



Charafeddine 
@heyCharafeddine

99% of beginners don't know the basics of AI.

Let me fix that in 5 minutes.

A thread:

78 Retweets **536** Likes



Charafeddine 
@heyCharafeddine

Hi, I'm Charafeddine.

PhD, professor, and entrepreneur. In 2024, I trained 100+ people to use AI for daily work.

Most just open a chatbot, type something, and get frustrated. Here are the fundamentals you need to get started:

18 Likes



Charafeddine 
@heyCharafeddine

1. Three types of AI tools you need to know:

A) Standalone AI – Works independently.

Requires you to provide context.

Example: ChatGPT, MidJourney, Descript, Perplexity, DeepSeek, Gamma App.

20 Likes



Charafeddine 
@heyCharafeddine

B) Integrated AI – Built into apps you already use.

Has context from your activity.

Example: Google Docs with Gemini, Github Copilot with VScode, Cursor, Chrome extensions.

19 Likes



Charafeddine 
@heyCharafeddine

C) Custom AI – Custom systems built to solves specific problems.

Built by developpers for your specific needs.

Example: A tailor-made email follow-up system, a marketing analysis tool for your business, or a budget optimization system.

20 Likes



Charafeddine 
@heyCharafeddine

2. Most beginners make this one big mistake with prompts:

They don't give enough context.

19 Likes



Charafeddine 
@heyCharafeddine

- Bad prompt: “Give me negotiation tips.”

- Better prompt: “I’m a software engineer asking for a raise. I got a 10% hike last year, and industry standard is 15%. How should I negotiate?”

Specific inputs = specific outputs.

2 Retweets 39 Likes



Charafeddine 
@heyCharafeddine

3. Zero-shot vs. Few-shot prompting:

- Zero-shot: No examples. “Write me an Instagram caption.”

- Few-shot: Provide 2-3 examples.
“Write a caption like this: [example 1]
and [example 2].”

1 Retweet 24 Likes



Charafeddine 
@heyCharafeddine

Few-shot prompts train AI on your style and expectations, leading to better results.

The sweet spot is usually around 8-10 examples—after that, the improvement per example starts to decline.

17 Likes



Charafeddine 
@heyCharafeddine

4. Chain-of-Thought prompting improves AI responses.

For complex tasks, don't ask AI for the final result—break it into steps.

This is how "reasoning" models like OpenAI's o1 or DeepSeek R1 operate (behind the scene). Here's an example:

15 Likes



Charafeddine 
@heyCharafeddine

Example: Writing a cover letter

- Step 1: “Write a compelling hook based on my resume.”
- Step 2: “Draft a strong body paragraph.”
- Step 3: “Suggest a persuasive closing statement.”

Guiding AI step by step leads to significantly better results.

1 Retweet 26 Likes



Charafeddine 
@heyCharafeddine

5. AI has three major flaws you should know:

- Bias – Outputs reflect biases in its training data (and ALL data is biased).
- Outdated info – AI trained on old data won't know recent events (use Search).
- Hallucinations – AI sometimes makes up facts (less common but still happens).

16 Likes



Charafeddine 
@heyCharafeddine

AI is a tool, not an oracle.

Always fact-check, cross-reference,
and apply critical thinking.

Don't be passive, be a collaborator,
that's the point.

16 Likes



Charafeddine 
@heyCharafeddine

That's it.

If this clarified AI for you, save it,
share the first tweet. Someone else
needs it too.

13 Likes



Charafeddine 
@heyCharafeddine

P.S. If you would like to learn AI, you will love my weekly newsletter (it's free).

Join me here: cohortecolabs.com/letters

16 Likes