

Australian universities to allow AI in assignments

23rd January 2023



The increasing ubiquity of artificial intelligence in our lives is creating waves in academia. Three universities in Australia have adopted what seems like a landmark policy. The three institutions are allowing students to use AI

when taking assessments, albeit under strict conditions. Professor Romy Lawson said: "Instead of banning students from using such programs, we aim to assist academic staff and students to use digital tools to support learning." The Internet abounds with AI text generators. These can be used to create essays that look authentic enough to fool examiners. The content created by these AI tools evade detection by even the smartest of anti-plagiarism tools.

Artificial Intelligence is posing huge challenges to exam integrity. It is the biggest disruptor since calculators were allowed into maths tests. The latest quandary for educators comes from a language processing chatbox called ChatGPT. This can produce highly authentic human-like content on any subject in seconds. It has sparked fears that students will use it to write essays. The University of South Australia's Dr Vitomir Kovanovic said teachers needed to embrace AI. He said: "You cannot stop it. The alternative is the Middle Ages - going to pen and paper." He added that universities needed to change with the times. He said: "It's like having a driving school, but teaching people how to ride horses."

Sources: [theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com) / [wionews.com](https://www.wionews.com) / [theconversation.com](https://www.theconversation.com)

Writing

All school and university exams should be done with pen and paper. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

artificial intelligence / creating waves / academia / assessments / digital tools / fool / challenges / calculators / quandary / essays / the Middle Ages / pens / paper / change

True / False

- 1) Australian universities have developed A.I. using sound waves. T / F
- 2) Three Australian universities want to support students with digital tools. T / F
- 3) The article says there are one of two AI text generators online. T / F
- 4) The article says chatboxes cannot outsmart anti-plagiarism tools. T / F
- 5) The last huge change in exams was using calculators in maths tests. T / F
- 6) It takes ChatGPT just minutes to create authentic-looking tests. T / F
- 7) A professor said it is possible to stop AI. T / F
- 8) A professor likened paper tests to driving schools teaching horse riding. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. ubiquity | a. genuine |
| 2. landmark | b. other possibility |
| 3. abounds | c. unmasking |
| 4. authentic | d. constituting |
| 5. detection | e. dilemma |
| 6. posing | f. turning point |
| 7. quandary | g. adopt |
| 8. sparked | h. ever-presence |
| 9. embrace | i. proliferates |
| 10. alternative | j. prompted |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) Did you ever see students cheating in exams?
- c) Should calculators be allowed in exams?
- d) What do you know about the new chatbox ChatGPT?
- e) How good are you at writing essays?
- f) Should all tests be pen-and-paper tests?
- g) What do you know about the Middle Ages?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

Phrase Match

- ubiquity of artificial intelligence
- adopted what seems like a landmark
- The Internet abounds with AI text
- essays that look authentic enough
- evade detection by even the smartest of
- Artificial Intelligence is posing
- The latest
- It has sparked
- Dr Vitomir Kovanovic said teachers needed
- universities needed to change
- generators
- with the times
- anti-plagiarism tools
- quandary for educators
- huge challenges
- in our lives
- fears
- to embrace AI
- to fool examiners
- policy

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think of tests and assessments?
- How good were you at taking tests?
- What do you think of artificial intelligence?
- What dangers does AI present to tests?
- Should universities ban students from using AI?
- What is artificial intelligence good for?
- What are your favourite digital tools?
- What do you think of plagiarism?

Spelling

- The increasing biquity of AI
- creating waves in aedcmia
- lbaiet under strict conditions
- The Internet uobnads with AI text generators
- these AI tools evade etcditeon
- the smartest of anti-laipragism tools
- posing huge challenges to exam neirgity
- the biggest sdpurrior since calculators
- The latest unqdaray for educators
- tauheitnc human-like content
- teachers needed to rceaebm AI
- The anveteiarl is the Middle Ages

Answers – Synonym Match

1. h	2. f	3. i	4. a	5. c
6. d	7. e	8. j	9. g	10. b

Role Play

Role A – Speaking

You think speaking tests are easiest. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their tests are harder. Also, tell the others which is the most difficult of these (and why): reading tests, writing tests or listening tests.

Role B – Reading

You think reading tests are easiest. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their tests are harder. Also, tell the others which is the most difficult of these (and why): speaking tests, writing tests or listening tests.

Role C – Writing

You think writing tests are easiest. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their tests are harder. Also, tell the others which is the most difficult of these (and why): reading tests, speaking tests or listening tests.

Role D – Listening

You think listening tests are easiest. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their tests are harder. Also, tell the others which is the most difficult of these (and why): reading tests, writing tests or speaking tests.

Speaking – Tests

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Speaking
- Spelling
- Vocabulary
- Reading
- Writing
- Presentation
- General knowledge
- Listening

Answers – True False

1 F	2 T	3 F	4 F	5 T	6 F	7 F	8 T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.