



Brooke Gross, WKU Libraries

AI Across Disciplines

Calculator, Lightbulb, Admin. Assistant



Agenda

Introducing Inconsistency

Comparing the Calculator

Leveraging the Lightbulb

Adopting the Assistant

Theorizing Thought





Is there a roadmap to AI?

Introducing Inconsistency

- Everyone is still learning!
- Everyone has different needs!
- Everyone should be careful!



A Brief History of AI

1950s

The idea that machines can think comes to fruition, but the technology is too slow and unwieldy to gain traction.

1970s-1980s

Machine learning catches up to theory (faster and cheaper). Deep learning motivates funding for logic programming.

Early 2000s

Computer storage and processing speed doubles, but learning is still choppy and led by big data only.

Present

Artificial intelligence is increasingly adapted through training data, but still has not achieved Theory of Mind.



“Why is a raven like a writing desk?”

Walt Disney's Alice in Wonderland [Film] (1951)



Comparing the Calculator



Is spellcheck omnipresent?

Does that make spelling tests obsolete?

Are training wheels useful?

At what point does a tool become a crutch?

Should calculators be allowed in elementary school?

Have fundamental literacies and competencies changed over time?

Examples of Problem-Solving

Professionally

- Estimating the amount of supplies needed for an event or project.
- Drafting a company-wide email about holiday closures.
- Visualizing expenditure data for a board meeting.

Academically

- Large-Scale Papers and Projects: generating outlines, synthesizing literature/data, drafting, formatting
- Participation and Studying: generating flash cards, building study guides, drafting discussion posts, summarizing rubrics



Why should AI be considered “cheating” (or not)?

“Ideas are so much wilder than memories.”

The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue
[Novel] (2020)



Fifth Grade

Introduction to Poetry
Brainstorming



High School Junior

Persuasive Essay
Generating Counterarguments



College Senior

Creative Nonfiction
Writing from a Child's Perspective

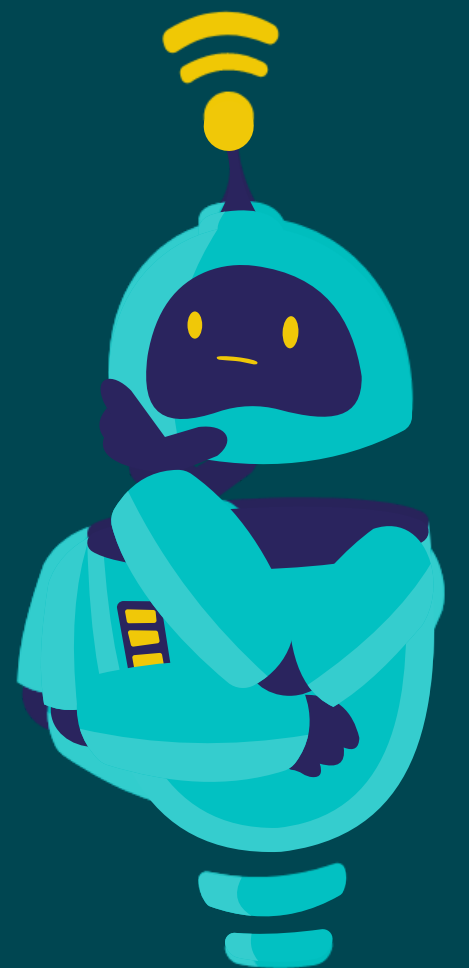
Leveraging the Lightbulb

IDEA GENERATION

**Business,
Marketing, Art,
Writing, Planning**

IDEA REFINEMENT

**Research,
Communication,
Sciences, Adapting**



“Email: where you
spend 10 minutes
crafting the perfect
1-minute read.”

ChatGPT [Software] (2024)





What deserves human attention?



Summary: AI Uses Across Disciplines



From Point A to Point B

IN THE ARTS

Expand vocabulary, proofread, search for similar content creators, and set prices.

IN THE SCIENCES

Solve equations, perform risk assessments, and verify calculations.

IN THE HUMANITIES

Standardize grades, simulate environments, and visualize data.

IN BUSINESS AND MARKETING

Calculate costs, profit margins, demographics, and purchasing trends.



When Words Fail

IN THE ARTS

Brainstorm titles, translate works to different mediums, and get inspiration.

IN THE SCIENCES

Put together lab reports and summarize findings for stakeholders.

IN THE HUMANITIES

Clarify ideas, brainstorm events, summarize research, and fill gaps.

IN BUSINESS AND MARKETING

Draft logos, promotional materials, and social media posts.



Work Smarter, Not Harder

IN THE ARTS

Generate synopses/descriptions and websites to promote creative works.


IN THE SCIENCES

Check for coding errors, schedule experiments, and organize data.

IN THE HUMANITIES

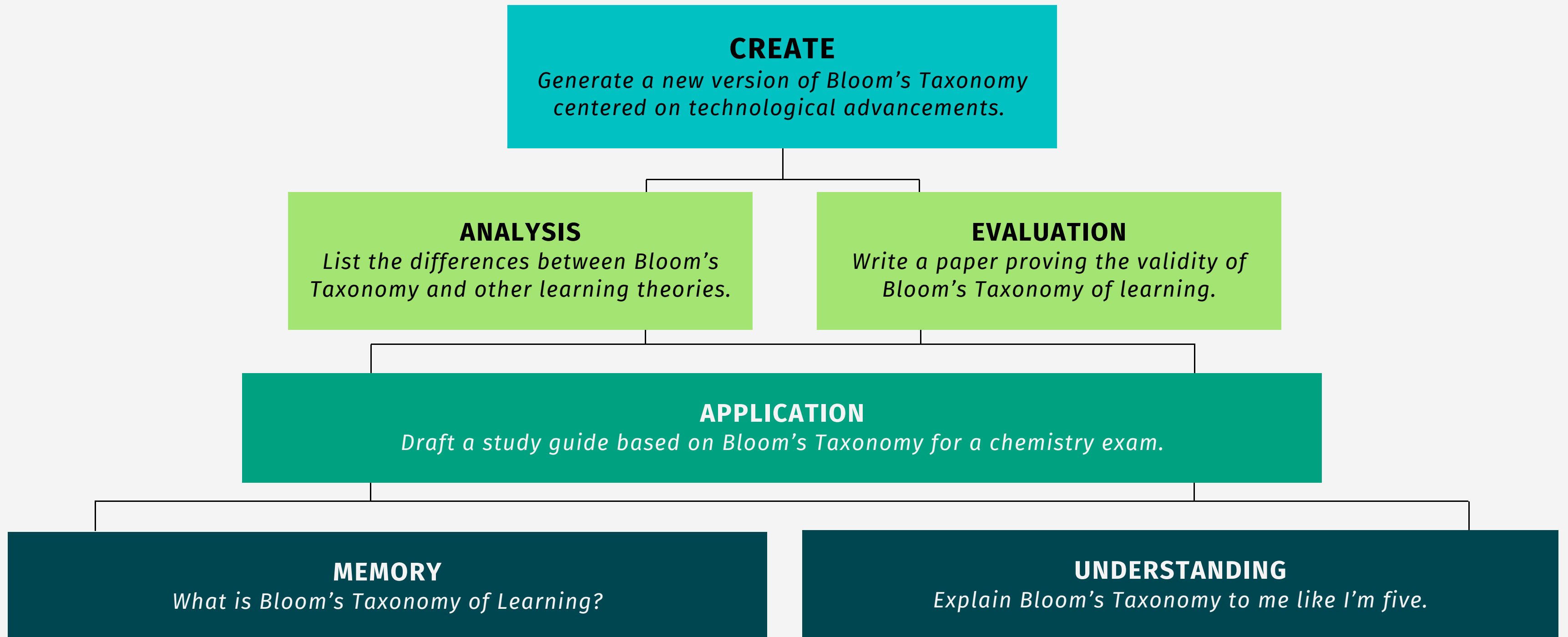
Perform literature reviews and generate exhibit/presentation materials.

IN BUSINESS AND MARKETING



Improve customer service, automate inventory, and design websites.

Food for Thought: ChatGPT and Learning





brooke.gross@wku.edu | (270) 745-3912

Thank You!

“Hello, IT, have you tried turning it off and on again?”

The IT Crowd [TV Show] (2006)





Resources

“The History of Artificial Intelligence”

Rockwell Anyoha (2017)

“Bloom’s Taxonomy of Learning”

Charlotte Ruhl (2024)

“The Current Status of Artificial Intelligence”

AllTech Magazine (2024)

“AI Detection in Education is a Dead End”

Leon Furze (2024)