LLMs & GPTs: Getting the Best Results

- **Be Conversational:**
  - Instead of: "Write report."
  - Try: "Help me write a status report for my manager about this month's project progress. I want to sound professional but not too formal."
- **Provide Context:**
  - Explain your role, audience, and goals
  - Share relevant background information
  - Mention any constraints or requirements
- **Iterate and Refine:**
  - If the first response isn't perfect, ask for adjustments
  - Build on good responses with follow-up questions
  - Don't hesitate to ask for alternatives
- **Set Clear Expectations:**
  - Instead of: "Make this better"
  - Try: "Make this email more persuasive while keeping it under 200 words and maintaining a friendly tone."

Common Beginner Mistakes (And How to Avoid Them)

- **Mistake 1**: Treating AI like a search engine
  - Wrong: "Best restaurants"
  - Better: "I'm looking for a romantic dinner spot in downtown Nashville for my anniversary. We like Italian food and prefer places that aren't too loud. Budget around $150 for two people.
- **Mistake 2:** Accepting first responses without iteration
  - Better approach: Ask follow-up questions, request adjustments, and refine until you get what you need.
- **Mistake 3**: Not providing enough context
  - Wrong: "Write a proposal"
  - Better: Include who it's for, what you're proposing, key benefits, and desired outcome.
- **Mistake 4**: Expecting perfection
  - Better mindset: Use AI as a starting point that you'll refine and personalize.

Success Mindset

Think Partnership, Not Magic—LLMs are powerful collaborators, not miracle workers. The best results come from working together—your judgment, creativity, and domain expertise combined with AI's knowledge and processing power.

Embrace the Learning Curve—Every interaction teaches you something about how to communicate more effectively with AI. What feels awkward today will feel natural within weeks.

Focus on Value, Not Perfection—Even imperfect AI responses often provide value—new perspectives, starting points, or insights you hadn't considered. Don't let perfect be the enemy of good.