Online Writing Tools: Helpers, Not Threats

Have you ever completed your assignment just before deadline with the help of online tools? Have you then considered their impact on writers? Will AI help writers work better, or just replace them? Today, I’m here to argue that online tools are helpers—not threats—to modern writers. When I say ‘writers’, I’m focusing on writing to express opinions, ideas, or group thoughts. I will present my argument from three different perspectives: distinctiveness, emotions, and creativity.

Think about the first problem. Online tools excel in resources, accuracy, and objectivity, but they can’t develop their own style. We appreciate William Shakespeare for his extended and elaborate metaphors, Mark Twain for his humor, Li Bai for his romance and imagination, but we never appreciate ‘AI’ style because they are made to simply follow human’s requirements.

Now consider human emotions. When we write, we pour our struggles, insights, and emotions into our work; when we read, we seek to connect with the writer’s personal touch. Machines just imitate them in words rather than feelings. Imagine discovering that a poem you found deeply moving was written by a machine. Wouldn’t you feel a bit disappointed, even betrayed?

Finally, creativity. As Paul Graham said, ‘We are thinking while writing, or just thinking.’ We know sometimes human writers refer to others’ related sentences and combine them as what AI does, but they also add their own things. Just think about the idioms. We use the old ones, but it is we humans who created and are still creating them. Humans draw from experience to innovate, while tools only follow existing patterns.

In conclusion, online writing tools are valuable assistants. They help us with routine tasks, freeing us to focus on creativity and self-expression. However, the essence of writing—the soul of writers—remains irreplaceable. Rather than seeing these tools as threats, let’s embrace them as partners.

Reference:  
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