

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES



Chatty Chatbot

This student-centered strategy uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) to simulate a conversation between students and famous historical or fictional characters.

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CHATTY CHATBOT

Summary

Bring history or a story to life by having students not only read about famous people but converse with them. Leveraging an AI chatbot to take on the persona of a character covered in your lesson provides a great opportunity for students to explore their lives and contextual setting even more. For example, students can explore an event through the character's perspective and/or test their knowledge about the character by critiquing what the chatbot says. This strategy can be used across curricula, within any lesson where students are learning about a famous historical or fictional character. NOTE: Chatbots can misinterpret information, present bias, and/or plagiarize the work of others. Always check the validity and originality of the content gleaned from a chatbot source

Procedure

1. Choose an [AI Chatbot](#) (see our tech tool card for ideas). Consider modeling this activity as a whole class first, then allowing students to work individually or in small groups.
2. Either as a class or individually, have students prompt the bot to take on the persona of the desired character. For some ideas, see the attached **Sample Prompts and Guide**. Things to consider when writing the prompt:
 - **Define the character.** Describe the character(s) you wish to simulate a conversation with, naming them, detailing their characteristics you would like to highlight.
 - **Set the scene.** Detail the setting or context of the conversation, whether it's a scene from a book, a historical event, or a completely new scenario you wish to delve into.
 - **Provide a conversation framework.** Outline how you want the characters to respond, specify topics to avoid, emphasize.
3. Allow students time to interact with the bot.
4. Afterwards, have students reflect on their experience: *Were the AI responses accurate? What did you learn? What questions do you still have?*

Note: While there are other AI apps for simulated character conversations, like [SchoolAI](#) or [character.ai](#), there may be paywalls and you may not be able to control the characters' output as much as with an AI chatbot.

Character.ai. (n.d.). <http://character.ai/> Hicks, C. (n.d.). SchoolAI. <https://app.schoolai.com/> Miller, M. (2024, February 3). Classroom AI 101: Simulate conversations with characters using AI. Ditch That Textbook. <https://ditchthattextbook.com/ai-character-conversations/>