Curious about AI but don't want to sign up for anything?

Start with **Duck.ai**. It works in a regular web browser, and you can try its free AI chat without creating an account. (AI services change frequently. Before using this activity, check **duck.ai** to make sure free, no-account access is still available.)

If Duck.ai is no longer available without an account, search for another AI chat tool that offers free, no-account access. Before using it, visit the site and confirm for yourself that it doesn't require you to create an account or provide an email address.

Once you have found the AI tool you are going to use:

Try these 10 mini experiments. There are no "right" prompts—change the words, ask follow-up questions, and see what happens!

1. ASK IT TO EXPLAIN SOMETHING

Try: **Explain why the sky is blue like I'm 10 years old.**

Now try again: **Explain it like I'm a scientist.**

What changed?

2. MAKE SOMETHING BORING MORE FUN

Try: **Explain how to make a peanut butter sandwich as if you're a pirate.**

Then substitute your own ordinary task.

3. BRAINSTORM SOMETHING RIDICULOUS

Try: **Give me 15 ridiculous uses for a cardboard box.**

Which idea is your favorite?

4. PUT THE AI TO THE TEST

Pick something you know a lot about.

Make me a 5-question quiz about _____.

Did the AI get everything right? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure

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5. GIVE IT A PUZZLE

Try: **I have 3 red socks and 3 blue socks in a drawer. How many must I pull out in the dark to guarantee a matching pair? Explain your reasoning.**

Do you agree with its answer?

6. ASK FOR IDEAS

Try: **Give me 10 inexpensive things I could do on a rainy afternoon.**

Then add a constraint: **Now make them all screen-free.**

7. IMPROVE SOME WRITING

Write one deliberately terrible sentence:

Ask: **Can you rewrite this three different ways?**

Which version do you like best?

8. CHANGE THE ROLE

Ask the AI to teach you something as a **teacher**, **coach**, **historian**, or **scientist**.

Topic: _____

Role: _____

Did changing the role change the answer?

9. CHALLENGE THE AI

After it answers one of your questions, type:

What might be wrong or misleading about your answer?

Did it find a possible problem? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Sort of

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10. BE THE FACT-CHECKER

Ask the AI a factual question. Then use reliable websites, books, or other sources to check its answer.

What did the AI say? _____

Was it accurate? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Partly ☐ Not sure

REMEMBER: AI CAN BE WRONG!

AI can produce answers that sound confident even when they're incomplete, outdated, or simply incorrect.

Experiment. Ask questions. Try different prompts. But don't assume an AI answer is true just because it sounds convincing.

A QUICK PRIVACY NOTE

Duck.ai is designed to provide private access to AI models without requiring an account. DuckDuckGo says it removes identifying metadata before sending prompts to its AI providers and that Duck.ai conversations are not used to train those providers' models, but policies can change—this statement was from a search done October 2, 2026.

Regardless of privacy policies, a good rule for **any** AI service is:

Don't type in passwords, financial information, private medical information, or other sensitive personal details.

FREE, BUT NOT UNLIMITED

Duck.ai is free to use without an account, but the free service has a **daily usage limit**. The exact number of prompts isn't fixed because different AI models and requests use different amounts of the allowance.

If you reach the limit, that's a good excuse to come back and experiment another day!

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