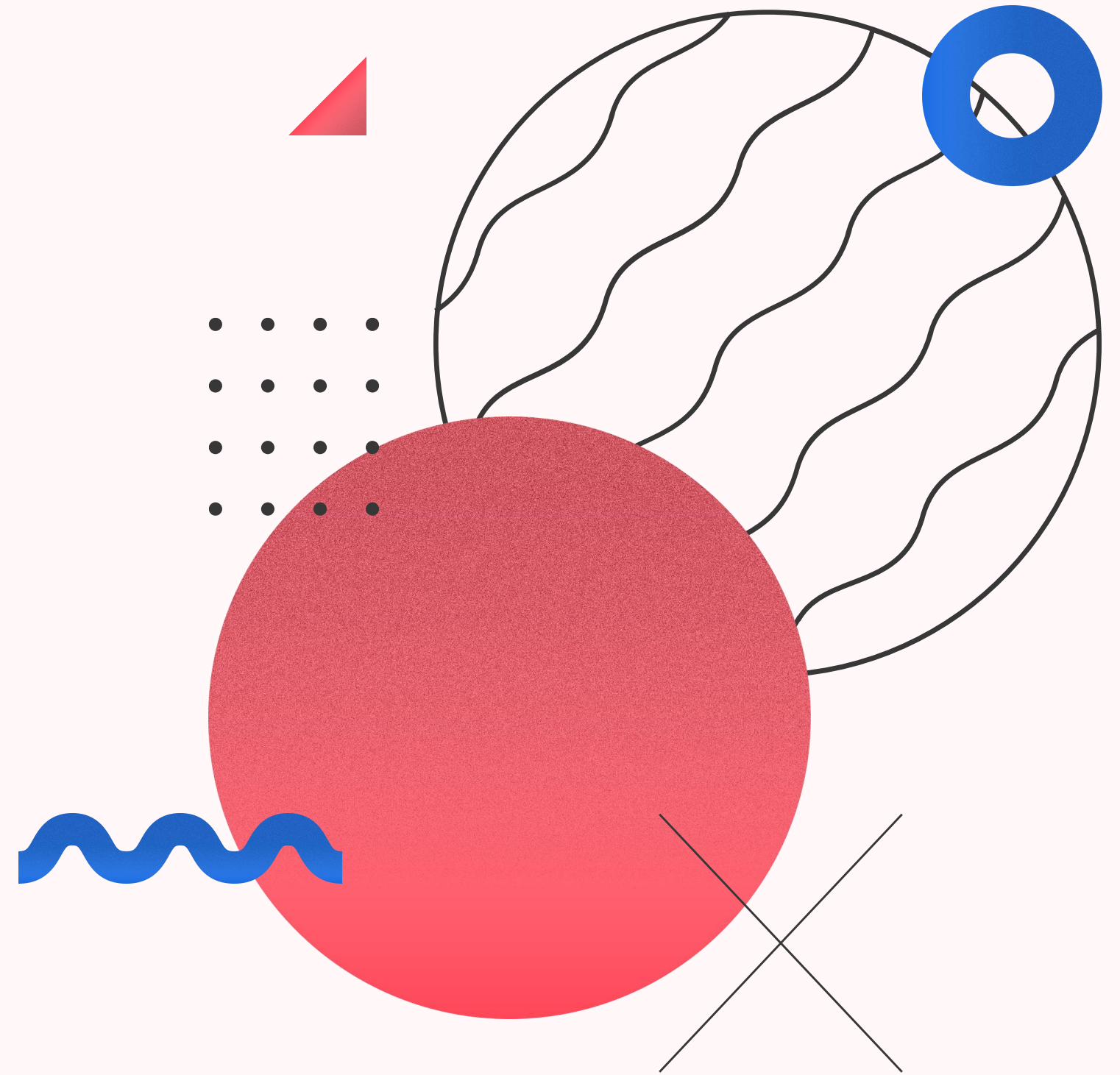


Thinking critically about AI tools

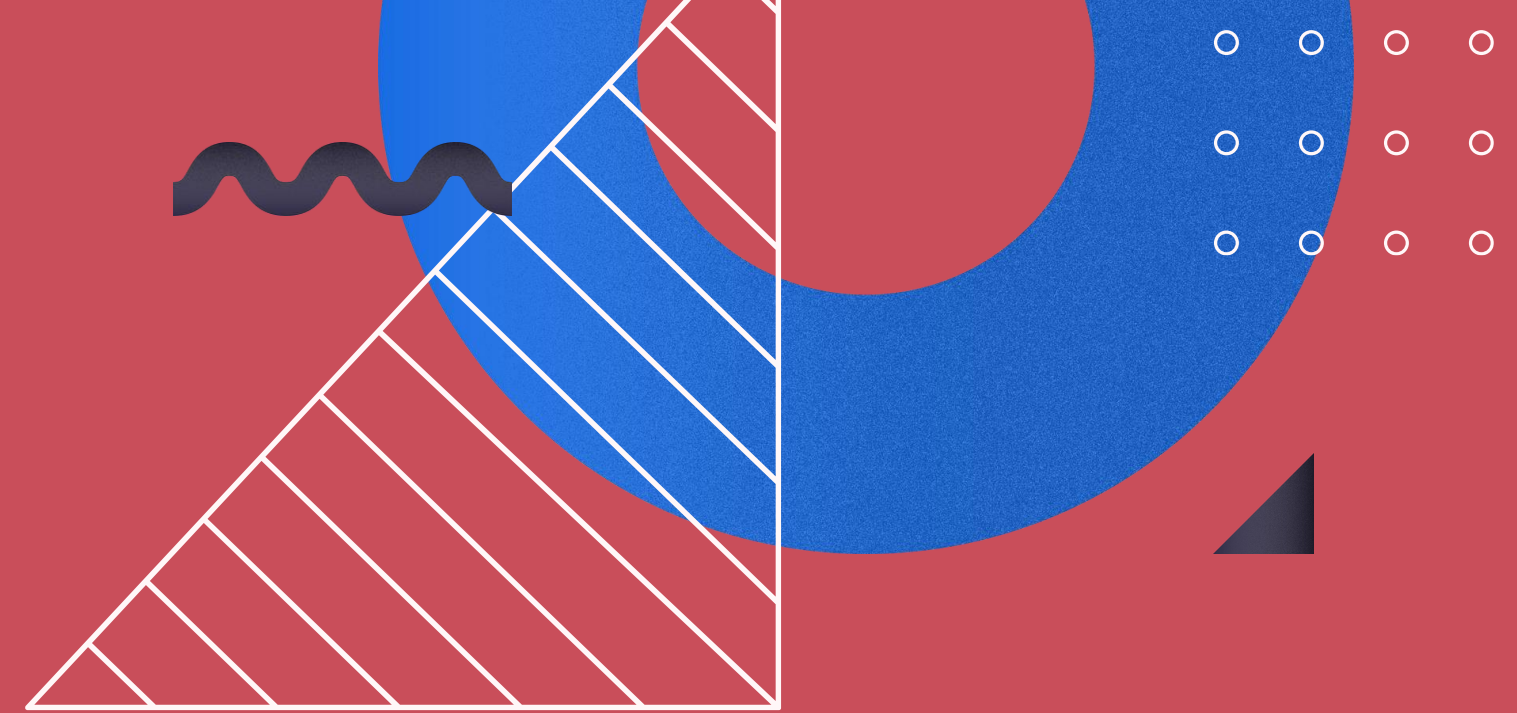
for academic and professional contexts

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Agenda



intro to generative AI

pros and cons of gen AI

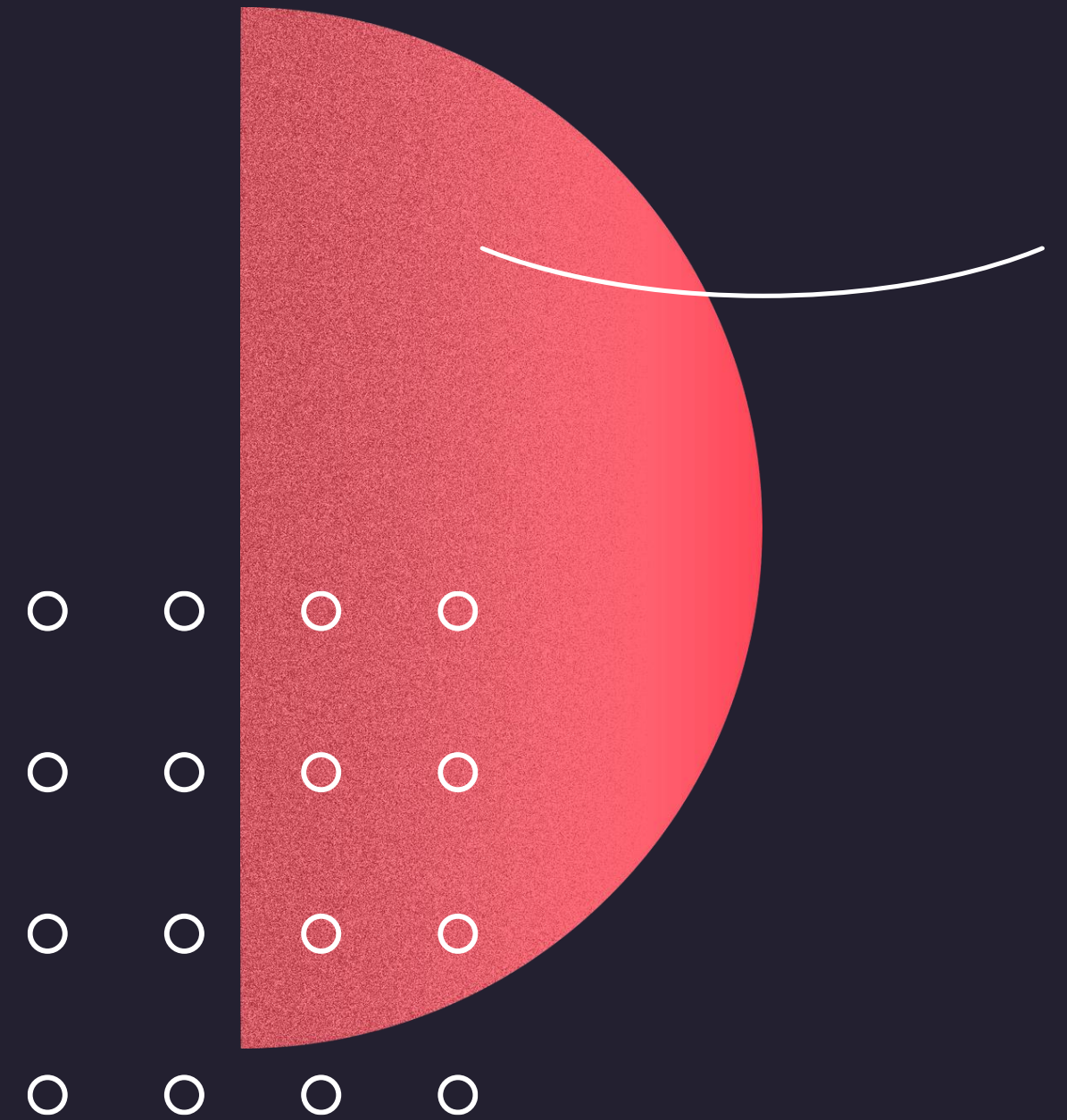
academic AI tools

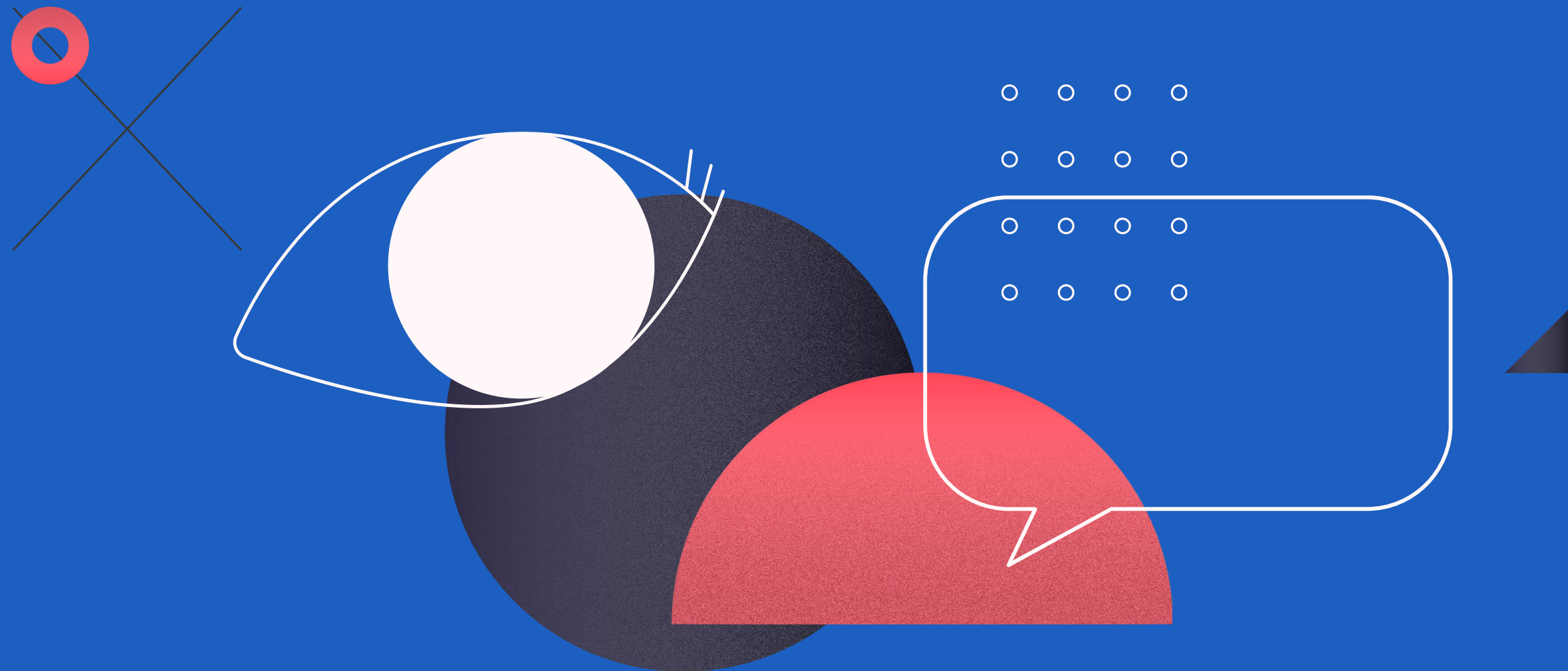
activity: experiment with
chatbots

discussion: AI and ethics

questions

**What kinds of
things could you
use "generative
AI" to do?**





How does generative AI work?

machine learning system
trained on tons of data

generates content based on
user prompts

recent advances (RAG, deep
search) that improve output

Different types of tools

Search engines (Google)

Retrieve pages on the web that match your keywords

Generative AI (early ChatGPT)

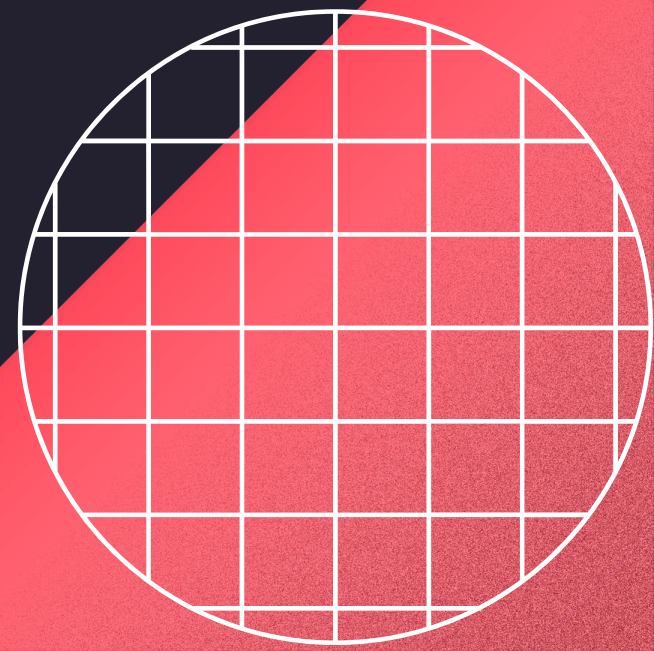
Generate new text in response to your prompt based on words “learned” through training

GenAI in search (Perplexity)

Search the web and generate new text based on both the results and the AI’s training

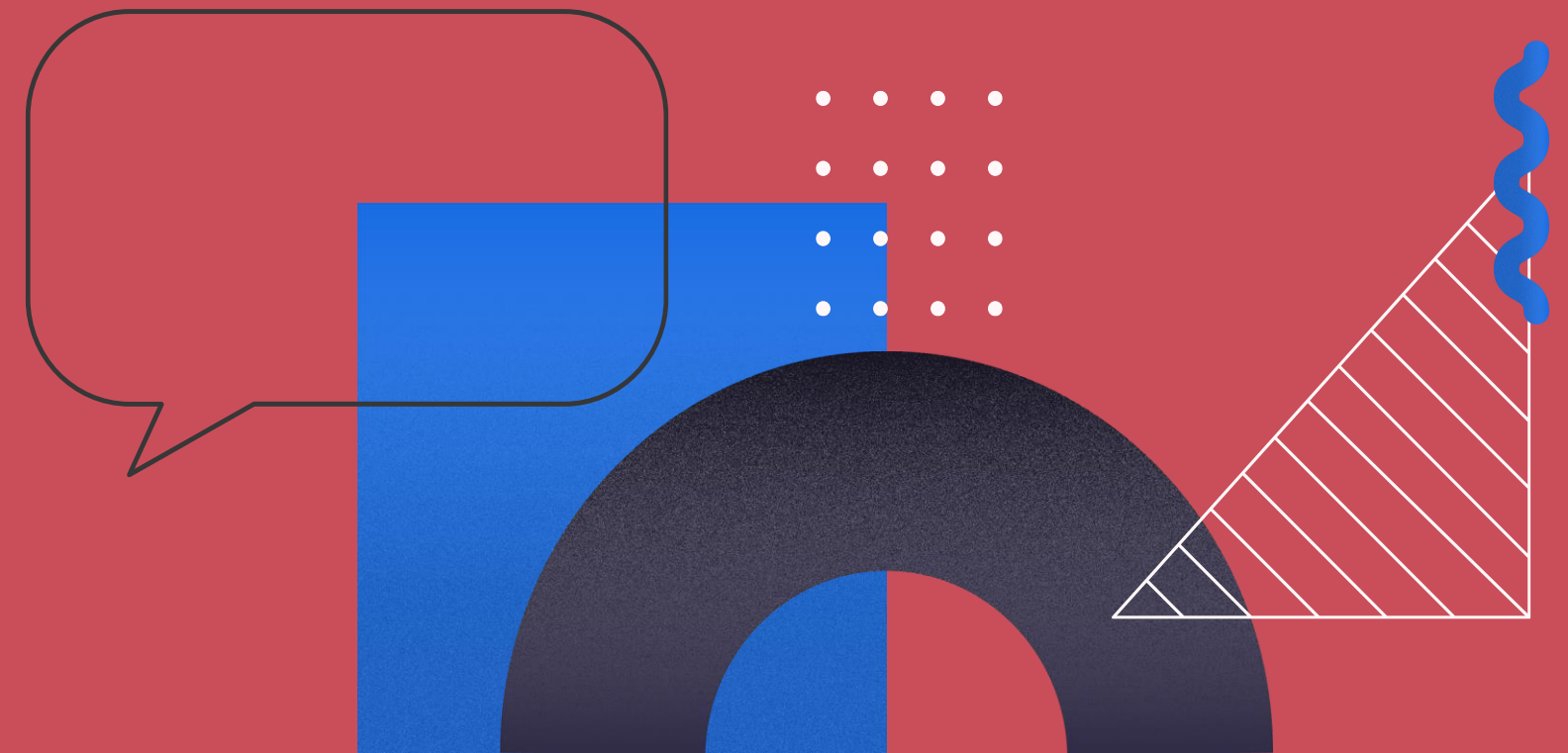
Agentic AI (ChatGPT now)

When searching can make use of web content, APIs, etc. to retrieve results and generate content



Try it out!

Experiment with different prompts

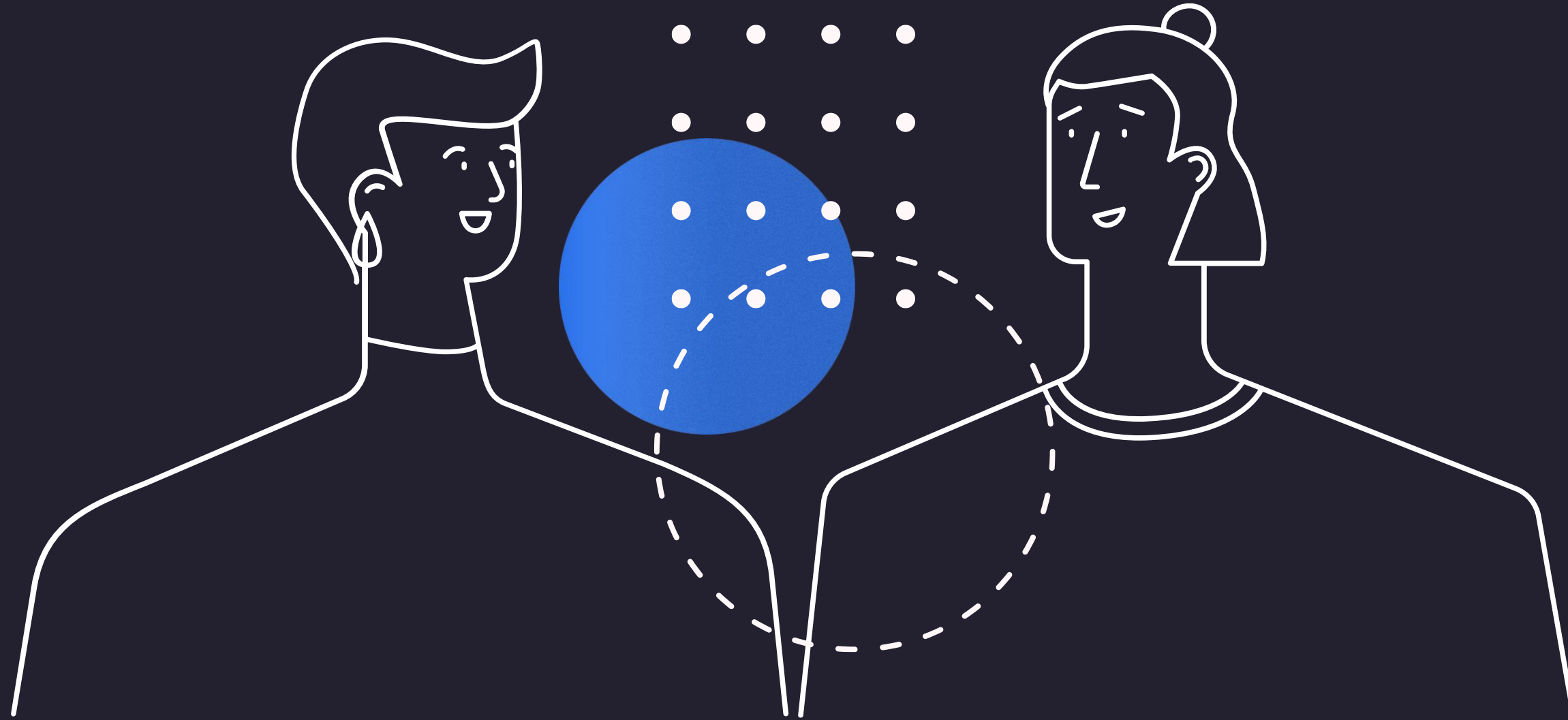


1. Open a generative AI chat bot:

- You can use ChatGPT without an account: <https://chat.openai.com/>
- You can also try Perplexity without an account: <https://www.perplexity.ai/>
- You can use Claude with a free account: <https://claude.ai/login>

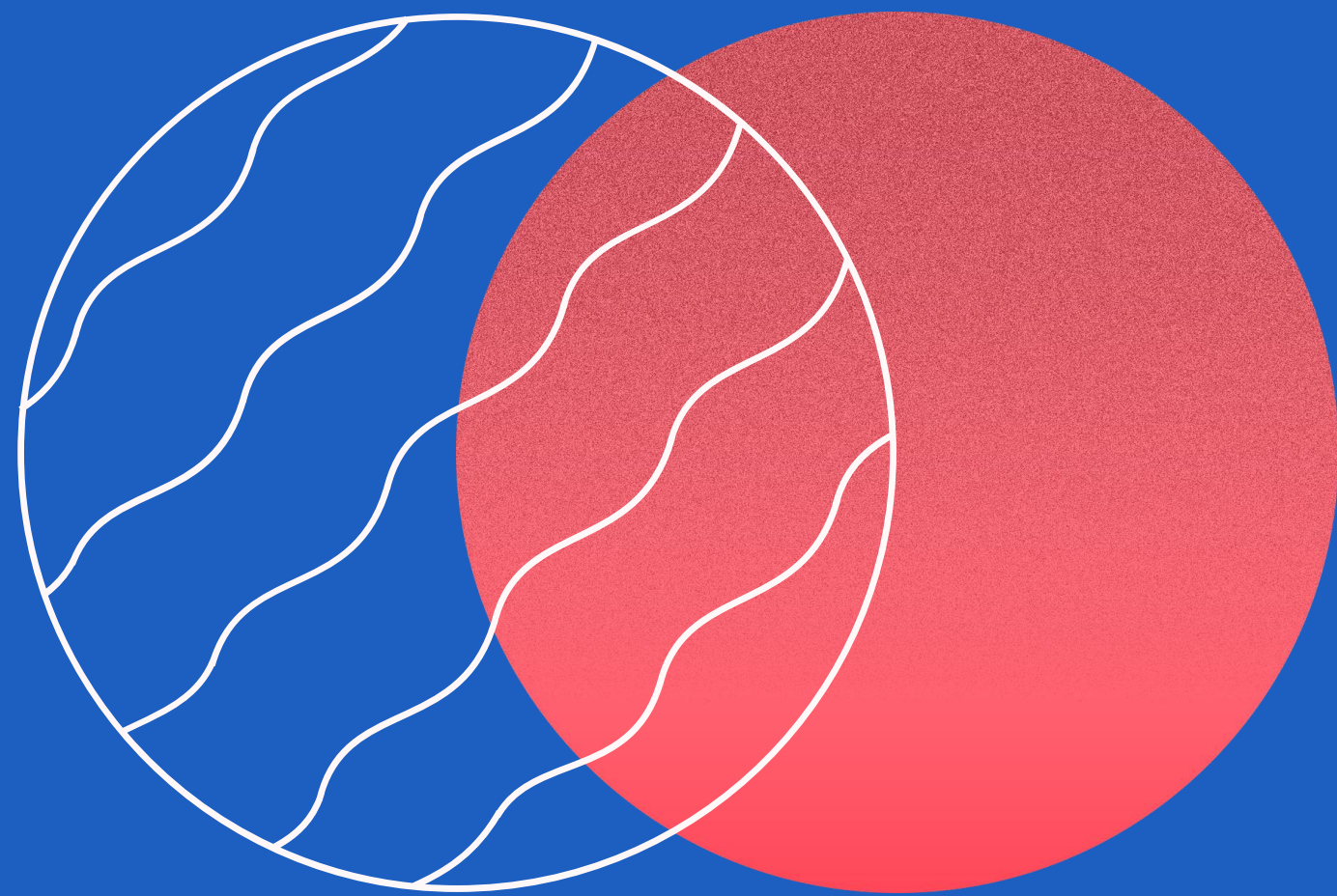
2. Use one of the prompts at this link: <https://bit.ly/4nNfNk3>

3. Try your own prompts to see how well it does!



Checking in

what worked well? what didn't?



ROBOT test for evaluating AI

Hervieux & Wheatley, 2020

Reliability

Objective

Bias

Ownership

Type

Suggested uses

Use ChatGPT (or similar tools) for:

- brainstorming topics for projects
- getting feedback on writing
- summarizing complex ideas or topics (make sure you fact check!)
- simulating job interview questions
- debugging or explaining code
- translating for your own understanding

based on Okanagan College Library 2025

Avoid using ChatGPT (or similar tools) for:

- verifying facts
- finding articles or books
- giving feedback on arguments, logic, or evidence
- writing creative, critical or analytic content

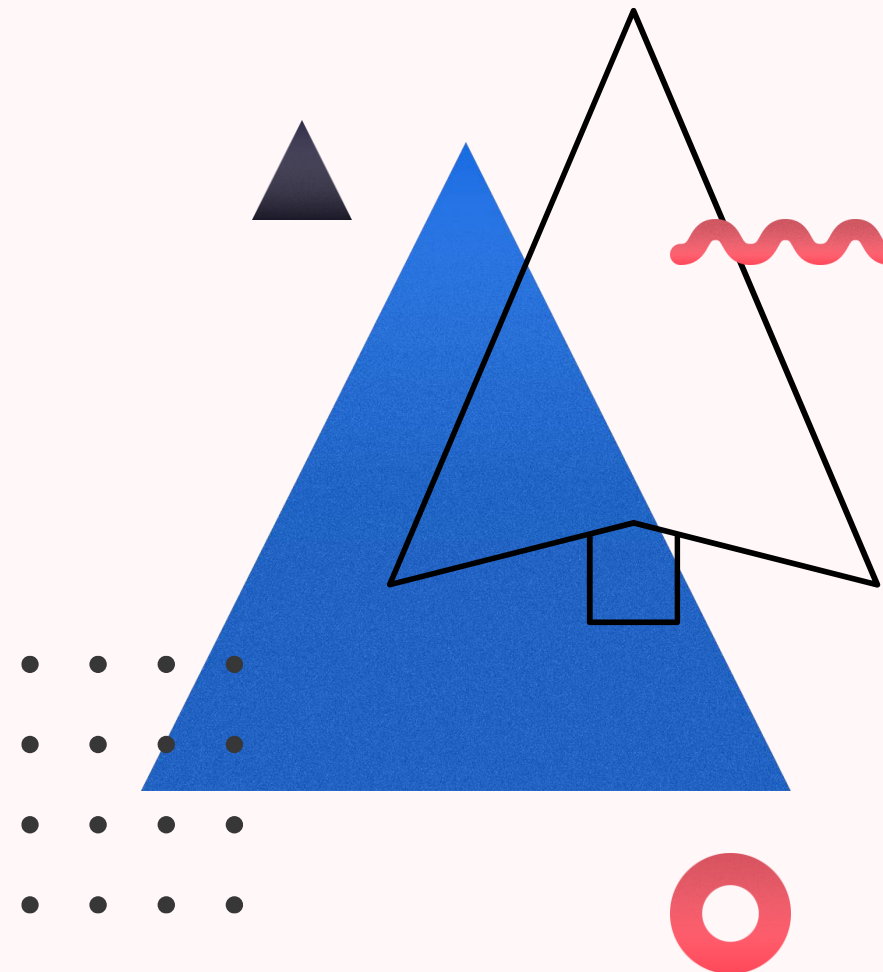
Pros and cons of generative AI

Farrokhnia et al., 2023

Wach et al., 2023

PROS

- quick results
- personalized and responsive
- persuasive or polished output
- ease of access to information
- automation of undesirable tasks
- processing & analyzing lots of data



CONS

- biased training data
- lack of industry regulation
- lack of developer transparency
- inaccuracy & disinformation
- privacy & copyright concerns
- labour issues
- environmental impact
- skill loss & cognitive offloading

CLEAR prompt engineering

Lo, 2023; Open AI, n.d.

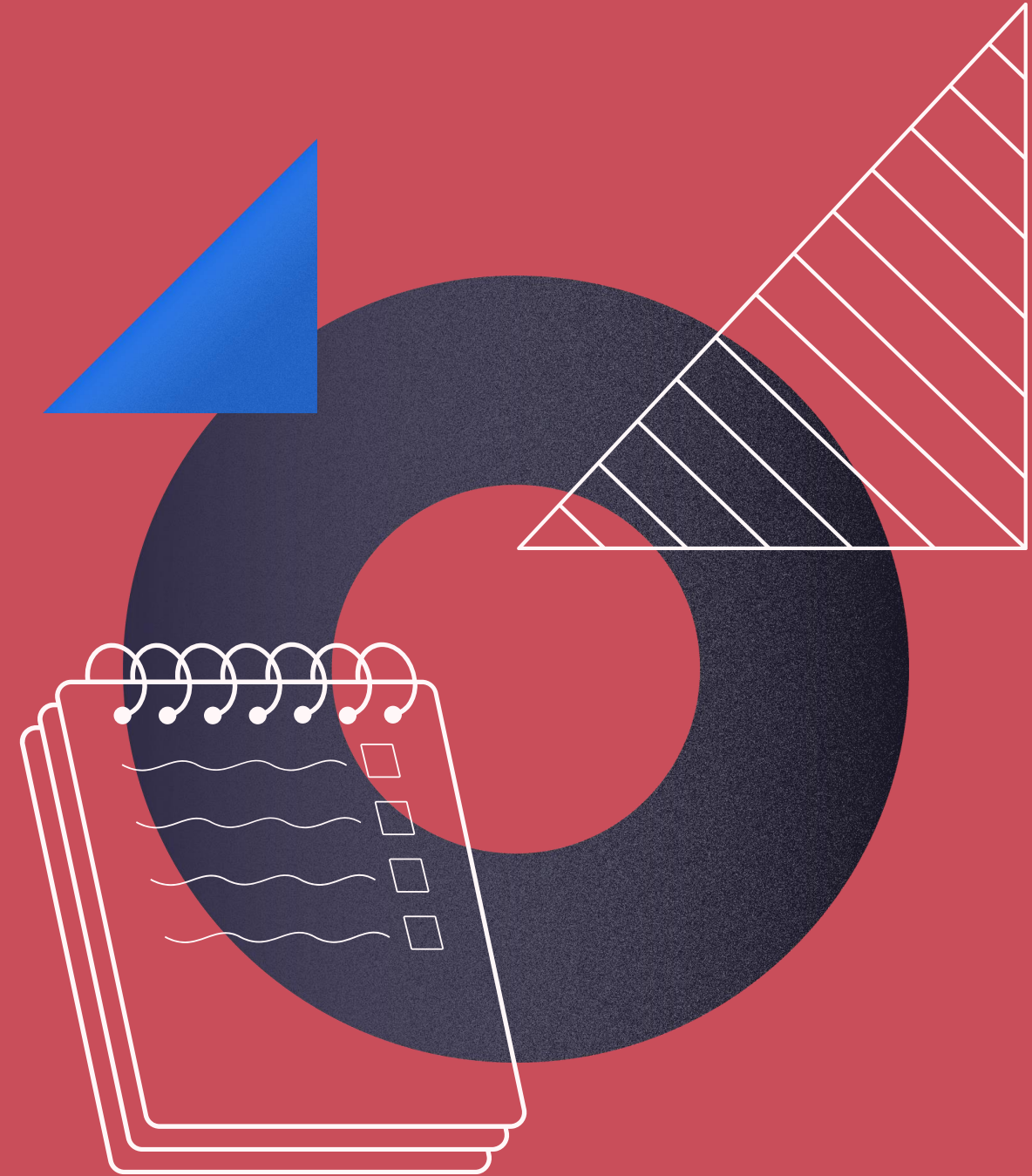
CONCISE

LOGICAL

EXPLICIT

ADAPTIVE

REFLECTIVE

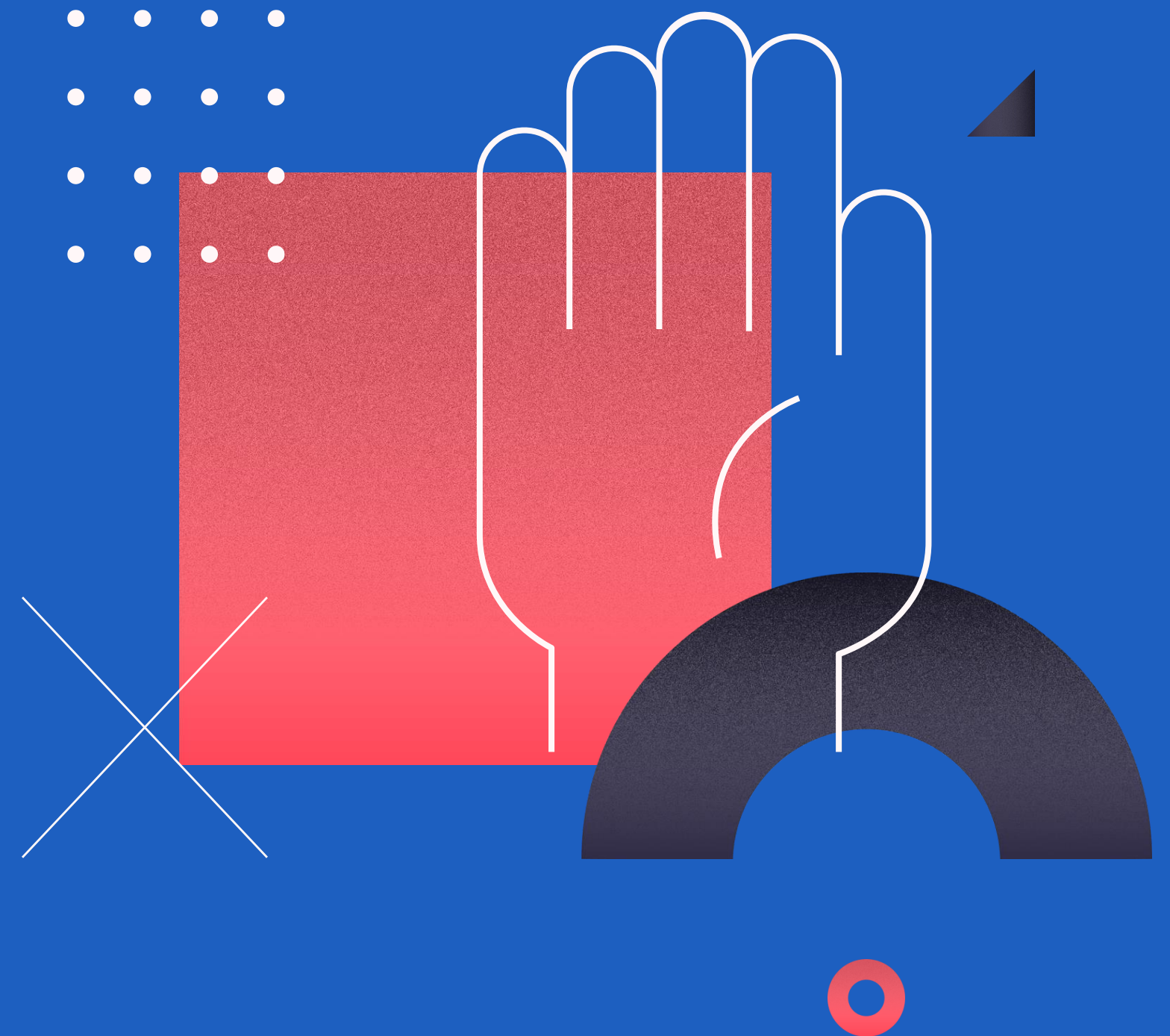


Evaluating AI

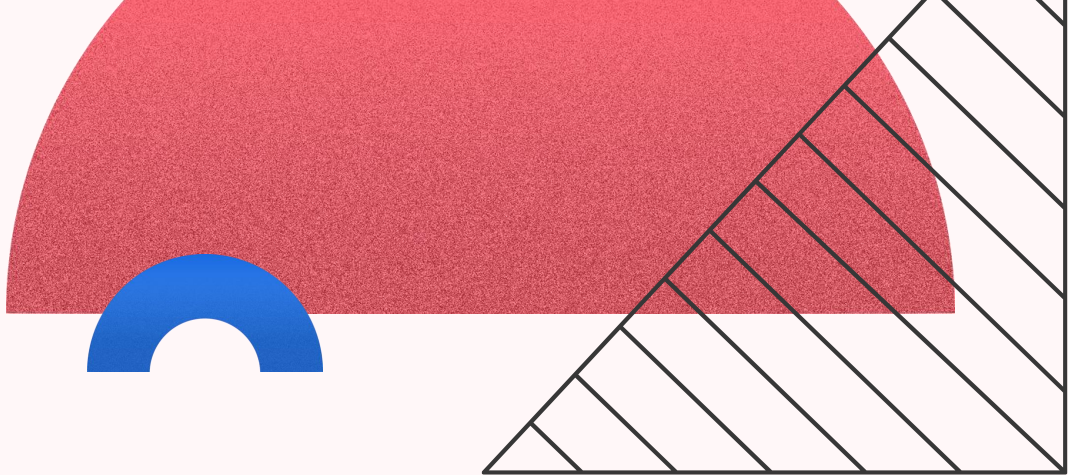
Based on your experience so far with ChatGPT:

1. What ethical issues are you most concerned about?
2. How might these ethical issues change the way you use these tools?

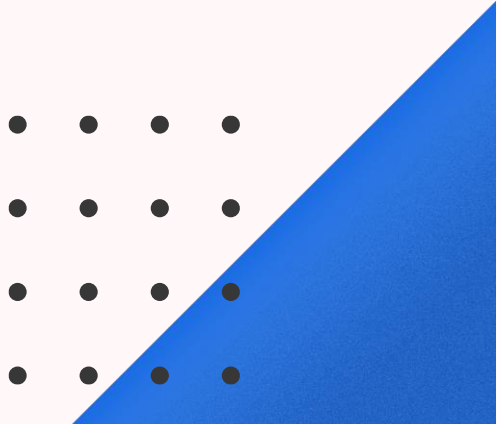
Discuss in groups for 5 minutes, then we'll discuss all together for another 5 minutes



Academic tools



Main features	Example tools
Visualization and connection (citation data-based)	Research Rabbit , Litmaps , Inciteful
Semantic Search (LLM-based)	Semantic Scholar , Web of Science
Synthesis, summary, extraction (LLM-based)	Elicit , Consensus , Asta





**Do you prefer interacting
with tools that have
human-like qualities, or
ones that seem more
machine-like?**



Upcoming AI event

GPT Unplugged: Hands-On experience with Local Large Language Models

Monday, November 17th
2:00-4:00 p.m.

Register through FutureBound or GradProSkills

AI Literacy

As part of our commitment to information literacy, the Library supports AI literacy across campus.

On this page

- [AI learning modules](#) ▼
- [Acknowledging AI use](#) ▼
- [Academic AI tools](#) ▼
- [Workshops](#) ▼

AI learning modules

Quick topic overviews

Learning modules with short introductions to key topics in the digital world from the Library's [Quick Things for Digital Knowledge](#).

[ChatGPT and Generative AI](#) ➔

The power and pitfalls of ChatGPT and other GenAI tools

[Machine learning](#) ➔

How can computers "learn" to solve problems?

Chat with us



Learn more

All our AI learning material in one place!





Questions?

Thanks for participating!

Aeron MacHattie

Teaching & Research Librarian, Humanities

Melissa Rivosecchi

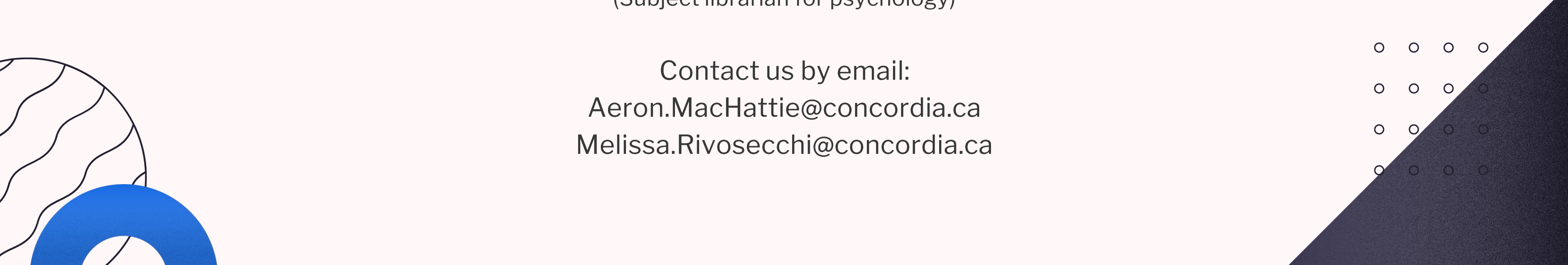
Head, Vanier Library

(Subject librarian for psychology)

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