

HUMAN OR AI?

AI-GENERATED CONTENT AND AUTHENTICITY



8-13 years



30-40 min



6-30 participants

Guessing game, investigation and discussion

OVERVIEW

Participants examine short texts, pictures, jokes or creative ideas and guess whether each was produced by a person or generated with AI. After the sources are revealed, they discuss which clues influenced their decisions and discover that AI-generated content cannot always be identified reliably from appearance alone.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Participants will:

- recognize that AI can generate text, images and other creative content
- investigate possible clues without treating them as definite proof
- understand that human and AI-generated content can be difficult to distinguish
- explore the difference between generating patterns and drawing on lived experience
- recognize the importance of checking sources and creation methods
- reflect on authorship, transparency and responsible AI use



MATERIALS

- Six to twelve prepared example cards
- Two response cards for each participant or group: HUMAN and AI
- A board, flip chart or large sheet of paper
- Markers
- Adhesive tape or reusable adhesive
- A facilitator answer sheet recording the source of each example
- Optional voting tokens
- Optional examples of short texts, images, jokes, slogans, story ideas or drawings

The activity can be conducted entirely with text if printing colour images is not practical.

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PREPARATION

Prepare a balanced collection containing:

- content created entirely by a person
- content generated primarily by an AI tool
- optional content created through human-AI collaboration

Suitable examples include:

- a short description of an animal
- a two-line poem
- a simple joke
- an imaginary product slogan
- a short story opening
- a picture of an imaginary creature
- an illustration of a familiar object
- an idea for solving an everyday problem

Keep each example short and age-appropriate. Record how each item was created on the answer sheet. Do not label content as AI-generated based only on where it was found online. Use examples whose creation method you know.

If an AI tool is used to prepare material, do not enter personal information about participants.

INTRODUCTION

Ask the participants:

- What kinds of things can AI create?
- Have you seen an AI-generated picture or text?
- How could you tell whether something was created by AI?
- Do you think it is always possible to know?

Explain: AI can generate stories, pictures, music, voices, videos, jokes and many other forms of content. Sometimes the result appears obviously unusual, but sometimes it looks or sounds very convincing.

Today, we will investigate whether we can identify how different examples were created.

Emphasize that this is an investigation rather than a test. Participants are not expected to identify every example correctly.

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INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) EXAMINE THE FIRST EXAMPLE**
Display or read the first example without revealing its source.

Ask participants to observe carefully and consider:

- Does anything appear unusual?
- Is the content consistent?
- Does it include specific details?
- Does it seem original or predictable?
- Does it communicate personal experience?
- Are there mistakes or contradictions?

Allow participants a short period to think individually.

- 2) VOTE: HUMAN OR AI**
Ask each participant or group to display either the HUMAN or AI card.

Count the votes, but do not reveal the answer immediately.

Invite participants from both sides to explain their reasoning. Record their suggested clues on the board.

- 3) REVEAL THE SOURCE**
Reveal how the example was created.

Ask:

- Were you surprised?
- Which clues were useful?
- Which clues were misleading?
- Could a person also have created the features we associated with AI?
- Could an AI also produce something we considered especially human?

Repeat the process with several examples.

- 4) INTRODUCE COLLABORATIVE CONTENT**
After several rounds, present an example created through human-AI collaboration.

Ask participants to choose between HUMAN and AI as before. After the discussion, reveal that both contributed.

Explain how the collaboration worked. For example:

1. A person developed the idea.
2. An AI generated a first draft.
3. The person checked the result.
4. The person changed words, added details and selected the final version.

Ask whether the example should be described as human-created, AI-generated or jointly created.

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INSTRUCTIONS

5) COMPARE TWO SIMILAR EXAMPLES

Present two examples of the same type, such as two short poems or two descriptions of a fictional animal. One is human-created and the other AI-generated.

Ask groups to compare them directly and identify:

- similarities
- differences
- strengths
- weaknesses
- details that influenced their judgment

Reveal the sources and discuss whether comparison made identification easier.

6) CREATE A VERIFICATION CHECKLIST

Ask the group what they should do when it is important to know whether digital content is authentic.

Develop a simple checklist together:

1. Check who shared or published it.
2. Look for information about how it was created.
3. Compare it with reliable sources.
4. Examine whether the details are consistent.
5. Use verification tools when available.
6. Ask a knowledgeable person.
7. Remain uncertain if there is not enough evidence.

Emphasize that visual or stylistic clues alone may not provide a definite answer.

DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION

Ask the participants:

- Which examples were easiest to identify?
- Which were most difficult?
- Did AI-generated content always contain obvious mistakes?
- Did human-created content always appear more original or emotional?
- Can a spelling mistake prove that something was written by a person?
- Can perfect grammar prove that something was created by AI?
- How did knowing the source change your interpretation?
- When is it important to know how something was created?
- Should creators say when AI has played a major role?
- Who should receive credit for content made through human-AI collaboration?
- Why is guessing alone sometimes dangerous?

Conclude with the key idea: There is no single clue that can always prove whether content was created by a person or AI. When authenticity matters, we need information about the source, supporting evidence and careful verification.

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CONNECTION TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Generative AI learns patterns from large collections of existing material and uses those patterns to produce new content. Depending on the system, it may generate:

- text
- images
- voices
- music
- video
- computer code
- designs and ideas

AI-generated content may contain errors or unusual details, but improving technology can make these signs less obvious. Humans can also make mistakes, write in predictable ways or create strange images.

Therefore, features such as perfect grammar, unusual hands in an image or a generic writing style are not reliable proof on their own.

AI is also frequently used as part of a creative process rather than as the sole creator. A person may develop the concept, write a prompt, select among several results, revise the material and take responsibility for the final work.

Understanding the creation process is often more useful than attempting to classify the finished product simply as “human” or “AI.”



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EASIER VARIATION

Use only four to six clearly contrasting examples, such as:

- a child's drawing
- an AI-generated imaginary animal
- a short personal sentence
- a generic AI-generated description

Read all text aloud and discuss one example at a time.

Instead of voting individually, place HUMAN and AI signs on opposite sides of the room. Participants move toward their chosen answer and explain their reasoning.

Include at least one surprising example so children learn that first impressions are not always reliable.

MORE CHALLENGING VARIATION

Add a third response option:

- **HUMAN**
- **AI**
- **HUMAN-AI COLLABORATION**

Ask groups to assign a confidence level from one to five and identify the evidence supporting their decision.

After revealing the source, give participants a short description of the creation process.

They then discuss:

- who made the most important creative decisions
- who should receive credit
- whether AI use should be disclosed
- who is responsible for errors or harmful content

Groups can also rewrite labels for the examples, such as:

Created by a person using AI-generated ideas and substantial human editing.

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FACILITATOR NOTES

- Use examples with known and documented creation methods.
- Do not imply that one visual or writing feature can reliably identify AI-generated content.
- Avoid turning the activity into a list of permanent “AI tells,” as these can quickly become inaccurate.
- Select examples that do not mock participants’ creative abilities or suggest that neat work is artificial.
- Explain that “AI-generated” can describe different levels of AI involvement.
- Avoid presenting human creativity and AI use as simple opposites. Many creative processes combine multiple tools and contributors.
- Discuss quality separately from origin. Human-created content can be weak, and AI-generated content can be impressive.
- When using examples found online, check usage rights and remove personal information.
- If the source cannot be verified, label it unknown rather than guessing.
- Keep the emphasis on careful observation, transparency and verification.

KEY WORDS

GENERATIVE AI

AI that produces new content such as text, images, audio or video.

AI-GENERATED CONTENT

Material produced primarily by an AI system.

HUMAN-AI COLLABORATION

•A process in which a person and an AI tool both contribute to a result.

AUTHORSHIP

Recognition of who created or contributed to a work.

AUTHENTICITY

The quality of being genuine or accurately represented.

SOURCE

The person, organization or system from which information or content originates.

DISCLOSURE

Clearly communicating relevant information, such as whether AI was used.

VERIFICATION

Checking evidence to determine whether information or content is trustworthy.