Practical Uses for Generative AI

Today's Workshop

AI overview

Five practical uses

Fun stuff!

Introduction

What is generative AI?

Examples: ChatGPT, DALL·E, Claude, Copilot

Why it matters to the average person

Practical Uses: Things to Remember

Double-check important info

Don't share sensitive data

Great helper, but not a human expert

Seems to run out of steam sometimes

Practical Use One: Writing & Communication Assistance

How It Helps:
- Drafts emails, resumes, or cover letters
- Improves grammar and tone
- Writes poems, stories, or jokes

Example Prompts:
- "Help me write a polite email asking for a refund."
- "Rewrite this paragraph to sound more professional."
- "Create a short birthday message for a coworker."

Practical Use 2: Personal Planning & Organization

How It Helps:

- ◦ Plans meals, trips, and daily schedules
- ◦ Creates checklists and reminders
- ◦ Organizes chaotic ideas into bullet points

Example Prompts:

- ◦ "Make a weekly meal plan for a family of four with picky eaters."
- ◦ "Help me pack for a 3-day trip to Chicago in spring."
- ◦ "Turn this brain dump into a to-do list."

Practical Use 3: Learning & Tutoring Support

How It Helps:
- Explains topics clearly (math, science, history, etc.)
- Translates or corrects foreign language text
- Creates flashcards or quiz questions

Example Prompts:
- "Explain photosynthesis like I'm 10 years old."
- "Translate this sentence into Spanish and explain the grammar."
- "Create 5 multiple-choice questions about the American Revolution."

Practical Use 4: Image Creation & Editing

How It Helps:
- Generates images from text prompts
- Edits photos or designs for creative projects
- Makes avatars, flyers, posters, and more

Example Prompts:
- "Create an image of a cozy library in the mountains at sunset."
- "Make a flyer for a neighborhood yard sale."
- "Turn this selfie into a cartoon-style avatar."

Practical Use 5: Everyday Problem Solving & DIY Help

How It Helps:
- Offers tech troubleshooting
- Suggests substitutions and fixes
- Writes polite requests or complaints

Example Prompts:
- "Why won't my Wi-Fi printer show up on my computer?"
- "What can I use instead of eggs in a cake recipe?"
- "Write a polite message to my neighbor about their loud dog."