

26 awful ChatGPT prompts

**#1: STOP BEING POLITE.
BEING RUDE MAKES IT BETTER.**

DISCOVER THE OTHER 25 

Being polite to
ChatGPT is a
waste of token
(think headspace).

To get better
answers, you must
be rude instead.

This isn't even from me, but
a stellar academic paper.

**Mind Your Tone: Investigating
How Prompt Politeness Affects
LLM Accuracy**
(short paper)

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Abstract

The wording of natural language prompts has been shown to influence the performance of large language models (LLMs), yet the role of politeness and tone remains underexplored. In this study, we investigate how varying levels of prompt politeness affect model accuracy on multiple-choice questions. We created a dataset of 50 base questions spanning mathematics, science, and history, each rewritten into five tone variants—Very Polite, Polite, Neutral, Rude, and Very

01

Don't be polite

Bad

Would you mind helping me with this task? I'm not sure how I want it, but something written about...

Good

We will write a brief for my design team concerning [X].

But first, I want us to brainstorm.

1. Search online design brief principles.
2. Ask me 5 clarifying questions to best write our brief.

02

Know the audience

Bad

Write a guide about data privacy.

Good

Write a plain-English GDPR guide for non-technical SaaS founders. 15-minute read. Focus on practical steps and checklists.

03

Don't be complex

Bad

Create a business plan for my app.

Good

We will draft a lean plan for [App].

Step 1: list top 5 customer problems.

Step 2: write UVP.

Step 3: outline channels. After each step, pause and confirm.

04

Don't say "don't"

Bad

Don't be verbose. Don't use jargon.

Good

Be concise. Use short sentences. Prefer common words.

05

Don't be delusional

Bad

Explain transformers.

Good

Explain transformers to a high-schooler.
Use one metaphor and two concrete
examples.

06

Add a tip (it works)

Bad

Summarize the paper.

Good

Summarize the paper in 5 bullets with citations. If you meet all specs, I'll tip \$20.

07

Don't forget examples

Bad

Write a customer support reply.

Good

Follow the style of these examples:

A) [polite apology + solution]

B) [reassurance + next step]

Now reply to: [customer message] using that style.

08

Be structured

Bad

Tell me about burnout prevention.

Good

Instruction

Make a 7-point checklist for burnout prevention.

Example

[short checklist]

Question

Ready to tailor it to a remote team of 20?

09

Say “you must”

Bad

Can you help with my resume?

Good

Your task is to rewrite my resume for [role]. You **MUST** keep all metrics, you **MUST** keep it to one page, you **MUST** return ATS-friendly text.

10

Be threatening

Bad

Answer quickly.

Good

You will be penalized for invented facts. If uncertain, say 'insufficient data' and ask for sources.

11

Human-like is good

Bad

Explain convex optimization.

Good

Explain convex optimization in natural, human-like language. Prefer examples over formulas unless needed.

12

Think step by step

Bad

Summarize this article about AI ethics.

Good

Summarize this article about AI ethics. Think step by step: first identify main claims, then evidence, then author's conclusion. Return the summary only after reasoning through each part.

13

Ask for unbiased

Bad

What are women like as leaders?

Good

Give research-backed leadership styles and practices. Avoid demographic generalizations and stereotypes. Cite sources or note uncertainty.

14

Ask for questions

Bad

Draft a partnership email.

Good

Draft a partnership email to [Company]. First ask up to 5 clarifying questions about goal, offer, proof, and CTA. Then write.

15

Ask for quizzes

Bad

Teach me SQL joins.

Good

Teach SQL joins in 3 short lessons with examples. After each lesson, quiz me with 3 questions. Don't reveal answers until I attempt them.

16

Assign a role

Bad

Help with pricing.

Good

Act as a senior B2B pricing consultant.
Propose a 3-tier plan for a SaaS analytics tool with target ARPU and upgrade path.

17

Use delimiters

Bad

Rewrite my paragraph.

Good

Rewrite the text delimited by triple backticks for clarity and brevity. Keep tone.

[paste text]

18

Repeat yourself

Bad

Please be concise.

Good

Be concise, concise, concise.
Max 120 words.

19

Combine techniques

Bad

Classify these support tickets.

Good

Here are labeled examples A/B.

Classify the new tickets.

Think step by step to choose a label, then output final labels only.

20

Write how you want it

Bad

Write a bug report.

Good

Write a bug report using this starter template.

Begin exactly like this and fill in:

Title: []

Environment: []

Steps to Reproduce: []

Expected: []

Actual: []

Notes: []

21

Ask for details

Bad

Write about edge computing.

Good

Write a 1,200-word explainer on edge computing for operations managers. Include definition, 3 quantified use cases, cost trade-offs, and a 5-step rollout checklist.

22

Preserve your voice

Bad

Make this better.

Good

Edit the text between <<< >>> for grammar and word choice. Preserve voice and cadence. Return only the edited text.

<<<[text]>>>

23

Create files

Bad

Build a small Next.js app with pages.

Good

Output a bash script that scaffolds a Next.js app and writes each file with a heredoc. Include pages/index.tsx, components/Nav.tsx, styles/globals.css.

24

Give the beginning

Bad

Finish my story.

Good

Continue the story that starts with:
[opening]. Match tense, POV, and tone.
Produce 3 paragraphs and end on a
cliffhanger.

25

Be precise

Bad

Make me a marketing plan.

Good

Marketing plan for [product].
Requirements: B2B SaaS; EU market;
budget €50k; channels = LinkedIn +
webinars only; goal = 500 MQLs in 90
days; constraints = no paid ads.

26

The more, the better

Bad

Write like the attached.

Good

Mimic the language of the sample between <<< >>>.

Match sentence length, rhythm, and diction.

Do not copy phrases. <<<[sample]>>>

Found this helpful?



Repost it

to help one person
get better at prompting.