

Samsung Solve for Tomorrow

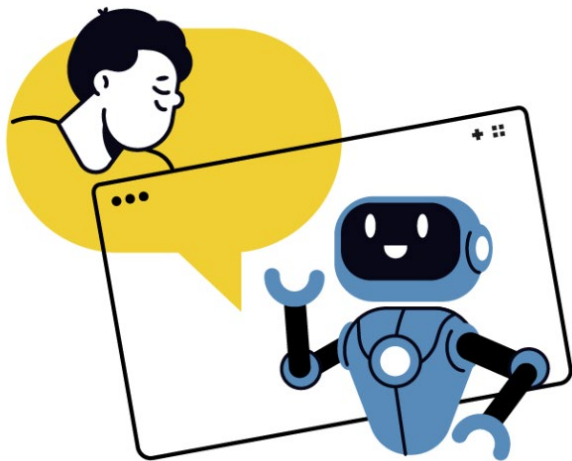
AI BOOTCAMP MARK CUBAN
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Lesson 2:
Lateral Reading with AI



Think About It

Have you ever trusted a source that turned out to be fake?

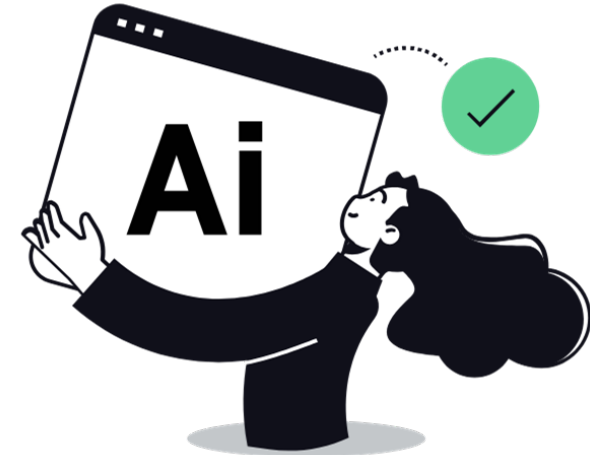


**It's not "does it look real" —
it's "can I prove this is real?"**

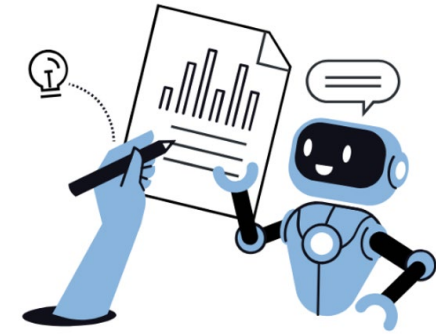
Hallucination

A confident, made-up response.

- ✓ Not a glitch.
- ✓ Known behavior of AI systems.
- ✓ It's predicting what a convincing answer looks like.



What is Lateral Reading?



Vertical Reading

Reading deeply within a single source.

VS

Lateral Reading

Looking outside your source to evaluate it.

Lateral Reading Strategies

1

Research Author & Publisher

- Open a new tab.
- Search the author name and publisher.
- ASK: What do other sources say about this source?

2

Use Wikipedia

- Use it as a starting point to learn about a publisher or author – not as your final source.

3

Check for Consensus

- Are other credible sources saying the same thing?
- If only one source makes a claim, that's a red flag.

4

Find the Original Source

- If an article references a study or statistic, find the original document.
- Does it say what it claims?

Activity #1:

Real vs Fake Using Lateral Reading

Your Task:

- 1 An LLM was given a prompt and returned 5 article sources.
- 2 Some are real. Some are completely fabricated.
- 3 Your job: figure out which is which.

Activity #1: Real vs Fake Using Lateral Reading

How to Do It:

- Work in groups of 2-3.
- Use lateral reading – don't just click the link and read the article.
- Open new tabs. Search the publisher and author.



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Debrief – Activity #1

- 1 Real or fake**
What did you find? How do you know?
- 2 What was the first clue?**
What specific detail tipped you off that something was wrong – or right?
- 3 Would you have been fooled?**
If you hadn't checked, would you have believed it? Why or why not?
- 4 What's the danger?**
What happens if someone uses a fake source in their research without checking?

Activity #2:

Receipts or it Didn't Happen

If you can't prove it, you can't use it.

In this activity you will:

- 1 Apply the same lateral reading skills to sources you are actually using.
- 2 Work through a set of verification questions for each source.
- 3 Identify gaps, missing perspectives, and weak sources.

Activity #2: Questions to Ask

Ask these questions for every source you use:

1. **Does this source exist?** Find it. Don't assume. Can you locate the source right now?
2. **Is it reputable?** What do other sources say about this publisher or author? Use lateral reading to check.
3. **Is it current?** When was it created? Is it recent enough to still be accurate for your purpose?
4. **What's missing?** What perspective might be left out? Who might see this topic differently?
5. **Can you replace it?** If this source disappeared tomorrow, could you find alternatives to support your point?

When using images, music, or writing – ask these too:

1. **Is proper credit given to the original creator?** Does your work clearly identify where this content came from and who made it?
2. **Are cultural elements being used appropriately?** Is the cultural content being used in a way that is respectful and not exploitative?
3. **What are the license and usage rights?** Are you legally and ethically allowed to use this content for your purpose?

20:00



Debrief – Activity #2

- 1 Was any source less reliable than you expected?**
What tipped you off? Was it the author, the publisher, the date, or something else?
- 2 Was any source stronger than you expected?**
What made you more confident in it once you investigated?
- 3 Did you have a source that couldn't be verified at all?**
What did you do- or what would you do – when a source can't be confirmed?
- 4 Was there a hard question to answer? Why?**
Was it harder to check existence, reputation, currency, missing perspectives, or alternatives?



Verification is not
about assuming
everything is a lie.

It's about building
confidence in the
information you use.