

Assignment 0: AI in the News - A Tale of Two Articles

Overview

This assignment invites you to explore the public conversation surrounding Artificial Intelligence. You will select two news articles about AI (the articles must be considered valid new sources from Google News) and create a 3-slide presentation in Quarto markdown format comparing and contrasting their claims. This exercise is designed to be a fun and open-ended way for you to engage with the current discourse on AI, think critically about how it's portrayed in the media, and form your own informed opinions.

Submission Requirements:

- **Format:** Plain text in [Quarto RevealJS markdown format](#) **without the YAML header** containing exactly three slides with a very simple example below. You can use more advanced RevealJS markdown like two column layouts if helpful. Any images used must have absolute URLs so that I can copy and paste into my lecture slides.

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## Slide Title 1
- Point 1
  - Subpoint 1.1
- Point 2

## Slide Title 2
[Slide Content]

## Slide Title 3
[Slide Content]
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- **Character Limit:** 5000 (Any content after the character limit will be truncated during grading)
- **Article Selection:**
 - Choose two news articles from sources that appear in Google News. While this is a broader category of sources than just major news publications, Google News does have inclusion standards. This change is intended to help avoid paywalls.
 - At least one of the articles must have been published within the last year.
 - A few examples could be:
 - * Present contrasting viewpoints on a specific AI topic (e.g., AI's impact on the job market, the ethics of AI development).
 - * Offer a historical perspective, comparing an older article (1-5 years old) to a more recent one on the same topic to see how the conversation has evolved.
 - * Cover an area of AI that you are personally interested in or excited about.

Slide Structure:

- **Slide 1: The Articles & Their Claims**
 - Provide the full citation for both articles (Title, Author, Publication, Date, URL).
 - For each article, write a concise summary of its main argument or key claim(s). This slide should clearly and efficiently present the core ideas you will be analyzing.
 - **Slide 2: Compare & Contrast**
 - Directly compare and contrast the two articles.
 - Focus on specific points of agreement and disagreement. Do they use similar evidence to reach different conclusions? Do they focus on different facets of the same topic (e.g., economic vs. ethical implications)?
 - **Slide 3: Your Perspective & Implications**
 - This slide is for your analysis and reflection.
 - Share your **opinion** on the articles. Which argument was more persuasive and why?
 - Discuss the broader **implications** of the articles' claims. What might this mean for you personally, for the future of AI technology, or for society at large?
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1 Rubric

Criterion	Excellent (5)	Good (4)	Satisfactory (3)	Okay (2)	Poor (1)
1. Analysis of Articles	Summaries are exceptionally clear and accurate. The comparison and contrast are nuanced, insightful, and go beyond surface-level observations.	Summaries are clear and accurate. The comparison is solid and well-reasoned, identifying key points of agreement and disagreement.	The key claims for both articles are summarized. A clear attempt is made to both compare and contrast the articles.	Summaries are unclear, inaccurate, or only provided for one article. The comparison is minimal or only addresses one aspect (e.g., only compares, doesn't contrast).	No summary of claims is provided, or the summaries grossly misrepresent the articles. There is no meaningful comparison.
2. Personal Reflection & Argumentation	The student's perspective is original, thought-provoking, and supported by strong, logical arguments. The discussion of broader implications is insightful and well-developed.	The student offers a well-considered perspective supported by reasonable arguments. The discussion of implications is clear and relevant.	The student's opinion is present and the broader implications are discussed. The argument is stated but may have minimal support.	A perspective is shared, but with no discussion of implications, or vice-versa. The student's views are asserted without support.	No personal perspective or discussion of implications is included.

Criterion	Excellent (5)	Good (4)	Satisfactory (3)	Okay (2)	Poor (1)
3. Adherence to Formatting Requirements	All submission requirements are met perfectly: 3 slides in Quarto markdown and sufficient citation details.	All major requirements are met, with several minor deviations (e.g., a small formatting errors).	The submission is a 3-slide Quarto markdown file with incomplete citations for two articles or multiple small formatting errors.	Submitted in an incorrect format or with the wrong number of slides. Citations are missing or details significantly insufficient (e.g., only article title).	The submission largely ignores the assignment requirements.