

# AI Glossary

Version 18

Published 6/6/2024 by [Truc Chau](#) Last updated 12/8/2024 12:56 AM by [Truc Chau](#)



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## Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Any intelligence demonstrated by machines, in contrast to the natural intelligence displayed by humans and other animals. These machines use mathematical models that identify and encode patterns in data sets, which can then perform predictions on new situations which the machines haven't encountered before.

## AI-assisted writing

When artificial intelligence software utilizes existing content to predict, modify or create text based on input that a user supplies. Certain tools may create novel bodies of text, while others may reword existing text, in the case of AI paraphrasing tools.

## AI-generated text

Text created by artificial intelligence based on vast amounts of data of existing content from the Internet.

## AI paraphrasing

AI paraphrasing refers to the use of AI techniques to rephrase or rewrite a given piece of text in a way that preserves the original meaning of the text while using different words and phrases.

## Algorithm

A set of instructions or computations that a machine follows in order to learn how to do a particular task.

## Autonomous

When something—in this case, a machine—can perform a task without human interference or intervention.

## Chatbots (or “bots”)

A program designed to help human users with simple tasks and communicate via voice or text commands in order to feel like a human-to-human conversation.

## ChatGPT

ChatGPT (short for Chat Generative Pre-trained Transformer) is a chatbot launched by OpenAI in November 2022. It is a Large Language Model with both supervised and reinforcement learning techniques. ChatGPT can produce a body of unique text from a user's specific input based on existing content from the internet.

## Cognitive science

The broader form of study that includes AI in addition to philosophy, linguistics, psychology, neuroscience and anthropology. All of these together seek to understand how the mind functions and, when applied to AI, how machines can simulate human thought and action.

## DALL-E 1

Launched by OpenAI in January 2021, DALL-E 1 an AI that generates images based on text and belongs to a family of AI called Diffusion Models. In 2022, it was superseded by DALL-E 2.

## Dataset

Related data points in a collection, usually with tags (labels) and a uniform order.

## Deep Learning

A family of Artificial Intelligence architectures that uses neural networks to encode information, resulting in state-of-the-art performance across a wide array of tasks. Generative AI models are typically examples of Deep Learning.

## Foundation model

Models that are trained on a broad set of unlabeled data that can be used for different tasks, with minimal fine-tuning.

## General AI

Sometimes referred to as “strong AI” (although not entirely equivalent), general AI is artificial intelligence that could successfully do any

intellectual task that can be done by a human being.

## **Generative AI**

Generative AI is a broad label that's used to describe any type of artificial intelligence that uses learning algorithms to create new digital images, video, audio, text or code.

## **Large Language Model (LLM)**

Artificial intelligence that has been trained on massive quantities of text data to produce human-like responses to natural language inputs.

## **Machine intelligence**

An overarching term for different types of learning algorithms, including machine learning and deep learning.

## **Machine learning**

A subset of AI that is specifically focused on developing algorithms that will help machines to learn and change in response to new data, without the help of a human being.

## **Natural Language Processing (NLP)**

Technology that allows machines to determine—via text or voice—what humans are saying.

## **OpenAI**

An Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) research and deployment company based in San Francisco, California (USA), seeking to develop and build AGI that benefits all of humanity. Their most recent releases include ChatGPT and DALL-E 2.

## **Reinforcement learning**

A machine learning training method based on rewarding desired behaviors and/or punishing undesired ones.

## **Strong AI**

This field of research is focused on developing AI that is equal to the human mind when it comes to ability. General AI is a similar term often used interchangeably.

## **Supervised learning**

An approach to creating artificial intelligence where a computer algorithm is trained on input data that has been labeled for a particular output.

## **Text spinners**

Also known as AI paraphrasing tools, these are software tools that are used to automatically rewrite or rephrase a given piece of text in order to generate multiple variations of the original text.

## **Turing Test**

A test that examines a machine's ability to pass for a human, specifically in language and behaviour. A machine can pass this test if, after being graded by a human, its performance is indistinguishable from that of human participants. This test is named after Alan Turing (1912-1954), a notable English mathematician, computer scientist and logician.

## **Unsupervised learning**

The use of AI algorithms to identify patterns in data sets containing data points that are neither classified nor labeled.

## **Additional Resources for Terminology**

- **Artificial Intelligence: Key terms and definitions**

List of 13 key AI terms to know, curated by Caltech.

- **AI terms + education: A glossary of what you need to know**

An incomplete list of terms related to AI used for research and writing.

- **50 AI terms every beginner should know**

A comprehensive glossary of 50 terms for AI and machine learning beginners.

- **AIPRM's Ultimate Generative AI Glossary**

From students to professionals, this resource is designed to empower every reader with a solid and clear understanding of the critical concepts that drive generative AI.

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Campbell, Audrey. "AI terms + education: A glossary of what you need to know". Turnitin, 6 Feb. 2024, <https://www.turnitin.com/blog/ai-terms-education-a-glossary-of-what-you-need-to-know>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at [teaching@senecapolytechnic.ca](mailto:teaching@senecapolytechnic.ca)





