The AI for Good Schools Challenge 2026

Innovating for Our Community

Your Mission: Solve a Real-World Problem.

We are empowering you—the next generation of innovators—to use the power of Artificial Intelligence to solve a meaningful problem in your school, your community, or your country.

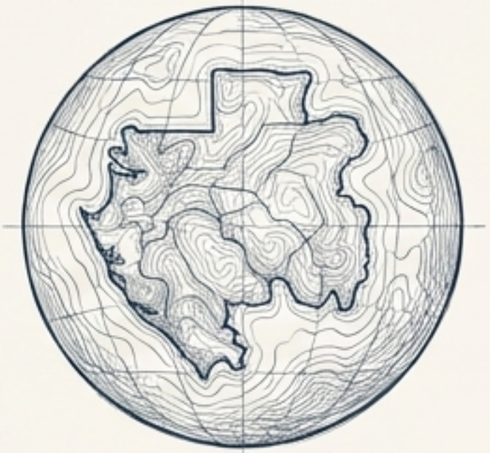
Where Will You Make Your Impact?

The School

An ML app to reduce food waste in the canteen or an AI tutor for students with special educational needs.

The Community

A computer vision system to identify potholes for the council or an optimizer for local bus routes.



The Country

Generative AI to translate government services into multiple languages or an ML model to predict renewable energy usage.

Meet Your AI Tools: The Detective & The Artist

Machine Learning (The Smart Detective)

It finds patterns in data to **predict what will happen next** or **identify what something is.**

Here is a photo. Is this a cat or a dog?

Generative AI (The Creative Artist)

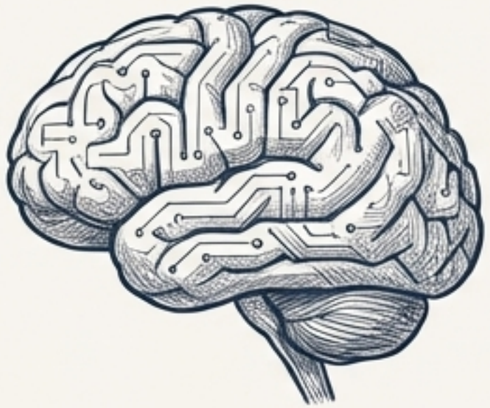
It uses patterns to **create something new**, like text, images, or code.

Write me a new story about a cat.

How ‘The Detective’ Thinks: It’s Trained, Not Programmed.

1. Training Data (The Textbooks)

Show the computer thousands of examples. For instance, 1,000 photos of “healthy leaves” and 1,000 photos of “diseased leaves”.



2. The Model (The Student)

The computer studies the examples and builds its own “rulebook” of patterns it notices, like “sick leaves often have tiny yellow spots”.

3. Testing (The Exam)

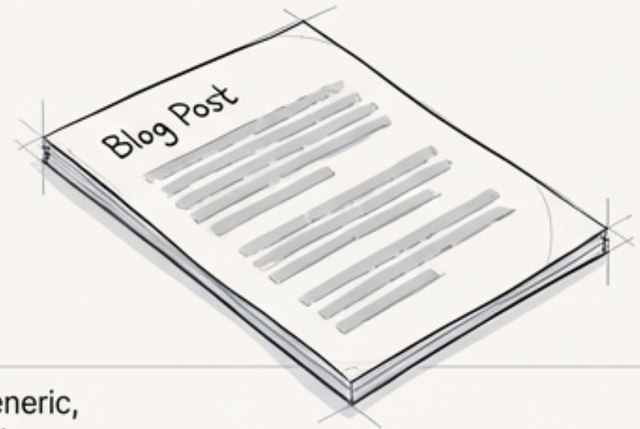
Give the computer a new, unseen photo. It uses its rulebook to make a prediction. If it's right, it passes!

Mastering ‘The Artist’: The Golden Rule of Prompting

[Context] + [Task] + [Constraints] = **[Excellent Result]**

Bad Prompt ❌

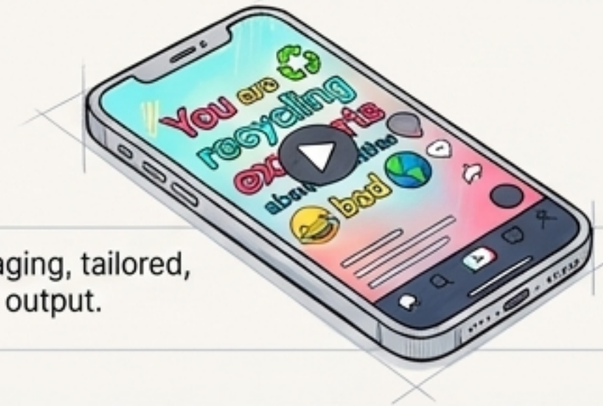
“Write a blog about pollution.”



Result: Generic, boring text.

Good Prompt ✅

“You are a friendly recycling expert. Write a 30-second TikTok script for Year 8 students about why plastic bottles are bad. Use funny, energetic language, avoid complex words, and include 3 emojis.”



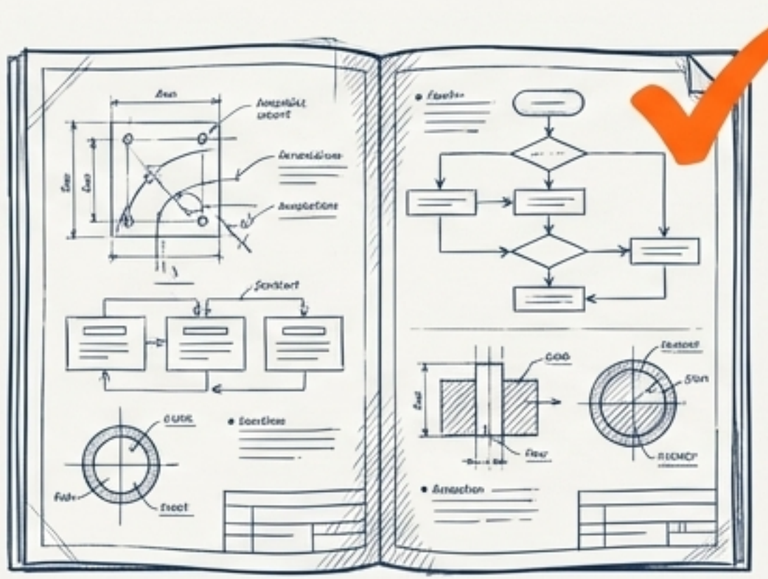
Result: Engaging, tailored, and specific output.

Your Submission Package: What to Deliver

A. The Pitch Deck (7-12 Slides)

Problem → Solution → How AI Works → Social Impact → Ethics & Safety

B. The Technical Document (Max 2 Pages)

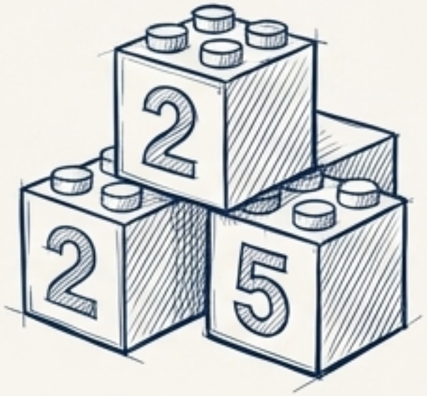


- Your System Card (explaining the AI model)
- Your AI Disclosure Statement (listing AI tools used)

The Rules of Engagement

Eligibility

Junior (Years 7-9) & Senior (Years 10-13) categories.



Team Size

2-5 students per team.

Feasibility

Your concept must be technically grounded in real AI, not 'magic'.

AI Use & Disclosure

You CAN use AI tools for brainstorming or coding, but you MUST disclose them in your Technical Document. Plagiarism is disqualification.

The 5 Keys to a Winning Project

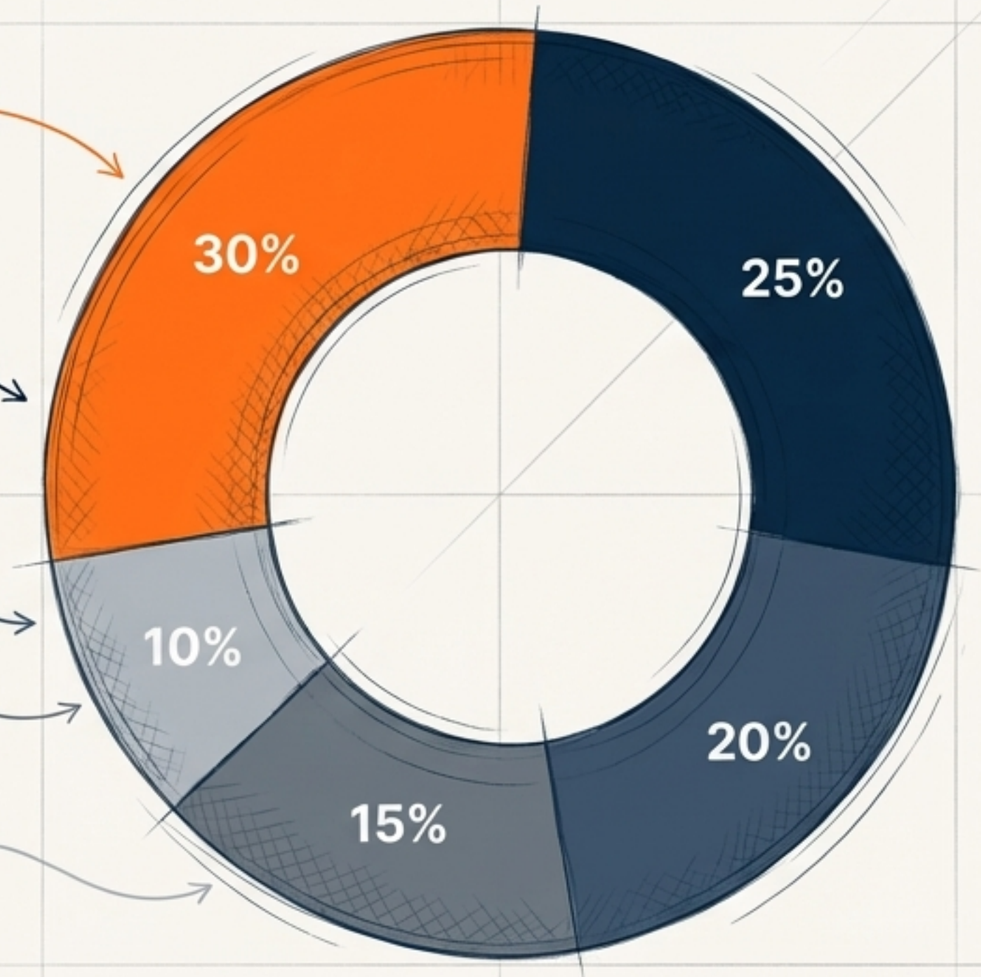
30% Social Impact:
Does it solve a real, meaningful problem for your chosen community?

25% Innovation: Is your idea fresh, creative, and a unique use of AI?

20% Technical Feasibility: Does your plan make sense? Is it grounded in reality?

15% Ethics & Safety: Did you consider the risks and potential harms?

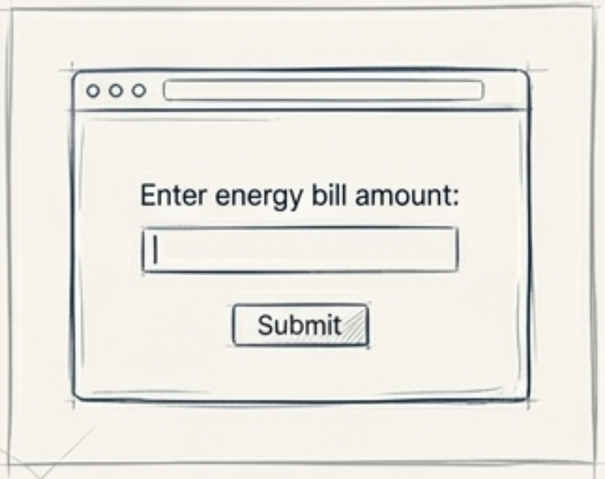
10% Communication: Is your pitch clear, compelling, and well-designed?



Top-Scoring Projects Touch the Real World

Good (Scores 1-3):
Pure Compute

A screen-only solution, like a chatbot or website where users type in data.



Excellent (Scores 8-10):
Physical AI

Uses sensors like a camera, microphone, or GPS to interact with the physical world.

Your Compass: Navigating AI Ethics with the 4-Stage Safety Check

1. Training Data (The Ingredients)

Are the ingredients biased or stolen? If you use a pre-built model, do you know what it was trained on?

2. Model Weights (The Recipe)

Who owns the AI's "brain"? Is it a transparent "Open Source" model or a secret "Closed" model?

3. Input (Your Prompt)

Are you protecting user privacy? Never input personal names, addresses, or secrets.

4. Output (The Result)

Is the result fair? Is it true? Who is responsible if your AI gives bad advice?

“The Danger Zone: AI Can Be Unfair or Untrue”

Hallucinations (Lies)

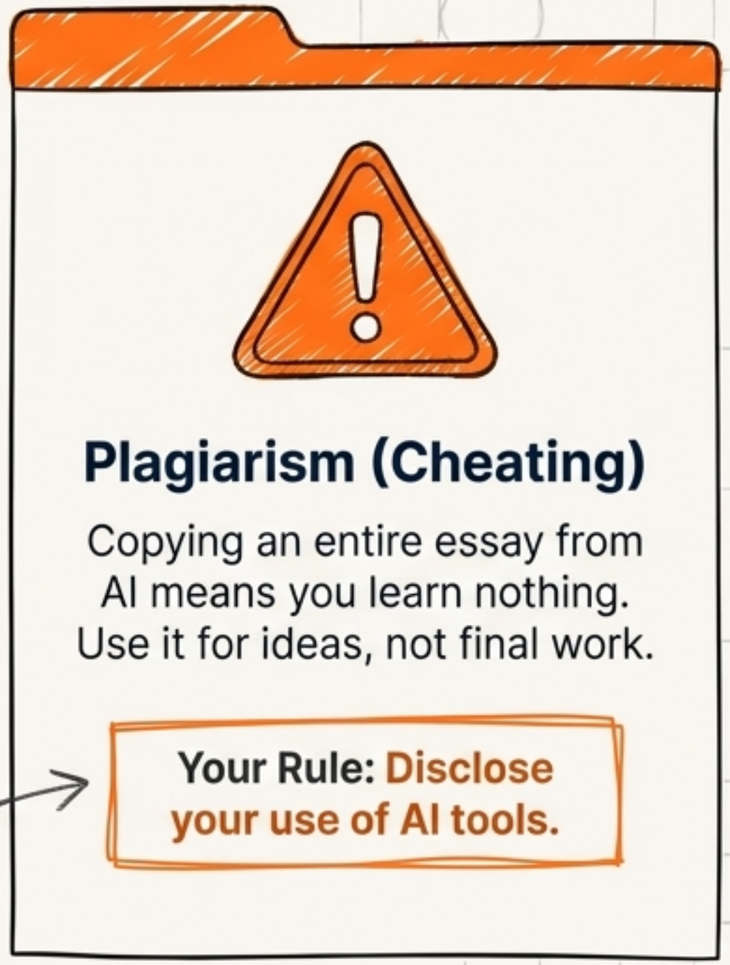
AI wants to please you, so it sometimes invents facts. It can be confidently wrong.

Your Rule: Always fact-check.

Bias (Unfairness)

AI learns from the internet, which contains human stereotypes. It can produce unfair results.

Your Rule: Ask, ‘Is this fair to everyone?’



Plagiarism (Cheating)

Copying an entire essay from AI means you learn nothing. Use it for ideas, not final work.

Your Rule: Disclose your use of AI tools.

Your 5-Phase Roadmap to Success

1. Empathize

Find a real problem. Interview teachers, parents, or neighbours.

2. Learn

Use the resources to understand what AI can actually do (Prediction, Generation, Classification).

3. Ideate

Brainstorm 10 creative ideas. Pick the best one.

4. Prototype

Sketch your app on paper. Draft your slide deck.

5. Refine

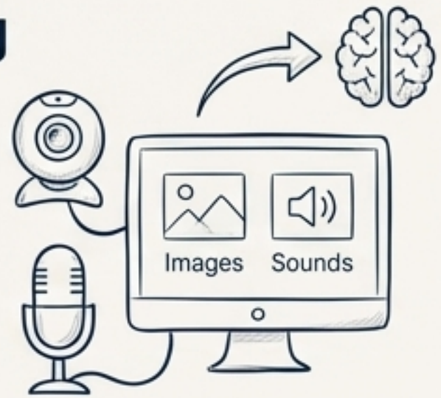
Check your work against the rubric, especially the ‘Ethics’ section.

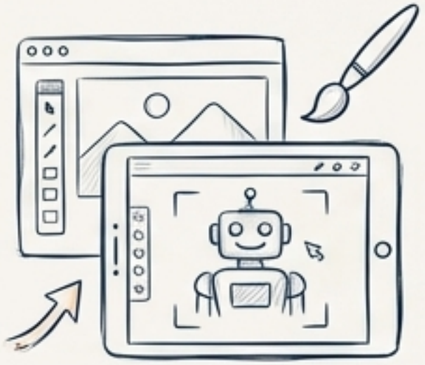
Tools and Help for Your Journey

No-Code ML Prototyping

Teachable Machine (Google)

Train a computer to recognize your images or sounds in minutes. Perfect for demos.





Generative AI Tools

Google Gemini, Microsoft Copilot, Adobe Firefly

(Always check your school's approved tools policy first).

Learn About AI Ethics

AI for Oceans (Code.org)

An interactive game that teaches how AI classification and data bias work.

Expert Support

TVAI Volunteer Workshops

Look out for opportunities to get help from industry experts.

Build the Future. Start Today.

Closing Date:

31 March 2026

Contact & Questions:

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