



# Teaching English Language Writing in Primary Schools with GenAI Technology

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Dr Alex LAM

- Lecturer
- Blended Learning, emotions, and perceptions
- Experienced English and Computer Studies teacher
- e-Learning Coordinator at DBSPD
- Multiple e-Learning Awards
  - Jockey Club Blended Learning Teaching Case (CUHK and HKBU)
  - Outstanding e-Learning Awards (HKU)
  - **22/23 & 23/24**



Ms Melody LO

- Experienced English teacher
- English panel
- School-based curriculum development
- e-Learning Development

# 01

## Introduction

Background information



# Background information

## 01

Difficulties in English writing teaching

1. Students lack incentives
2. Grammatically all-correct product approach reduces confidence

## 02

Rise of GenAI Technology

1. The launch of ChatGPT in Nov 2022
2. Text-to-image GenAI in Feb 2023

## 03

Learner's Diversity

The use of e-learning / blended learning approach can help with learner's diversity.





# 02

## The need of innovations

Theories and models



# Theories and models

## Blended Learning

- Synchronous and asynchronous
- Traditional and e-learning pedagogies

## Image GenerativeAI

- Existing data
- Prompt engineering



# 03

## Teaching demonstrations

Hands-on demonstrations

- A Look at the example below and design your own toy car! Think about what it looks like, what you need to make it and what it can do.



My toy car is called the Solar 4-runner. It has four chunky wheels and is red in colour. It has a spacious trunk to carry things inside. You need four wheels, a solar panel, a motor and some batteries. It can go over small hills. You can control it with a remote control. I can put some small boxes in its trunk to take them to different places.



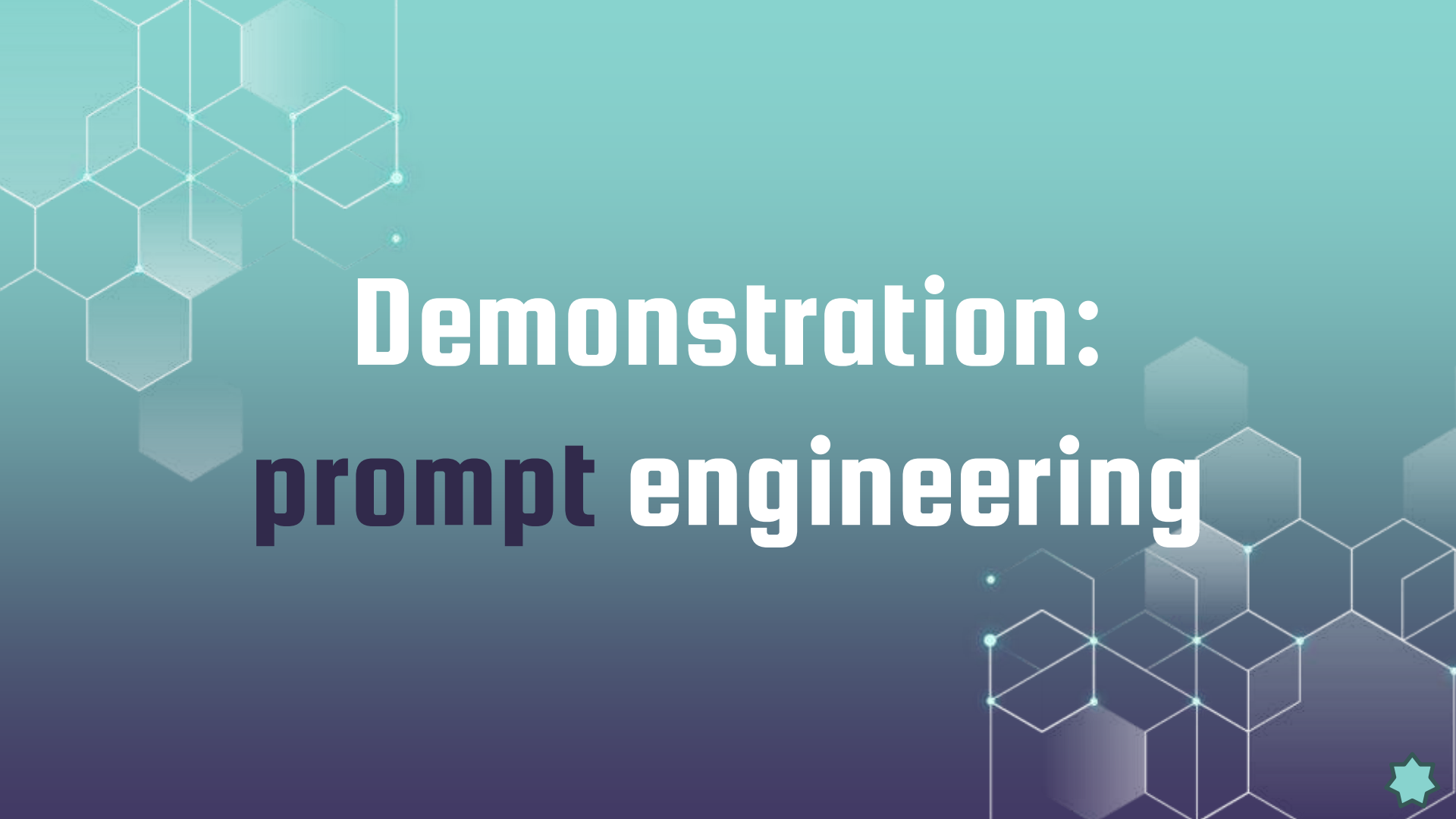
## The writing topic

- A descriptive text
- Grade 3 students

Now use the following mind map to plan your ideas.

Appearance:	Supplies needed to make it:
<b>My Homemade Toy Car</b>	
It can...	



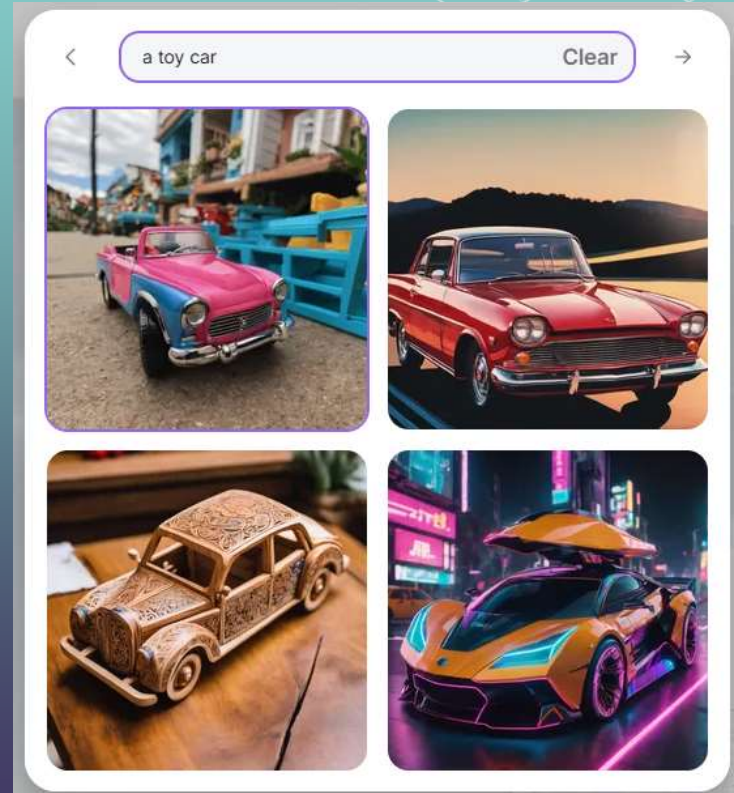


# Demonstration: **prompt engineering**



# Common problems

- Lack details
- Inaccurate
- Mismatch between students' writing ability and the image



1. Provide a sample
2. Deconstruct with the students
3. Allow students to jot notes

Writing the prompt

a blue wooden toy race car with green wheels and one seat that looks like a rocket

- Tips:
- Use adjectives
- Use similes
- Add descriptive words

## Writing the prompt

a blue wooden toy race car with green wheels and one seat that looks like a rocket

- Tips:
- Use adjectives
- Use similes
- Add descriptive words

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Home

< a blue wooden toy race car with green wheels Clear >





# Demonstration: Image GenAI (Padlet)



# padlet

- **Relatively more popular and accessible**
- **Instant responses on screen**
- **Teachers can give feedback immediately**

## Your turn!

1. Design your own toy car
2. Write a detailed prompt as instructed
3. Select one and post

### Tips:

1. Adjectives
2. Similes
3. Descriptive words



The background is a teal-to-blue gradient. It features several hexagonal patterns. On the left, there is a cluster of white-outlined hexagons, some of which are filled with a lighter teal color. On the right, there is another cluster of white-outlined hexagons, some filled with a darker blue color. Small, glowing blue dots are scattered throughout the hexagonal patterns, particularly at the vertices and intersections.

# **Other blended learning components to consider**

# Videos as samples (on **Edpuzzle**)



# Good Preparation Work on MEB P.13

01

<p>Appearance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Shaped like a jeep ✓</li><li>- wood ✓</li><li>- has a trunk spacious ✓</li><li>- boxy ✓</li><li>- off-road wheels ✓</li><li>- solar panels on top ✓</li></ul>	<p>Supplies needed to make it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- wood ✓</li><li>- solar panels ✓</li><li>- off road plastic wheels ✓</li><li>- batteries ✓</li><li>- motor ✓</li></ul>
<p>My Homemade Toy Car</p>	
<p>It can...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- go on carpets, grass, mud and tiny hill ✓</li><li>- can be controlled by remote controller ✓</li><li>- can fit lego bricks in the trunk ✓</li><li>- can go very fast ✓</li></ul>	



05

Jot down adjectives / words you find useful!

06



# Good Preparation Work on MEB P.13

## Appearance;

- four round wheels ✓
- yellow in colour ✓
- small trunk in the back ✓
- there is a big frunk ✓
- racing car style ✓
- only 2 doors ✓

## Supplies needed to make it: ✓

- wood ✓
- a solar panel ✓
- yellow paint ✓
- nails and a hammer ✓
- motor ✓
- battery ✓

Jot down  
adjectives / words  
you find useful!

## My Homemade Toy Car

### It can...

- You can control it with a remote ✓
- It can carry things in its trunk ✓
- It can be controlled by audio, too. ✓
- It's maximum speed is 50km per hour ✓



01

02

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# Good Preparation Work on MEB P.13

## Appearance:

- a small golden wagon ✓
- thick and rough wheels ✓
- shiny windows ✓
- Turquoise and aqua green in colour ✓
- yellow-orange lights ✓
- a tiny dragon sign ✓
- a thin antenna ✓

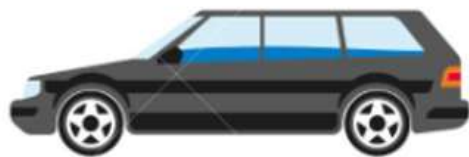
## Supplies needed to make it:

- four wheels ✓
- motor ✓
- fan ✓
- batteries ✓
- solar panel ✓
- antenna ✓
- small wagon ✓
- paint ✓
- five pieces of metal ✓
- hook ✓
- tiny sign ✓
- dragon sticker ✓

## My Homemade Toy Car

## It can...

- be controlled with a remote control ✓
- can speed through shallow water without sinking ✓
- put things in the wagon ✓
- go through rocky places ✓
- shine in the dark ✓
- go down or up steep roads ✓



Wagon

Jot down  
adjectives / words  
you find useful!

01

02

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06





- A** Look at the example below and design your own toy car! Think about what it looks like, what you need to make it and what it can do.



My toy car is called the Solar 4-runner. It has four chunky wheels and is red in colour. It has a spacious trunk to carry things inside. You need four wheels, a solar panel, a motor and some batteries. It can go over small hills. You can control it with a remote control. I can put some small boxes in its trunk to take them to different places.



Now use the following mind map to plan your ideas.

Appearance:	Supplies needed to make it:
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;">                 My Homemade Toy Car             </div>	
It can...	

- B** Write about your own toy car by referring to the mind map on p. 13. Remember to cover the three main parts according to the mind map. Draw a picture of your design in the box below.

Draw a **diagram** of your toy car. Label all the parts:



Name of the toy car:

You will finish your short writing on the writing paper. Remember to include everything from your mind map on p.13. Paragraph 1 should be about appearance and supplies; paragraph 2 should be about what it can do. A separate rubric will be given to you.



- C** Present your own design to your classmates. Pay attention to your friends' presentations and vote for the best design!

### Composition 4 (Procedural Writing)

#### A Create your own toy car!

Make use of the toy car you have designed and drawn on pages 13-14. Plan the instructions for making it. Use keywords only.

Topic: _____	
What can you do with the car? Who can help you with the car? (Introduction)	
Supplies for making the toy car:	
What supplies do you need to make this toy car?	
Instructions:	
What are the steps for making the toy car?	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
Conclusion:	
Closing	

Here are some words you may want to use in your composition.

#### Useful verbs

cut	tape	turn
squeeze	connect	decorate
build	draw	remove

#### Useful signal words

first	second	third
next	then	afterwards
finally	after that	at the end

#### Goal setting




Level	Description	Tick (✓) your goal
EXTRA HOT	Content: I want to write at least 5 steps with detailed explanation.	
	Language: I want to use at least 4 signal words.	
HOT	Content: I want to write at least 4 steps with detailed explanation.	
	Language: I want to use at least 3 signal words.	
MILD	Content: I want to write at least 3 steps with detailed explanation.	
	Language: I want to use at least 2 signal words.	

#### Self-assessment

	Me	My friend
I have a title, an introduction and a closing.	☆	☆
I have included detailed and clear description.	☆	☆
I have used signal words correctly.	☆	☆
I have written clear instructions.	☆	☆
I have included instructions in logical and chronological order.	☆	☆
I have listed all materials needed.	☆	☆
I have started each step on a new line.	☆	☆
I have checked the grammar, spelling and punctuation.	☆	☆

Content	2	1	0
A suitable title, an introduction and a closing have been included			
Detailed and clear descriptions of the steps	3	2	1
Language			
Use of signal words (adverbs of sequence)	2	1	0
Instructions are easy to follow	1	/	0
Correct grammar, spelling and punctuation	2	1	0
Organisation / Genre Specific			
All instructions are in logical and chronological order	3	2	1
All materials needed are listed	1	/	0
Each step starts on a new line	1	/	0
Total: ____ /15			





# 04

## Conclusion

Limitation and future research

# Conclusion

01

## Teacher's Creativity

Creativity to use different e-learning platforms for blended learning approach

02

## Students' Motivation

Students were more motivated when better incentive and confidence in writing

03

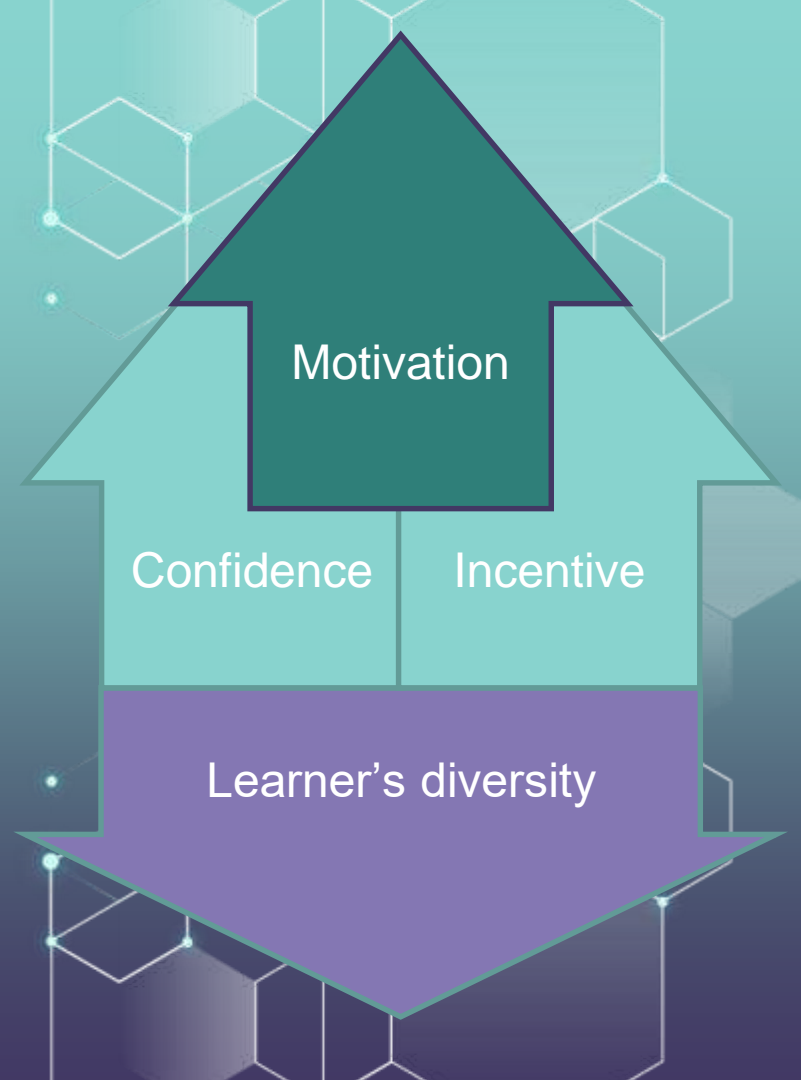
## Learner's Diversity

Learner's diversity could be narrowed through multimodal support

04

## Technical Issues

Teachers should know how to provide technical support

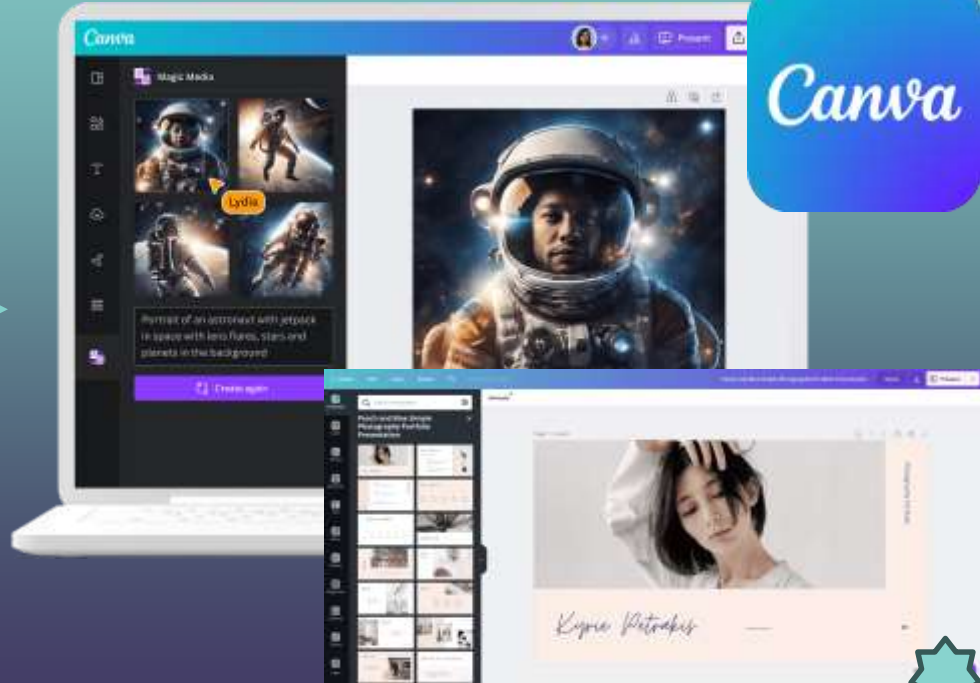




# Future Directions

2023/2024

Future





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**Q & A**