



ELON
UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR
Writing
Excellence

Academic AI Resources Guide

ChatGPT (by OpenAI): <https://chatgpt.com/>

- Uses: Brainstorming, outlining, idea generation, problem solving, coding, drafting/outlining
- Pros: Strong reasoning skills, good for structuring ideas and explaining concepts
- Cons: Struggles with tone and voice; verbose
- Pricing: Free (GPT-3.5); GPT-4 available with ChatGPT Plus (\$20/month)

Google Gemini (formerly Bard): <https://gemini.google.com/app>

- Uses: Research, outlining, fact checks, simple writing help
- Pros: Current access to Google Search; helpful for up-to-date info
- Cons: Sometimes inconsistent output formatting; reasoning weaker than ChatGPT
- Pricing: Free with a Google account

Claude (by Anthropic): <https://claude.ai/>

- Uses: Creative writing, narrative development, idea generation
- Pros: More natural tone and creativity
- Cons: Less precise with structured reasoning and academic tasks
- Pricing: Free (Claude ½)

Type.ai: <https://type.ai/>

- Uses: Essay drafting, editing, refining tone
- Pros: Simple interface; good at specific sentence-level edits
- Cons: Fewer features than more established models; still developing
- Pricing: Free basic plan

Grammarly: <https://www.grammarly.com/>

- Uses: Grammar, spelling, tone checking, clarity
- Pros: Trusted by educators; tone suggestions, plagiarism detection (premium)
- Cons: Limited AI creativity; surface-level revisions
- Pricing: Free version; Premium starts at \$12/month

Writer: <https://writer.com/>

- Uses: Structured business and academic content via apps like "Blog Builder," "Ask Writer," and "Recaps"
- Pros: Strong privacy features, transparency for institutional use
- Cons: Learning curve with tool integrations
- Pricing: Free trial available

Creative Writing Tools

Sudowrite: <https://sudowrite.com/>

- Uses: Fiction, creative writing, poetry, storytelling
- Pros: Designed for creative genres; tools to expand, rewrite, and overcome writer's block
- Cons: Less effective for research-based writing
- Pricing: Free trial available; starts at \$10/month

Quillbot: <https://quillbot.com/>

- Uses: Paraphrasing, summarizing, grammar, citation generation
- Pros: Ideal for revision and paraphrasing; citation tool included
- Cons: Less helpful for generating original ideas
- Pricing: Free version; Premium from \$9.95/month

Jasper: <https://jasper.ai/>

- Uses: Blog posts, bios, content templates
- Pros: Huge library of writing templates; helpful for students testing tone/genre
- Cons: Less ideal for academic writing; outputs may feel formulaic; pricey
- Pricing: Starts at \$49/month, with free trial available

Academic Research & Study Tools

ChatPDF: <https://www.chatpdf.com/>

- Uses: Reading and annotating PDFs; summarizing long documents
- Pros: Pulls direct answers from PDF content; useful for research
- Cons: Doesn't generate new writing
- Pricing: Free version; Pro version from \$5/month

Natural Reader: <https://www.naturalreaders.com/>

- Uses: Text-to-speech support for revising or accessibility
- Pros: Great for hearing one's work aloud; helps with tone and flow
- Cons: Doesn't assist with writing structure or content
- Pricing: Free version; Premium plans from \$9.99/month

TutorAI: <https://tutorai.me/>

- Uses: Personalized tutoring modules, simplified explanations, quizzes
- Pros: Helps students understand writing concepts or prompts
- Cons: Depends on student engagement
- Pricing: Free trial available; paid plans vary

Multimodal & Visual Tools

Hocoos: <https://hocoos.com/>

- Uses: Building websites, portfolios, or writing blogs
- Pros: Easy drag-and-drop builder; great for multimodal assignments

- Cons: Less customizable than traditional web editors
- Pricing: Free version; paid plans from \$15/month

Gamma AI: <https://gamma.app/ai-presentation-generator>

- Uses: Slide decks, web pages, and formatted documents
- Pros: Automates the design process; easy presentation-ready content
- Cons: Limited editing flexibility compared to PowerPoint/Canva
- Pricing: Free with optional Pro plan (~\$10–15/month)

Napkin AI: <https://www.napkin.ai/>

- Uses: Generates quick and easy charts, diagrams, illustrations
- Pros: Great for simple visuals; supports manual input or data-fed input
- Cons: Visuals can look repetitive or basic
- Pricing: Free version available