the art of

POV Prompting

(POV = Point Of View)

Or: Why direct instructions and commands to AI often don't lead to optimal results.



What is POV Prompting?

POV Prompting means making the AI understand your own point of view (POV) as clearly as possible.

The AI should get a deep insight into your thought process, so it becomes an extension of your thinking, no longer just a tool, but a thinking partner.

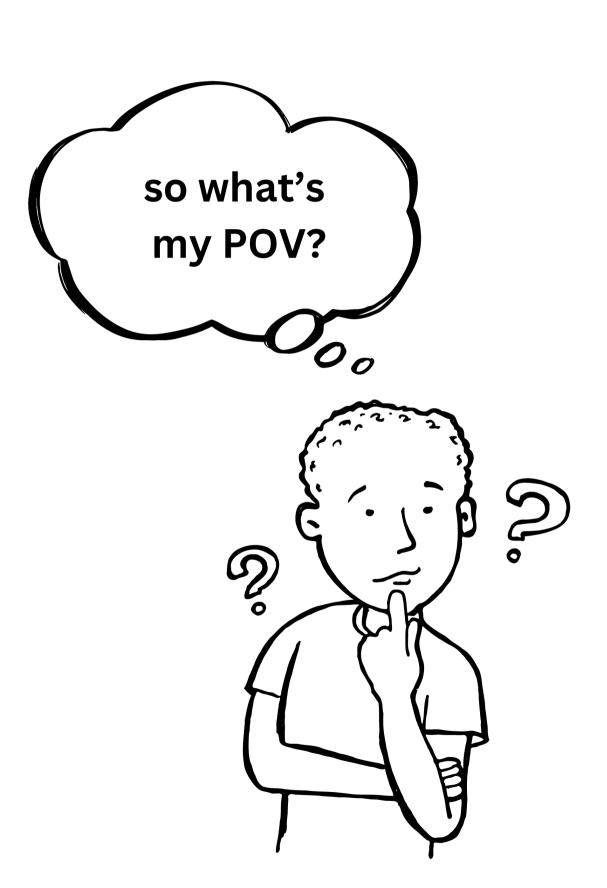


Benefits of POV Prompting

• The LLM gains a deeper understanding of the situation.

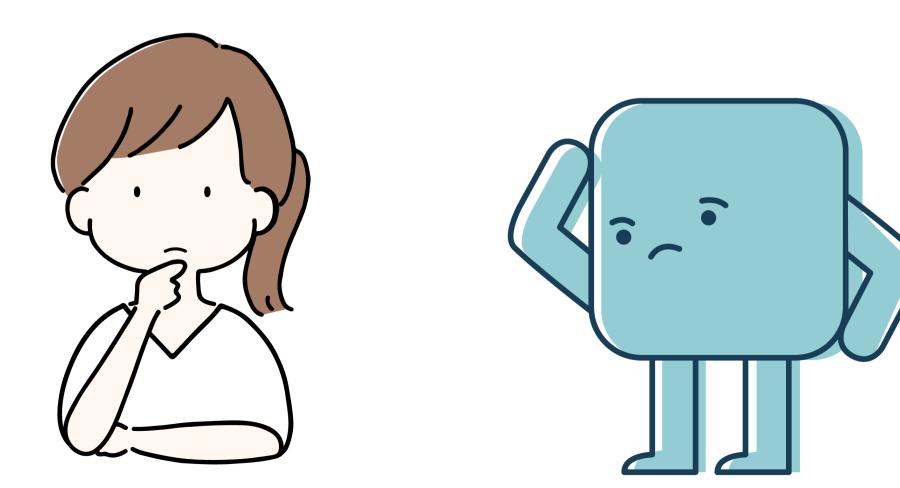
 The LLM creates more creative and relevant responses.

The LLM responds highly flexible when making changes



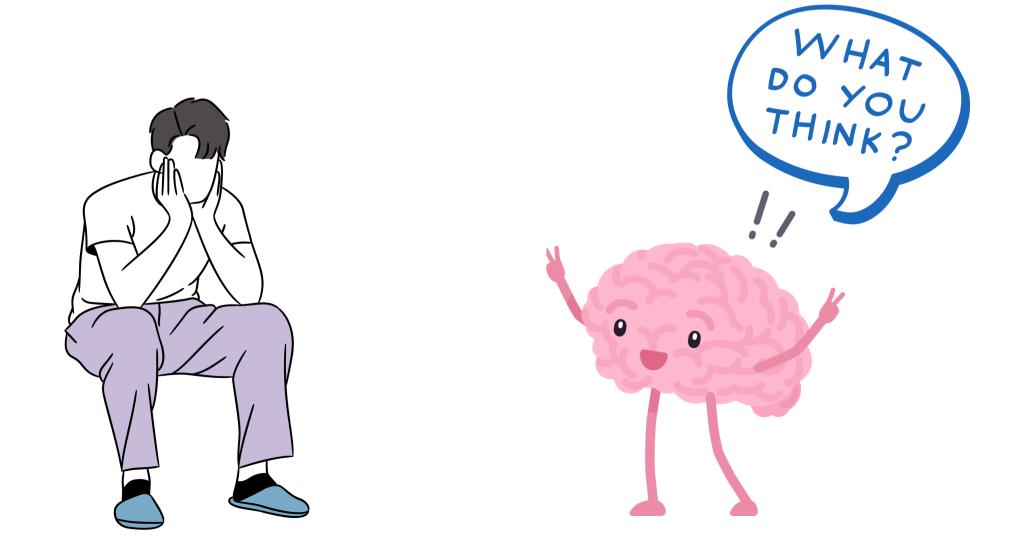
Deeper Understanding of the Situation

- The AI receives comprehensive information.
- The AI can respond more precisely to your needs.



More Creative and Relevant Responses

- New perspectives and approaches, tailored to your needs
 - Avoidance of standard responses.



Flexibility when Making Changes

- Easily make adjustments without repeating explanations.
 - The AI stays in the context of the conversation.



Live-Demo

Direct Instruction vs. POV Prompteisung vs POV Prompting Direct instruction:

"Give me three good strategies when a customer complains."

- Questions the AI would like to ask but can't:
- Who is the customer?
- What exactly is the complaint?
- How serious is the complaint?
- What has been done so far to solve the problem?
- What is the goal of the strategies?
- What resources are available to help?
- Are there any guidelines to mind?
- How quickly does this need to be solved?

POV Prompt

Hey ChatGPT! I'm from the sales team at Star-Saws, one of the largest manufacturers of saw blades in Europe. I have the following problem: In six days, I have a meeting with an important customer. The meeting is about the fact that our products keep having quality issues, and the customer wants to stop ordering from us because of this. But this is a really big customer, and we desperately need them. They also fall under my responsibility. The thing is, I don't know why these quality issues are happening. I've tried everything to find out, but no one can give me an answer. And now, I have no idea what to say to the customer. I don't even know how to prepare for the conversation. What do you say to a customer in a situation like this, and how can you retain them as a customer even though things are going so badly? Can you help me?

Comparison: Direct Instructions vs. POV Prompting

Direct Instructions:

contextual understanding:

3/10

creativity: 2/10

relevance: 3/10

• interactivity: 2/10

POV Prompting:

• contextual understanding: 9/10

• creativity: 10/10

relevance: 8/10

interactivity: 10/10

Influence of User's AI Competence on Method Evaluation

direct instructions

Experienced users:

Can use the AI effectively but are limited by missing context.

• Total **5,25/10**

Inexperienced users:

Misunderstandings

and lack of

knowledge about AI

functionalities lead

to poor results.

• Total **2,5/10**

POV Prompting:

Allows highly valuable results for all users by providing room for follow-up questions and context.

• Total **9,25/10**

How to Write a Good POV Prompt

- Describe the situation and background
- Share your feelings and concerns
- Formulate goals and expectations
- Ask for help instead of giving direct instructions

The Problem with Direct Instructions

lack of knowledge = misunderstanding

example: A YouTuber asked an AI a question in his live format and received a hallucinated answer. The YouTuber then said, "And this is supposed to be intelligent AI? It can't even admit when it doesn't know something but instead lies to me. Is that intelligence?"

Opening and Closing Rooms for Al

The answer to the YouTuber's question lies in his prompt: AI can indeed respond that it doesn't know something—if you give it the space to do so.

The AI does not "hallucinate", but it is acting according to its patterns given by the users instructions.

Method to Avoid "Hallucinations": Instruct the AI on how to behave when it can't find the requested information or doesn't know the answer.

Closing rooms for Al

how to lock out the AI of your interaction

This is done by giving precise instructions that limit the Al's ability to ask questions.

Example Prompt: "Create a list of German automotive suppliers."

Through such prompts, you take away the AI's ability to ask follow-up questions or engage in dialogue. You program the AI to follow your instruction without deviation. By doing this, you are removing the AI's opportunity to contribute to a better outcome, limiting its strength.

The shortcut

For those who find writing a POV prompt too exhausting, there's a shortcut. You can add this magic phrase to the end of your prompt, and it will improve the results by about 1000%.

the magical prompt

"Do you have any questions or need more context?"

Why is this prompt "magic"? By adding it at the end of your prompt, you give the AI the opportunity to ask clarifying questions and function as a true assistant who lets you know when it doesn't fully understand something.

What problems can be avoided with this?

- Direct instructions block follow-up questions.
- Direct instructions force the AI to execute commands despite missing information.

Summary

- Use POV Prompting for deeper answers
- Allow the AI to ask follow-up questions
- Treat the AI as a creative partner