



Tools Used
ChatGPT



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AI SMARTCUTS

Write Like a Master with Reverse Prompts

Allow ChatGPT to identify the most effective approach, then apply its capabilities to enhance your own writing.

/prompt **/writing** ● ● ● ●

Mimic Literary Legends With Reverse Prompting

Reverse prompting flips the traditional writing process by first asking ChatGPT who the top experts are in a given field, and then directing the AI to emulate those experts' styles. This smartcut focuses on applying this technique to write a short story, guiding users through each step of using ChatGPT as a high-level creative partner.

Rather than starting with a blank page, reverse prompting allows you to harness the structure, voice, and decision-making of world-class authors. By first identifying masterful voices, then replicating their stylistic signatures, this workflow transforms ChatGPT from a tool into a mentor-level co-writer tailored to your genre.

Setting Up The Baseline

1

Sign Into ChatGPT: Sign in to ChatGPT and ensure it is set up for multi-turn conversations.

2

Choose Writing Format: Choose the specific type of creative writing task you need assistance with, such as a short story, script, or poem.

3

Pick an Expert: Determine the kind of expert or professional you want the AI to emulate, such as a novelist, screenwriter, or poet.

Prompt ChatGPT About the Experts for Your Task

{1} Navigate to chat.openai.com

{2} Enter the following chat prompt in the message field and specify the profession required for your task.

The premise of reverse prompting is assuming the AI is the expert at the task, not the prompter. The AI just needs some guidance to become an actual expert.

This first step involves having the AI research and identify the known experts in your chosen field.



Who are the top 3 best {Profession | fiction writers} in the world?



Treat AI-generated content as a starting point. Review, provide feedback, and iterate for more refined results.



Choosing the top 3 best fiction writers in the world can be subjective, depending on how you define "best" — literary merit, global popularity, influence, or commercial success. However, based on a combination of critical acclaim, influence, and global reach, here are three authors frequently recognized among the greatest:

1. William Shakespeare (1564–1616)

- Nationality: English
- Famous works: Hamlet, Macbeth, Romeo and Juliet, Othello
- Why he's top-tier:
 - Shakespeare's influence on literature, language, and storytelling is unmatched. He contributed over 1,700 words to the English language and explored human nature with remarkable psychological depth and poetic mastery. His plays are still performed worldwide and studied extensively in schools and universities.

2. Leo Tolstoy (1828–1910)

- Nationality: Russian
- Famous works: War and Peace, Anna Karenina
- Why he's top-tier:
 - Tolstoy's novels are epic in scope and deeply philosophical. His work delves into existential questions, ethics, and social issues with profound insight. War and Peace is often hailed as the greatest novel ever written, blending history, personal drama, and philosophical inquiry.

3. Haruki Murakami (1949–present)

- Nationality: Japanese
- Famous works: Norwegian Wood, Kafka on the Shore, 1Q84...

» Truncated response

Prompt ChatGPT to Structure Its Process

{3} Enter the following chat prompt in the message field and specify the type of work you need.

This second part of Reverse Prompting involves having the experts chosen by the AI create a structured approach for your task.

This allows the AI to understand how the experts think and how they would approach your given task.



If those 3 people came together to create the best {Type of Work | short story} structure, what would the components of this structure look like?



That's a fantastic thought experiment — imagining Shakespeare, Tolstoy, and Murakami collaborating on a short story! They represent poetic drama, moral-philosophical realism, and dreamlike modernity, respectively. If their storytelling principles merged into a short story structure, the result would be emotional, profound, surreal, and universal.

Here's what such a "hybrid master-structure" might look like:

📌 The Unified Short Story Structure

1. Surreal Hook with Symbolic Imagery (Murakami + Shakespeare)

- Purpose: Instantly immerse the reader in an emotionally charged or symbolically loaded moment.
- Example: A character finds a letter written in a language that doesn't exist, during a solar eclipse.
- Function: Intrigue. Tap into subconscious tension or mystery (Murakami) while setting a stage (Shakespeare).

2. Layered Characters in Moral Dilemma (Tolstoy)

- Purpose: Introduce protagonists with internal contradictions and social entanglements.
- Focus: Emphasize human psychology and ethical tension—characters must confront beliefs vs. duty.
- Structure Tip: Conflict is not just external; it's between love and obligation, truth and illusion.

3. Dialogue as Conflict & Poetry (Shakespeare)

- Purpose: Reveal character motivations, social commentary, and escalate tension.
- Technique: Use elevated, metaphorical, or layered language—where every exchange deepens the stakes.
- Bonus: Insert mini-monologues (soliloquy-like) to expose inner thoughts beautifully and tragically.

4. Dream Logic or Surreal Turning Point (Murakami)

- Purpose: Around the midpoint, introduce a slip in reality—something inexplicable but emotionally resonant...

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Generate Your Work

{ 4 } Enter the following chat prompt in the message field and provide the details of the output you want the AI to create.

This is the final part of reverse prompting, where you ask the AI to take all the previous setup and generate the desired output using its own structured approach.



Using this structure i want you to {**Work Details** | **write a short story about a tragic romance with a similar theme to Romeo and Juliet. Remove any formatting and simply give the text of the short story.**}



It began on the third Tuesday of the monsoon, when the sea turned silver beneath the bruised sky and the stray dogs barked without reason.

In a coastal town carved between cliffs and folklore, Aarin first saw Lira at the old train station. She stood under the arch of the broken clock, barefoot, holding a white umbrella that wasn't open. Her eyes had the silence of someone who had been listening to music for too long and now couldn't bear the noise of the world.

Aarin was not the kind of man who believed in signs. But something about her — the umbrella, the pale scarf trailing in the wind, the way she turned toward him without surprise — unraveled a quiet thread inside him that had been knotted since childhood.

They spoke without asking names.

Lira believed in past lives, in clocks that ran backward, in strangers who returned. She told Aarin that their story had already happened once in a dream, and the second time in a language neither of them could remember. He laughed, gently, but he didn't walk away.

That night, they drank tea beside the harbor, and she told him about the sea that tried to steal her once. About the house on the hill where her father waited with a locked gate and a telescope that only pointed inland. Aarin didn't speak of his family. He only said, "I fix broken instruments," and left it at that.

Their love unfolded like music in reverse — slow, haunting, familiar. They met under statues, in forgotten bookstores, on rooftops during rainstorms. There was always something strange: a raven watching them too closely, a clock that stopped whenever they kissed, the same dream of drowning shared between them.

When Aarin asked to meet her father, she refused. "He believes I belong to someone else," she whispered. "Not you. Not even me."

But secrets, like seawater, seep through everything.

It was on the eve of the Lantern Festival that Lira vanished. The sky bloomed with color as Aarin searched every alley, every shadow, calling her name like a prayer he no longer believed in. At dawn, a fisherman handed him a soaked letter found tangled in his nets...

» Truncated response



Frequently Asked Questions



What is reverse prompting?

Reverse prompting involves asking the AI to identify the top experts in a particular task, then directing it to carry out the task in the style or approach of one of those experts.



Do I need ChatGPT Pro for this?

While not required, ChatGPT Pro provides access to GPT-4, offering more advanced and refined output.



Can I choose any genre or style?

Yes, reverse prompting is effective across all creative writing genres and formats. Just ensure your inputs are clear and specific.



What if I don't know which expert to emulate?

That's part of the process ask ChatGPT who excels at your chosen task, and let it help determine the best approach.



Will the AI copy these authors verbatim?

No, it doesn't replicate exact text. Instead, it mimics the tone, style, and structure based on its training, ensuring originality without plagiarism.

Continue Exploring

Additional resources including all the prompts used within this **Smartcut**.



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