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Next Steps with OpenAI - Sanjeet Dutta

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Mon, Jul 21, 2025 at 3:29 PM

To: sdutta2198@gmail.com

Cc: jasmine.jose@openai.com

Hi Sanjeet,

Great news! The team enjoyed their conversation with you!

The next step is a written assignment, which is designed to evaluate your customer acumen, creativity, and strategic thinking. Please see below for the details:

Overview

You will **prototype** a new **semantic recommendation feature** for an e-commerce website's **fashion product line**. Traditionally, users have relied on **keyword-based search** (e.g., "t-shirt" or "shorts"), but the goal is to **enable human-like queries** (e.g., "I need an outfit to go to the beach this summer"). Your job is to build a **simple microservice** that:

1. **Parses a user's natural-language query**
2. **Finds relevant products** from a provided dataset using semantic search and LLMs

You will **expose** this functionality through a **function, command-line tool, or API endpoint**. If you'd like, you may also create a **minimal front-end** to demonstrate how an end user might interact with your service.

Requirements & Deliverables

1. **Architecture Diagram**
 - Include a high-level view of your system in **JPEG or PDF**.
 - Show how data is processed from the provided dataset through to the user's query response.
2. **Full Executable Code** (Microservice)
 - Focus on **clarity** and **modularity**
 - Provide a **README** explaining:
 - **Project setup** (how to install or run)
 - **Sample usage** (e.g., a test query and the resulting recommendations)
 - **Key design decisions** and trade-offs
3. **(Optional) Additional Exploration**
 - Any notebooks or scripts you used to explore the data, experiment with embeddings or LLM prompts, etc.
 - Additional documentation clarifying your approach or next steps.

About the Assignment:

- There is a data set attached to this email, please let us know if you have any issues accessing it. These links are included in the attachment, but in case you have trouble accessing, I've included them here:
 - [Download link for the dataset](#)
 - [Dataset Homepage](#)

Next Steps:

Following the passing of this take-home assignment, we'll schedule your final round interviews. One of the interviews (FDE Architecture) will expand on your design decisions from the take home, leading to follow-up questions surrounding designing technical solutions (System Architecture, MLOps & Engineering, LLM Architecture).

- **Tip:** You do not have to utilize the entire dataset for your analysis
- Jasmine (cc'd) will send you a credit for \$30 on the API so you can explore and experiment further. You should expect the credits to hit your account by EOD.
- Please complete the assignment within the next five business days.
- **Please submit your project as a zip file**

Your submission must install, run, and demonstrate functionality out of the box without any code changes (except for adding API keys where necessary).

Please submit your assignment via this link: <https://you.ashbyhq.com/openai/assignment/9e64e99c-0836-4407-bf0f-67d3cc2310a9>

As part of our evaluation process, we use an internal tool called CodexCLI to assist with the initial review of technical assessments. This tool helps us identify key patterns in the code and surface areas for deeper review.

Please note:

- All CodexCLI outputs are reviewed by a human interviewer, who makes the final decision on your assessment.
- This tool does not use your submission to train any models, and no personally identifiable or sensitive data is included in the review process.
- The assessment results are kept strictly within our recruiting team and will not be shared outside of this group.
- Any data processed through CodexCLI is automatically deleted after 30 days.

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Please reply to this email to confirm your receipt and to let us know if you have any questions or need more time. Thank you!

Best,
Jenn

Do not share any confidential and/or proprietary information from former or current employers in your response.



FDE Take Home Project_ Data Set (1).pdf
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