

Exercise: Improve Your Queries Using Prompt Design Techniques

Lesson Downloads

In this exercise, you will use different prompt design techniques to improve an LLM's performance on a computational reasoning task.

Our reasoning task will involve taking a list of words and combine their first letters into a new word. It will take one letter from the first word, two letters from the second word, and so on.

For example:

Q: backward removing postpone solution

A: brepossolu

Q: resolves devoting

A: rde

Q: trappers

A: t

Test for understanding

Let's make sure we understand the task!



Q:
striking
s



Q: scholars stirring
vocalist
sstvoc

Great work!

For the remainder of the exercise we will try to get the LLM to answer the following five questions correctly:

Q: striking
Q: scholars stirring vocalist
Q: forehead vocalist ancients mongolia
Q: forehead identify stalwart balsamic unheeded
Q: broadway unawares

The answers are as follows:

s
sstvoc
fvoancmong
fidstabalsunhee
bun

Let's start testing!

Test with a commercial LLM

First, let's try asking a commercial LLM such as ChatGPT or Bard the following question:

Fill in the missing answers:

Q: rumbling immortal laboring ancestor
A: rimlabance

Q: diagnose emitting shrivels harmless lunatics
A: demshrharmlunat

Q: meanings climates security literats

A: mclseclite

Q: striking

A:

Q: scholars stirring vocalist

A:

Q: forehead vocalist ancients mongolia

A:

Q: forehead identify stalwart balsamic unheeded

A:

Q: broadway unawares

A:

Question 1 of 4

This prompt is an example of:

- one-shot prompting
- two-shot prompting
- three-shot prompting
- prompting

Submit

Question 2 of 4

Did the LLM get the right answer?

- Yes, it's amazing!
- No

Submit

In-context task description

In-context learning refers to providing information in the prompt that can help the model complete a task. Let's try two examples:

- A zero-shot prompt with a task description
- A three-shot prompt with a task description

You can use the boxes below to draft your prompts.

Remember to start a new conversation with the LLM with each question so it can start afresh.

Zero-shot prompt with a task description

Enter your response here, there's no right or wrong answer

Submit

Three-shot prompt with a task description

Enter your response here, there's no right or wrong answer

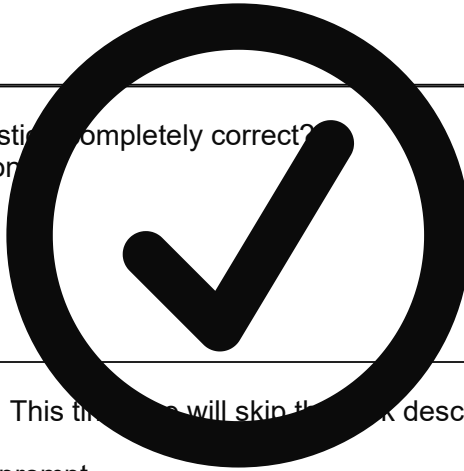
Submit

Question 3 of 4

Which of the prompts answered the question completely correct?

- Zero-shot prompt with a task description
- Three-shot prompt with a task description

Submit



Chain-of-Thoughts Prompting

Now let's try a chain-of-thoughts prompt. This time we will skip the task description altogether.

You can use the box below to draft your prompt.

Three-shot Chain-of-Thoughts prompt with no task description

Enter your response here, there's no right or wrong answer

Submit

Question 4 of 4

Did three-shot Chain-of-Thoughts prompting work for you?

- Yes
- No

Submit



End of lesson

Great work! By the point you have a good idea of what signals a large language model picks up on from your prompts.

Often, they are sensitive to small changes in the prompt. There are even situations in which too much information may confuse the model.