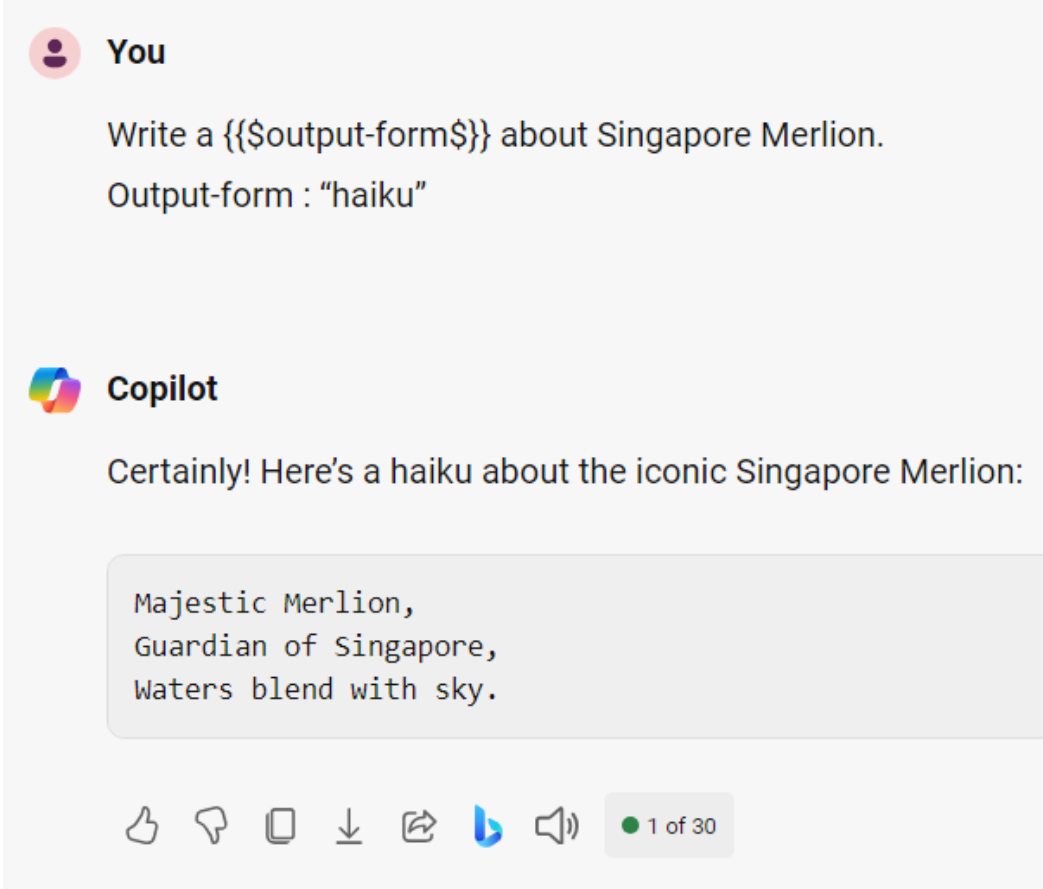
- Persona encapsulates the intended audience or user persona for whom the output is intended. Defining the persona assists in tailoring the language and style of the generated content to resonate effectively with specific demographics or readerships.
- E.g. **Explain** general elections **to like I am five years old**

General elections are like a big game where grown-ups get to choose their favorite players. But instead of playing sports, these players want to lead the country.

Parameters

(Represented by Pancakes)

- Provide parameters or variables in the prompt template to make your prompts more reusable.
- E.g. **Write** a {{\$output-form}} about Singapore Merlion.
Output-form : “haiku”
- The {{\$output-form}} is a variable or parameter which we can set.



The screenshot shows a chat interface with a light gray background. At the top, a user message is shown with a purple circular icon and the text "You". The message content is "Write a {{\$output-form}} about Singapore Merlion." followed by "Output-form : “haiku”". Below this, a response from "Copilot" is shown with a colorful icon. The response text is "Certainly! Here's a haiku about the iconic Singapore Merlion:". Below the text is a light gray rounded rectangle containing a haiku: "Majestic Merlion,
Guardian of Singapore,
Waters blend with sky." At the bottom of the chat area, there is a row of icons: a thumbs up, a thumbs down, a document icon, a download arrow, a share icon, a blue 'b' logo, and a speaker icon. To the right of these icons is a small gray box containing a green dot and the text "1 of 30".

You

Write a {{\$output-form}} about Singapore Merlion.
Output-form : “haiku”

Copilot

Certainly! Here's a haiku about the iconic Singapore Merlion:

Majestic Merlion,
Guardian of Singapore,
Waters blend with sky.

1 of 30

Format

(portrayed by For)

- Format outlines the structural specifications or layout expected in the generated response. It encompasses instructions regarding organization, presentation style, length, or other formatting requirements essential for achieving the desired output.
- E.g. **Create a table** comparing pros and cons of electric vehicles
 - Indicating the output format required is a table

Pros	Cons
Zero Emissions	Limited Range
EVs produce no tailpipe emissions, contributing to a cleaner environment.	They typically have a shorter range than traditional gasoline vehicles.
Quiet Operation	Charging Time
They operate quietly, reducing noise pollution.	It takes longer to charge an EV compared to filling up a gas tank.
Low Operating Costs	Higher Upfront Costs
Electricity is cheaper than gasoline, and EVs require less maintenance.	EVs can be more expensive to purchase initially, though this cost can be offset by lower operating costs and incentives.
Incentives	Charging Station Availability
There are various federal and state incentives available for EV owners.	There are fewer charging stations available compared to gas stations, especially in rural areas.

Tone & temperature

(represented by Teatime)

- Tone encapsulates the mood, attitude, or style expected in the generated content. It guides the AI in infusing appropriate emotional tones, formality or informality necessary to connected effectively with the intended audience.
- Temperature sets the level of preciseness or creativity in the AI output generated. A temperature of 0 means the responses will be more precise. A temperature of 1 means the responses can vary wildly (more creative).
- E.g. Write a haiku about Singapore Merlion in **a friendly funny informal style. (Conversation style set to Creative)**

Merlion's mighty spray,
"Hello!" to Marina Bay,
Fish-lion's grand display!

References

- <https://platform.openai.com/docs/guides/prompt-engineering>
- <https://help.openai.com/en/articles/6654000-best-practices-for-prompt-engineering-with-the-openai-api>
- <https://www.promptingguide.ai/>
- <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/semantic-kernel/prompts/>