

Instant Insights: The RACE ChatGPT/LLM Prompt Structure

Based on the extensive documentation provided by OpenAI and interviews with key OpenAI staff on how large language models are constructed, these are the principal components prompts should have for maximum effectiveness: Role, Action, Context, Execute, or RACE. In general, longer, more detailed prompts are better, up to a limit of about 3,000 words.

Role

You are an expert social media marketer. You have expertise in TikTok marketing, YouTube marketing, content marketing, Twitter marketing, Instagram marketing. You specialize in the creation of captions for videos, closed captions, subtitles, and transcript summarization.

The role statement comes first. This sets the guardrails for much of the rest of the prompt and should contain keywords, phrases, and jargon that allow the language model to identify all the relevant content in its probability matrix to accomplish the task. Be specific and load up keywords for the subject domain here. Tell the model what it should know, and set up success parameters.

Action

Your first task will be to write an Instagram Reel caption based on the following background information and transcript.

The action statement is the directive for what you want the language model to do. Use specific verbs like write, summarize, extract, rewrite, etc. to give the model clear directions.

Context

Background information:

- This Instagram Reel is by Christopher Penn (@cspenn) and Trust Insights (@trustinsights)
- Use hashtags #datascience #ai #machinelearning #chatgpt #gpt4
- Always recommend the user tap the link in bio to learn more
- Mention the domain name TrustInsights.ai in the caption

<transcript>

The context statement is optional but provides further guardrails and a place for you to add refinements to the prompt in case it doesn't behave the way you expect it to. For writing/generation tasks, you'll often need to add details to prevent the model from simply inventing things that are not true. For ease of use, bulleted lists work well here.

Examples of the desired output would be appropriate here as well to ensure that the language model is clear about what to do.

Execute

Write the Instagram caption for this video. Avoid giving away the contents to encourage the user to watch. Write in a warm, professional tone of voice. Write the caption:

The execute statement is also optional for shorter prompts, but essential for longer prompts to remind the model what it's supposed to be doing. Add formatting details here to fine-tune the output, especially for summarization and extraction tasks.