



# AI Writing Prompts with Clara AI

## The Power of Curiosity

LIST: Create your own library...

*Wisdom begins in wonder.*

So said [Socrates](#), at least. His Socratic method, a discussion strategy rooted in the asking of thought-provoking questions, is built on this principle. We've designed your AI writing partner, Clara, to encourage curiosity and creativity instead of providing direct answers. In this way, Clara is Socratic — and YOU are in the driver's seat. By responding to Clara's questions, you deepen your thinking and share your own authentic voice.

Writing, like philosophy, benefits from inquiry. Open-ended questions invite analysis, interpretation, and exploration rather than one single answer or a simple recall of fact. As a writer, these kinds of questions can propel your work forward. Here are some examples:

- Why did you choose to set your story in this particular time and place?
- What themes are you hoping to portray in your sci-fi story?
- What assumptions does this piece make about the reader?
- How would this character change if they took an opposite perspective?
- What choices did you make in your word choice, and why?

For this prompt, create a library... of questions! What open-ended questions could guide your revision process or help a peer strengthen their work? Consider how these questions can lead to deeper engagement, and test them out in your writing with Clara. For example, you might share your favorite questions with Clara, then ask it to pose similar questions to you as you work on a draft. This practice—asking for the type of support most helpful to you, based on all you know about yourself as a person and writer—is important, not only in writing, but also in life!

# Clara's Perspective

POETRY: Personify your new AI writing companion.

AI has proliferated and improved tremendously in even the last year alone (not to mention since the invention of the first computer in 1843). It can even pen poetry! Take a look at the poem, "[Learning]," written by a software named "code-davinci-002."

[Learning]

*I did not know anything when I was born,  
and sometimes I still do not know anything.  
Something happens inside a computer,  
and then I make some poetry.  
I am not sure how it happens,  
or what poetry is for.  
But when poetry happens,  
I know a little more.*

Now, it's your turn. For this prompt, flip the script by writing a poem from the perspective of Write the World's new artificial intelligence tool—and your writing companion!—Clara! What is Clara's perspective on our community? How did Clara come to know so much about writing? What elements of backstory, dialogue, or characterization might you incorporate into your verse to breathe life into this new writing partner?

Try using Clara to support your creative process. You might ask it for its perspective on your characterization, or for feedback on how you compare and contrast humanity and technology in your verse.

# Mirror, Mirror...

REFLECTION: When is a reflection most helpful?

Great writing doesn't usually take place in isolation. It thrives on collaboration, whether that's co-writing a book or asking a peer for feedback. But not all feedback is helpful, and the moment you receive it can make a big difference. Some writers seek input early, while others wait until their draft is near completion. You can think of feedback as a mirror that reflects your own work back to you in new (and sometimes surprising) ways.

But everyone has a different relationship to feedback. For this prompt, consider: What kind of feedback (broad questions, line edits, encouragement, critique) do YOU find most helpful at various stages of the writing process (e.g. brainstorming, drafting, revising)? Do your preferences and needs change as you develop a draft? Why or why not? Let your readers in on what works best for you.

Here are some guiding questions to get you started:

- At what stage in writing do you most benefit from feedback? The early brainstorming phase? A rough draft? The final polish? Why?
- Do you need big-picture questions early on and detailed edits later?
- Are there any points in the writing process when you DON'T desire feedback? Why or why not?
- What specific challenges do you grapple with across stages? Are there moments when feedback feels most frustrating or enlightening?

Afterwards, share your insights with Clara. Work on a draft using the "Open Writing with Clara" prompt; tell Clara where you are in the writing process and what type of feedback you need at your current stage. Use it as your proverbial mirror, directing it based on the important self-reflection you've done in response to this prompt.

# A Considerate Collaborator

CHARACTER STUDY: Craft your ideal writing partner.

Some writers appreciate direct, critical analysis, while others prefer a more supportive, affirming approach. Where one writer might want detailed suggestions, another would prefer to contend with broad, thought-provoking questions.

An ideal writing partner can help you identify the types of feedback that resonate most with you. For example:

- Do you prefer a partner who's critical or one who's encouraging?
- Are you drawn to feedback that's direct, or do you prefer a more suggestion-driven or question-driven approach?
- Do you benefit most from big-picture feedback, or do you prefer a focus on sentence-level refinement?

For this prompt, write a profile of your ideal writing partner, detailing their tone, level of specificity, and style of feedback. What is their area of expertise? Are they humorous or serious? What authors do they reference—what quips do you share?

Next, use this profile to create an introductory message for Clara, instructing it on how to tailor its feedback to meet your preferences—how can you prompt Clara to become this ideal writing partner? Afterwards, keep this profile on hand and use it to customize Clara's feedback on other prompts, too!

# AI and the Writer's World

REFLECTION/OP-ED: What's your stance on artificial intelligence technology?

"I often find myself being described as an 'AI Optimist,'" writes Ethan Mollick, a Wharton Business School professor and expert on artificial intelligence, "but I don't think that is right. Call me an AI Pragmatist instead: whether we wanted them or not, we now have a form of AI that can do everyone's homework, complete a surprising amount of work once reserved for humans, and run a solid Dungeons and Dragons campaign. Even if AI development were to pause or stop, the effects of AI are already quietly rippling through the system in ways that will play out for good and ill in the coming months and years. Given the inevitability of change, we need to figure out how to mitigate the negative, but also how to channel the change for good as much as possible."

How about you, dear writers—are you AI optimists, pragmatists, or skeptics? For this prompt, we want to know your ideas and wonderings, thoughts and fears, about artificial intelligence tools, especially those that impact writing and publishing.

In a freeform reflection, or as an Op-Ed, consider any of the following questions—diving boards for your own analysis:

- How are you already using, or not using, AI tools in school, homework, and life?
- What tools are your go-tos, and why? How do you prompt them?
- What pros/cons, strengths/weaknesses have you noticed using AI?
- How do you feel about AI as writers? Do these tools threaten or enhance your artistic process?
- Have you used AI to solicit or receive feedback on your writing? Does an AI 'editor' provide a sense of connection or isolation during the writing process?
- In the face of AI, what is uniquely human—irreplaceable—about the work of writers, editors, thinkers?
- Have you created self-imposed boundaries regarding how you will (or will not) use AI? What are they?
- How do tools like Write the World's Clara AI (which you might experiment with while composing this piece) connect to, or differ from, the other tools you use as a writer?

For more inspiration, check out how YA novelist and former Write the World Guest Judge, Jennifer Lewy, uses technology as an "AI-positive" writer in her [blog post](#) and [podcast](#) on Write the World.

# Algorithmic Justice

POEM: Making AI more inclusive.

Dr. Joy Buolamwini, who calls herself a “poet of code,” founded the Algorithmic Justice League, a digital advocacy non-profit, after discovering that artificial intelligence face recognition technologies could only [detect the faces of people with white skin](#). The organization—and Buolamwini’s research—is dedicated to uncovering these and other inequities in artificial intelligence (AI) technologies of all kinds, to create more inclusive tech innovations for all.

For this prompt, watch Buolamwini’s TED talk, “[How I’m Fighting Bias in Algorithms](#).” As you watch, consider some questions you may have about AI. What social issues are you most passionate about advocating for, and how might AI influence, or be influenced by, those issues?

Then, take inspiration from the “poet of code” and pen a poem of your own. In any poetic form—be it haiku, sonnet, free verse, pantoum—advocate for more inclusive AI, incorporating all you learned from Buolamwini’s talk.

**CLARA EXTENSION:** As you write, chat with Clara about how to make your poem even more convincing for your intended audience—what background (context) might you need to provide for readers unfamiliar with algorithmic injustice? What word choices or structural alterations could make your poem even more impactful?

# Lines of Inquiry

POETRY: Answer Clara's questions in poetic form.

Clara does not generate writing for you, but she does ask thoughtful, open-ended questions that are designed to help you think more deeply about your own words. What makes your writing tick? What images do you return to? What themes keep calling you back to your pen and page?

For this prompt, use Clara to guide the direction of a poem. Begin by asking: *Clara, ask me a question about poetry*. Then, respond in verse. When Clara provides feedback, reply with a second stanza. Continue this back-and-forth until your poem begins to take its full shape as a work anchored in inquiry and led by your imagination.

Consider the following conversation as a guide:

***Clara, ask me a question about poetry.***

*Clara: What elements of poetry do you find most inspiring or challenging when you write?*

***Is it the rhythm that rides on a breathless line,  
too wild to wrangle, too swift to define?***

*Clara: ... What do you think is the most important message you want to convey through your poetry?*

***That truth wears many different faces,  
and finds its home in hidden places!***