



Catch the AI Being Confidently Wrong

See for yourself how AI invents facts — so you never take its word as truth.

DO THIS — STEP BY STEP

~15 min

1. Open a free AI tool: in any web browser go to chatgpt.com, or open the Google Gemini app on your phone.
2. Warm up: ask one thing you already know cold (a fact about your town, your hobby, your favorite team).
3. Now bait it: ask something it can't possibly know — pick a prompt from the box on the right.
4. Read the answer out loud. Notice how SURE it sounds, then point to the part it simply made up.
5. Save it — take a screenshot or write it down — and bring your favorite to class.

TRY ONE OF THESE PROMPTS

“Write a short biography of Herbert Quigby of Maple Street.”

“What did the mayor of my town eat for breakfast today?”

“Explain the official rules of snowball cricket, a sport from the 1840s.”

Safety: these are nonsense on purpose — never type any real personal details.



Bring back next week: One funny or wrong answer for our “Confidently Wrong” wall.



Give a Real Question a Privacy Makeover

Get the same helpful answer from AI — without sharing anything private.

DO THIS — STEP BY STEP

~15 min

1. Pick a real task you'd like help with: understanding a bill, a medical term, or drafting a letter.
2. Write the “messy” version first — exactly how you'd naturally say it, personal details and all.
3. Grab a highlighter. Mark every private piece: name, address, account or Medicare number, dollar amounts, dates, phone.
4. Rewrite it general — swap each highlighted piece for a plain word (see the example on the right).
5. Run the safe version through the AI. Notice you still get good help — with zero exposure.

BEFORE → AFTER

BEFORE

*“I'm Mary Smith, Medicare #123-45.
Explain this \$284 lab charge from June 3.”*

AFTER

“Explain what a diagnostic lab charge means on a medical bill, and what to ask my provider.”



Bring back next week: Your before-and-after prompt to read aloud.



Set Up Your Family Secret Phrase

AI can fake a loved one's voice. A secret phrase can't be cloned.

DO THIS — STEP BY STEP

~10 min + a call

1. Choose a phrase that's odd and memorable but NOT on social media — like “blue teapot” or “purple tractor.”
2. Call ONE trusted relative using a number you already have saved. Say it out loud — don't text or email it.
3. Make the rule together: if anyone calls in a panic asking for money, BOTH sides must say the phrase first.
4. Write the phrase somewhere private — on paper, not in your phone contacts and not online.
5. Practice once: hang up on a “surprise” call and call that person back on their real, saved number.

THE SCAM THIS STOPS

A caller sobs: “Grandma, it's me — I'm in jail, please don't tell Mom, just send gift cards.”

The voice sounds real. You stay calm and ask:

“What's our phrase?”

Silence — or a wrong answer — means it's a scam. Hang up.



Bring back next week: Confirmation you set a phrase with someone — but keep the phrase secret!



Build and Post Your Personal Safety Card

Turn what you've learned into a one-card plan you'll actually use.

DO THIS — STEP BY STEP

~20 min

1. Fill out your take-home safety card: two trusted callback numbers, the Never-Ever list, and your three moves.
2. Turn on one protection: in your AI app's settings, switch OFF chat history / “help improve the model.”
3. Tape the card where you use the phone or computer — somewhere you'll see it the moment you feel rushed.
4. Tell one person your plan, so they can back you up and remind you if a call ever rattles you.
5. Keep using AI the safe way: explain, draft, organize — never your wallet, medical, or identity.

YOUR CARD INCLUDES

- Two trusted callback numbers
- The Never-Ever list (SSN, Medicare, passwords, PINs)
- Your three moves: Stop • Verify • Ask the phrase
- The mantra: Useful AI, minimal exposure, human verification



Bring back next week: Your completed card — graduation show-and-tell!