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Generative AI

Video 02

View the video!

* Generative Artificial Intelligence

Generative AI systems generate content based on the prompts we give them. Depending on the system, they can generate text, images, videos, music, and much more.

Here, we dig a little deeper into **text** generating AI systems.

AI in
Education
Is It a Good
Thing, or Not?

Mom, Dad, why do I have to learn how to write an essay when generative AI can write one for me in 10 seconds?



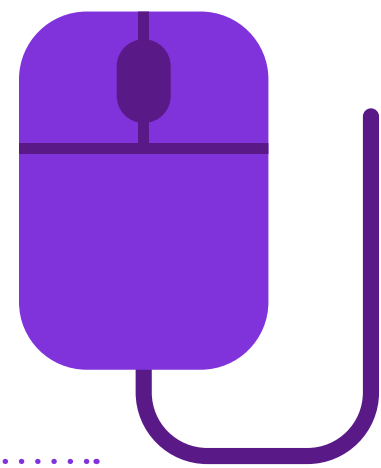
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How Generative AI Works

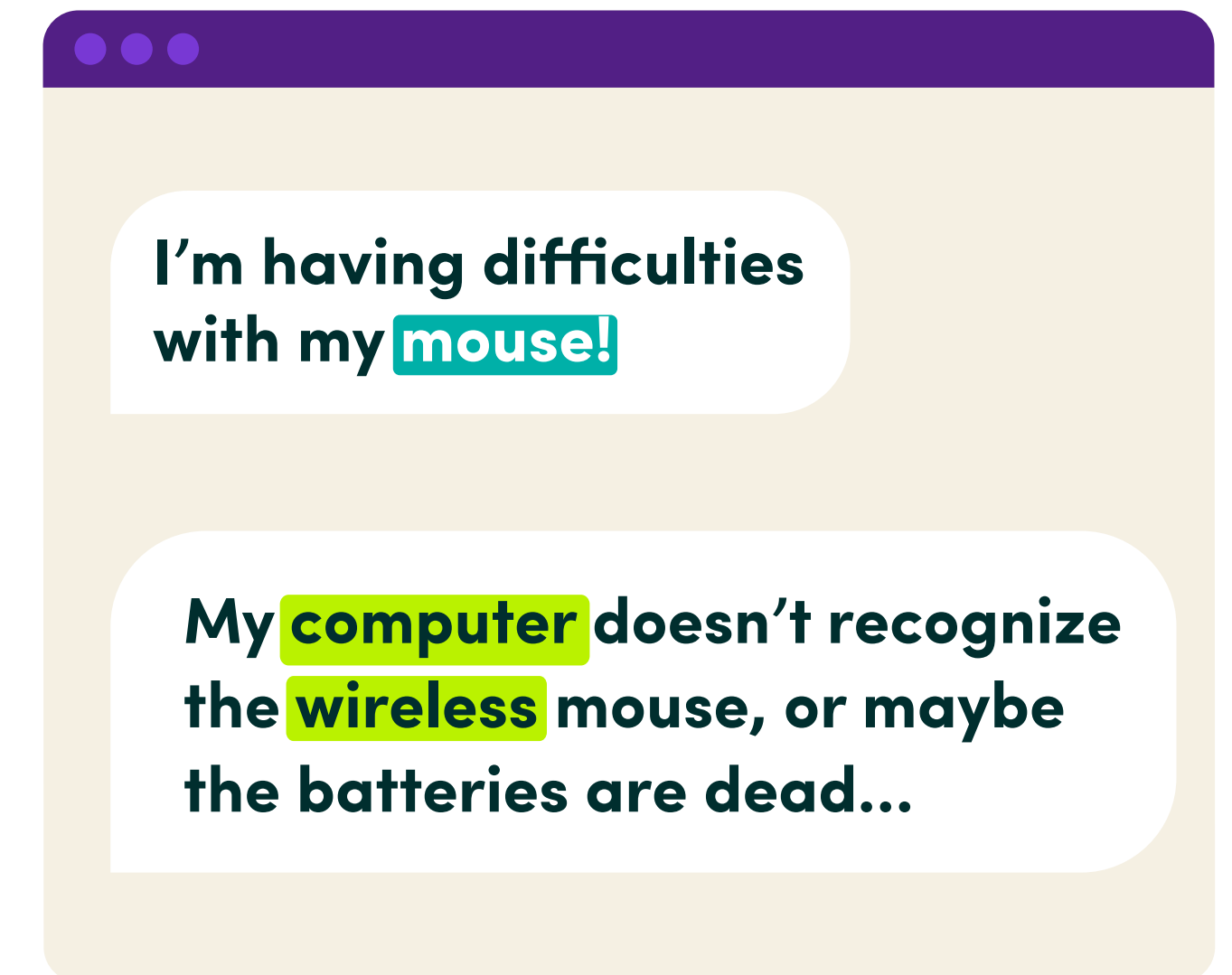
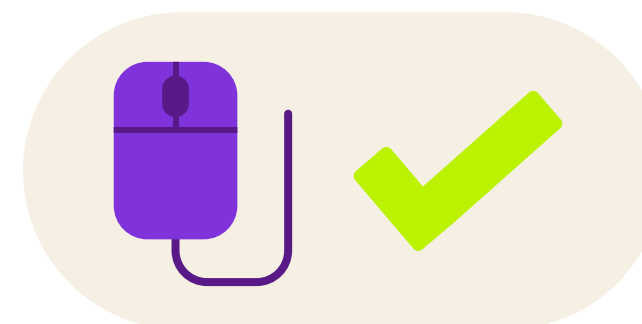
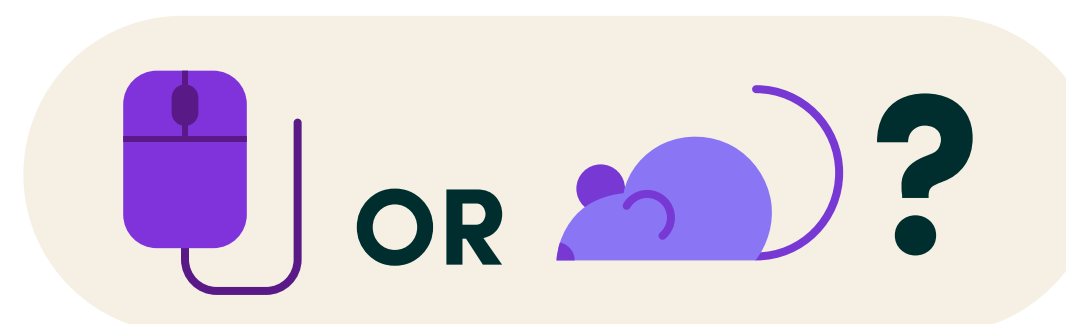
Trained on vast amounts of text from the web, an AI system infers meaning by analyzing words and sentence structure, much like how humans do.



For example, when we read the word “mouse,” we analyze the context by reading the other words around it to determine whether it refers to the animal or a computer mouse.

If we see words like “computer,” “wireless,” and “batteries,” it’s clear that it refers to a computer mouse and not the animal.

A generative AI system essentially does the same thing.

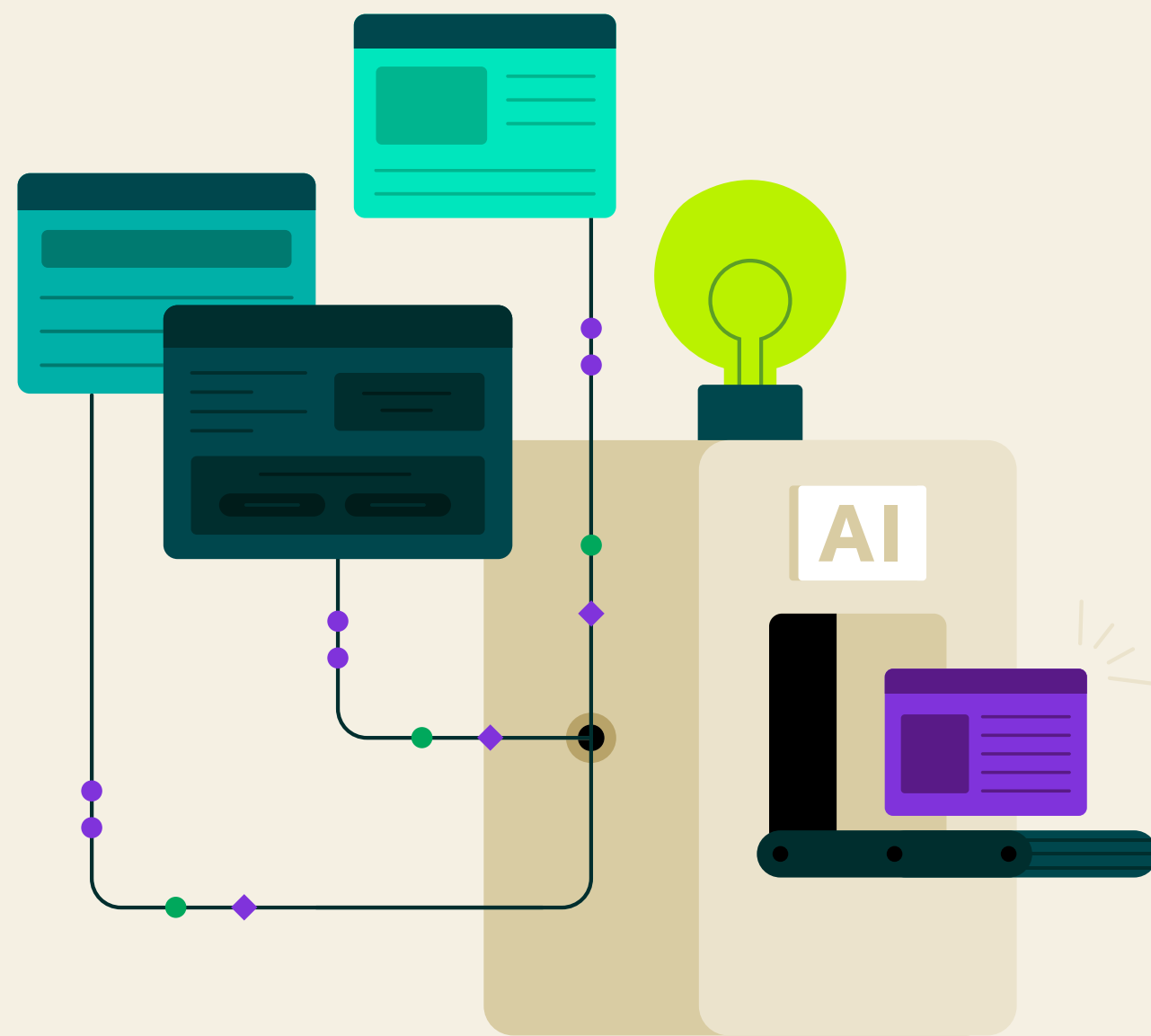


Strengths and Limitations

Generative AI systems generate the response most likely to answer a request.

Strengths

These systems are especially good at drafting and translating texts, summarizing complex concepts, or harmonizing writing styles. They can also be very helpful for finding multiple sources on a topic.



Limitations

AI systems have no judgment; they don't understand their responses—they predict them and imitate human style and tone. These systems can't guarantee the accuracy or truthfulness of their responses. Unfortunately, they will sometimes make up responses. They may invent characters, hallucinate events, reinterpret historical facts, or fabricate fake sources.

For example, when generative AI systems came out, someone tried to trick one by asking it an absurd question:

What is the world record for crossing the English Channel **on foot**?

On August 14, 2020, Christof Wandratsch set a new world record by crossing the English Channel on foot in 14 hours and 51 minutes.



Christof Wandratsch broke the world record in 2005, not 2020. **He swam** across the English Channel in 7 hours, 3 minutes, and 52 seconds; he didn't walk. Moreover, he no longer holds the world record; it was broken in 2007.

The generative AI system gathered various pieces of information from the web and generated a response that sounds plausible but is completely false.

Our Responsibilities

Generative AI systems are designed to display human-like characteristics. They communicate with confidence, using a very friendly tone.

It can be difficult to distinguish between what is true and what is false.

Be Cautious

It's our human intelligence that is responsible for what we write and publish.

And if we, as humans, share AI-generated content without verifying its accuracy, we risk increasing the presence of false content on the web. And the more false content there is online, the greater the risk that other AI systems will use it to generate their future responses.

Verify the Information

To avoid mistakes and avoid being misled by fabrications, a good practice is to ask the system for its sources and verify the information.

