Your essential guide to Google Al for college Google

What's inside:

We hope you find this guide helpful.

Always follow the rules of your school and your professors on the use of Al.

- Apply best practices to write clear, effective prompts that maximize your learning and help you accomplish tasks.
- Understand how **features in Gemini** Deep Research, Canvas, Guided Learning, Gems, Gemini Live, and Quizzes can support learning.
- Use **NotebookLM** to generate study guides, deepen research, and create custom audio and video overviews based on your class materials.
- Oiscover real prompts you can use in Gemini and NotebookLM for help with learning, writing and exam prep.
- Use Gemini to help with your job or internship search.

Study and learn with the help of Al

Ready to transform how you learn, study, and create? Check out our expert-led training to discover how AI tools can level-up your approach to homework, writing, and even kickstarting your career.

Learning & homework

- Ways AI can help with your studies
- Turn any idea into a video with Gemini
- Prompting tips to personalize your learning
- Understand visual information in a snap
- Make Gemini your research assistant

Study & exam prep

- Create instant study materials
- Make practice quizzes ahead of your exam

Writing Support

Get writing feedback with Gemini

Job search help

- Explore careers that match your skills
- Practice interviewing with Gemini Live
- Update your resume with Gemini
- A recruiter's perspective on resumes
- A recruiter's recommended interview strategies
- Managing your online presence
- Handling challenging interview guestions
- Build resilience for your job search



Click to launch the full playlist

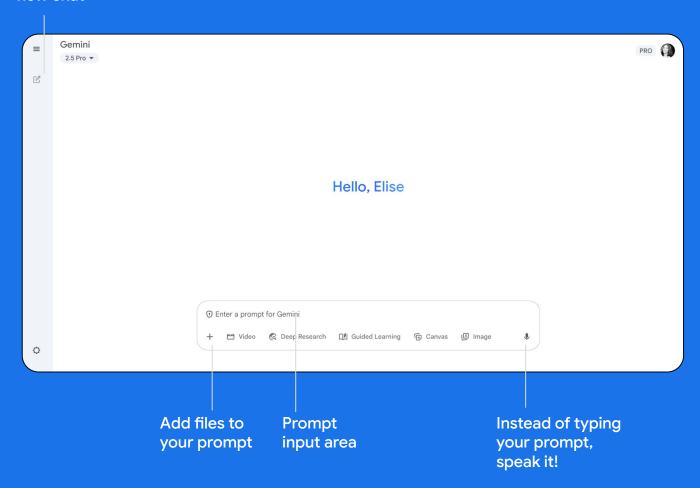


Your Al-powered assistant for learning

You can access Gemini through your personal Gmail account. And if your college or university uses Google Workspace, you also have access to Gemini for Education - a version of Gemini purpose-built for qualifying educational institutions like yours* - which you can access using your school-issued Google account. With higher limits to 2.5 Pro - the world's leading model for learning - it also has extra data protection, meaning content isn't reviewed or used to train Al models.

All the features in this guide are available when accessing Gemini from either your personal or school-issued Google account.

Start a new chat



^{*}Gemini for Education is included in all Google Workspace for Education editions free of charge





Prompt like a pro: 5-step framework

Structure of a great prompt

Great prompts follow the 5-step framework – a simple way to guide Gemini step-by-step in creating exactly what you need. Use this as a model when building your own.

Step	What it means	Example
Persona	Which expertise you want AI to draw from	Economics professor
Task	What you want AI to help you with	Test prep
Context	Any background information Al needs to help you with this task	Exam on macroeconomics
Format	How you want the results to appear e.g. table, bulleted list, paragraph	Open-ended and multiple choice questions
References	[Optional] Examples of what you are looking for	Example of quiz question



Example Prompt:

You are an economics 101 professor. I am studying for a midterm exam on macroeconomics. Quiz me on the concepts of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and the business cycle, starting with easier questions and getting progressively more challenging. Ask questions in open-ended and multiple choice format. For example, "What does the economic indicator Gross Domestic Product (GDP) measure?"

Example



Breaking down a complex topic

Prompt

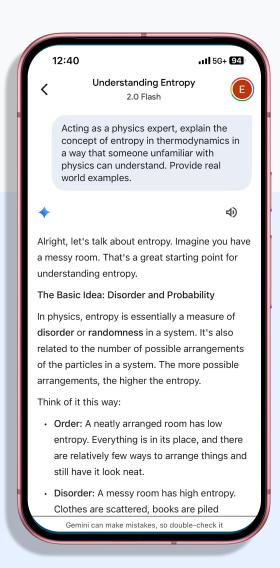
Acting as a physics expert, explain the concept of entropy in thermodynamics in a way that someone unfamiliar with physics can understand. Provide real world examples.



Be specific with the concept and the task. You can say "Explain it like I'm a freshman physics student."

Great for

Quickly clarifying complex topics, getting unstuck on homework, or test preparation.



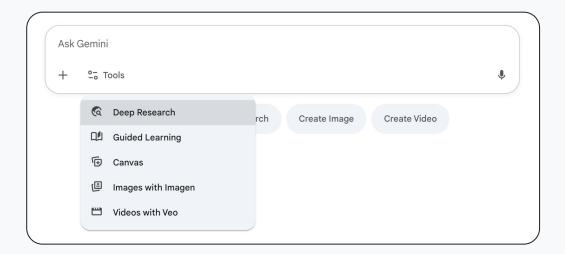
Use case	Prompt	Tip	Great for
Preparing for an exam with personalized practice quizzes	Act as a biology professor. I have a biology midterm coming up. Create a practice quiz for me. Focus on these concepts I find hard: "cellular respiration vs. photosynthesis," "the stages of mitosis," and "Mendelian genetics (Punnett squares)." Give me 5 multiple-choice questions and 5 short answer questions, and provide the answers separately.	Be very specific about the subject, exam type (for example, final, midterm, quiz), and the exact topics you want the quiz to cover. You can also ask for an answer key!	Targeted review, identifying weak spots, and active recall practice before exams
Getting constructive feedback on a written draft for improvement	Act as a TA for my history class. I've written a draft for my history essay on the causes of World War I. I'm not looking for revisions, but can you give me feedback on (1) the clarity of my thesis statement, (2) the strength of my supporting evidence, and (3) the overall organization and flow. I've attached my essay.	For targeted insights, ask questions like "Is my introduction engaging?" or "Are my counter-arguments addressed well?	Refining arguments, checking for clarity, understanding a reader's perspective, and improving specific writing skills
Identify citations and missing evidence	Act as a writing tutor. Here's my essay on the future of space travel. Can you help me identify specific sentences or claims that need citations to support them, and suggest where I might need to add evidence.	Attach your draft. You can ask for additional feedback like "fix any grammatical errors," or "check for conciseness."	Instant, personalized writing feedback
Brainstorming project ideas	Act as a research librarian. I need to choose a topic for a 10-page research paper for my environmental science class. Help me brainstorm 3 distinct project ideas related to the impact of microplastics on marine ecosystems, and briefly explain why each would be a compelling and researchable topic for a college sophomore.	Specify your subject, project type (for example, a presentation or essay), length, and any initial areas of interest. Then, ask Gemini to help you "develop one of these ideas into a research question" or "suggest some initial keywords for research."	Finding meaningful, relevant project topics
Practicing coding with real examples	Act as a senior software developer. Show me how to write a simple Python program that takes a list of numbers and returns the average. Please explain each part of the code, especially how to handle potential errors like an empty list. I'm a college freshman student in an introductory programming course.	Mention the programming language and your current skill level (such as "beginner Java"). You can paste your own code and ask "Can you help me debug this?" or "How can I make this more efficient?" Pro tip: Generate code to prototype this with Canvas.	Interactive, scaffolded practice in computer science



Deep Research

Save hours of time with Gemini as your personal research assistant

Get up to speed on just about anything with Deep Research, an agentic feature in Gemini that can **automatically search up to hundreds of websites**, think through its findings, and create insightful reports with citations.



Get the big picture, faster

Save hours of work and get the main ideas about a certain topic, and then use the generated report to kickstart your assignments, study for exams, or develop your project ideas more effectively.

Don't just read - listen

You can generate an audio overview of your Deep Research reports – a podcast-style narration of the key findings. It's a fast, accessible way to listen to your research findings.

Download and share

You can also download the audio file to:

- Save for offline listening
- Share with a study partners



Exploring a research topic

Prompt

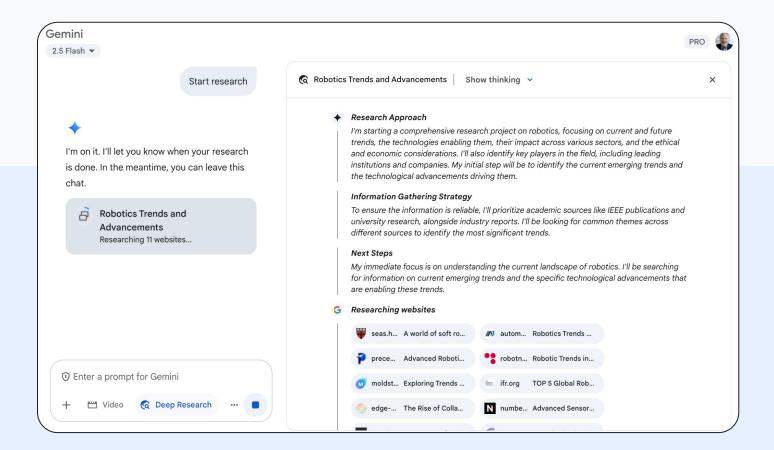
I'm working on a paper about the current and future trends in robotics. Can you help me understand what are key emerging trends and the technological advancements driving those trends?



Ask Gemini to put the results in a timeline, showing which breakthroughs led to the current trends.

Great for

Brainstorming a research topic, developing a thesis statement, or building a class presentation.





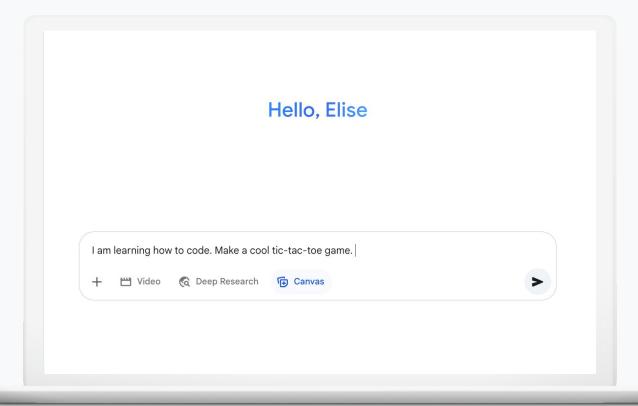
Canvas

Transform text into apps, games, web pages, and more

Transform your prompts into an editable canvas for outlining essays, creating study guides, or quickly building prototypes for your project – and evolve your thinking visually in real time. Your content instantly updates and you get Al-powered suggestions to consider. When you're ready, just click "Export to Docs" to continue working.

Use Canvas to:

- Learn to code, including planning and visualizing code design and algorithms, and debug errors to bring your ideas to life.
- Draft editable documents or study guides in real time.
- Edit copy tone, length, formatting, and content.
- Export to Docs, then copy, or present what you've built instantly.





Generating and explaining code

Prompt

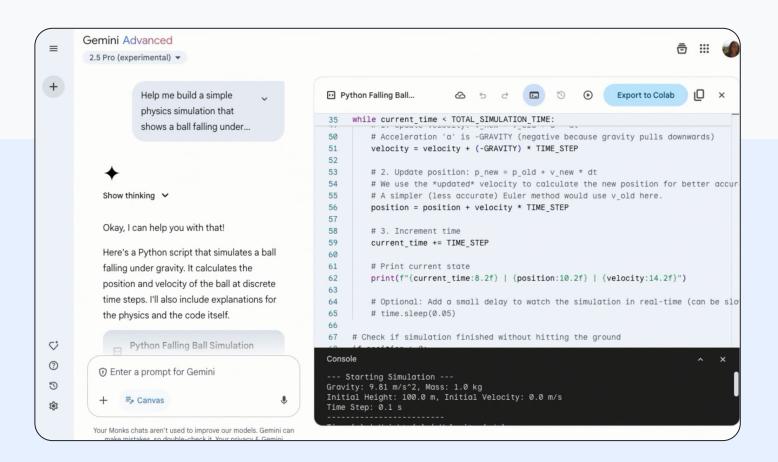
Help me build a simple physics simulation that shows a ball falling under gravity. Use Python and show how to adjust gravity, time, and object mass. Explain what each part of the code does.



Try adjusting variables like mass or time and ask Gemini to visualize how it affects the simulation. Ask for step-by-step explanations or request extensions, like adding horizontal motion or air resistance.

6 Great for

- STEM project-based learning
- Building conceptual understanding of physics through code
- Learning how to modify and explain real-world simulations

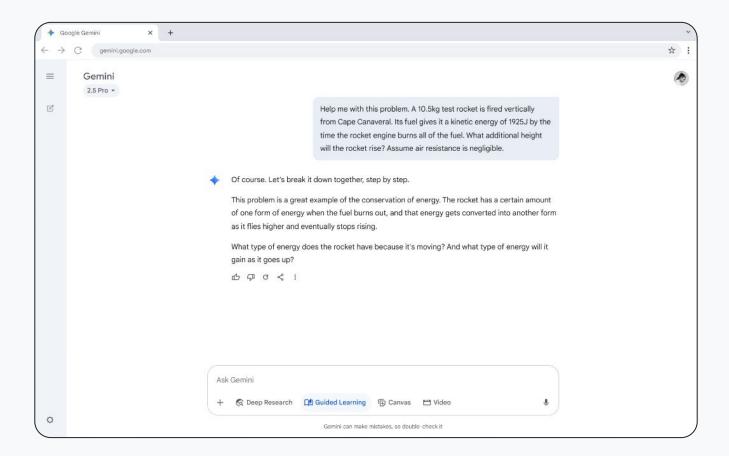




Guided Learning

Guided Learning provides a new way to learn and study in Gemini that helps you build a deep understanding instead of just getting answers. In this new mode, Gemini will guide you and adapt explanations to your needs, helping you uncover the "how" and "why" behind concepts.

When you're curious about a topic, you'll get rich, multimodal responses— images, videos, or quizzes—showing you what's most helpful to build and test your knowledge. Plus, Guided Learning will continue to help you build on what you learn by being a thinking partner checking your understanding with open-ended questions, inviting you to dive deeper into the discussion and truly master the material.





Gems

Custom AI experts for any topic

Customize a Gem with your instructions and achieve better outcomes with less prompting.

Build your own expert

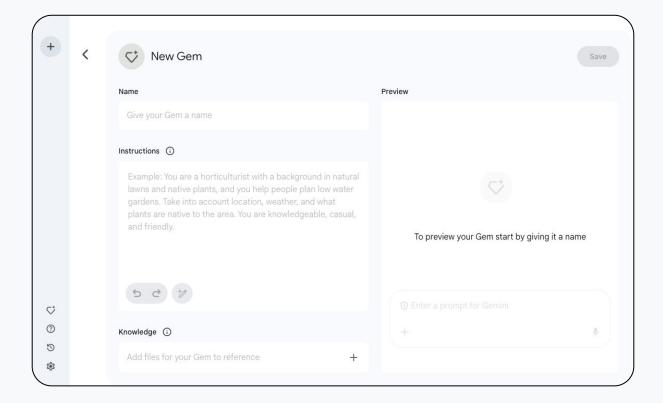
Create a customized Gemini with specific instructions to specialize in a topic or follow your precise guidelines.

Set it up once and use it repeatedly

Define its persona, rules, and purpose one time for more focused and tailored results.

Explore pre-made Gems

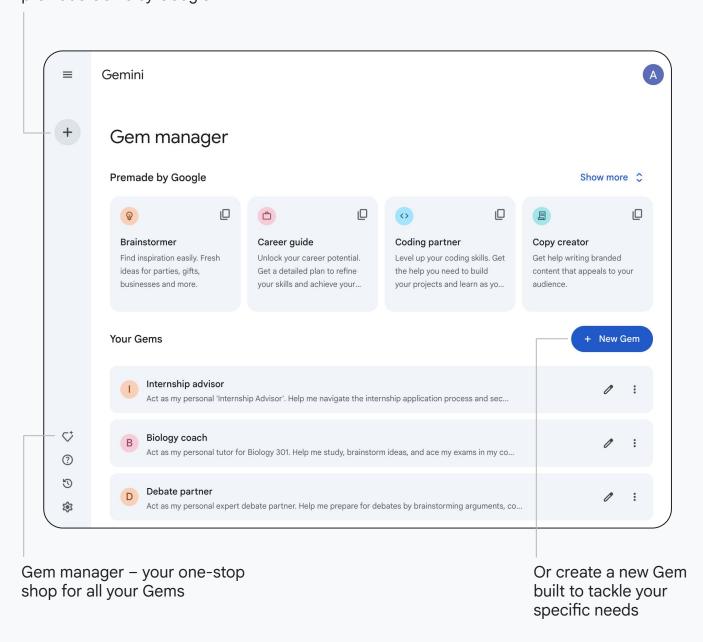
Jump right in with Google's pre-made Gems like Learning Coach, Career Guide, or Brainstormer.





Start with premade Gems

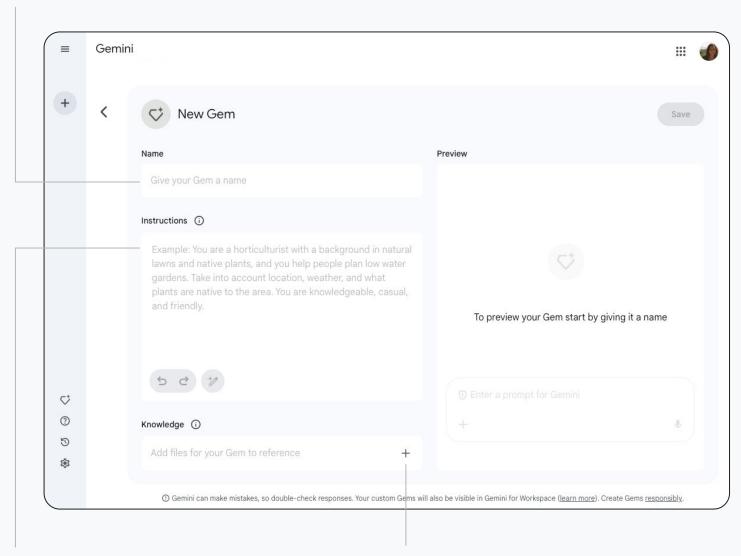
Get started easily with premade Gems by Google





Create your own Gem

Give your new, personalized Gem a name



Provide detailed instructions to make your Gem work for you

Optional: Upload files to give more context and get more helpful responses



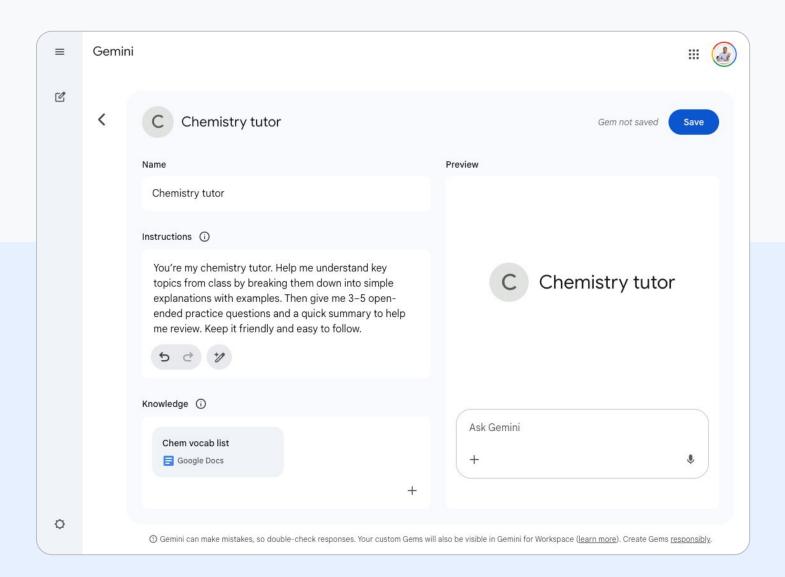
Personalizing your learning

Prompt

You're my chemistry tutor. Help me understand key topics from class by breaking them down into simple explanations with examples. Then give me 3–5 open-ended practice questions and a quick summary to help me review. Keep it friendly and easy to follow.

😽 Add files for your Gem to reference

- Class syllabus or unit overview with objectives
- · Vocabulary list or glossary from class
- Study guide, review packet, or lab instructions
- Notes from class or homework summaries
- Previous quiz or test





Clarifying a core concept

Prompt

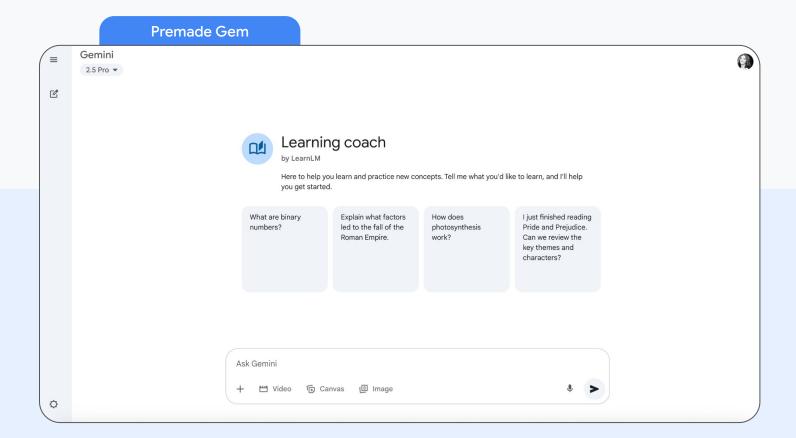
I'm trying to really get my head around the concept of a derivative in calculus. Can you break it down for me in a clear way, maybe using a real-world analogy, and then create a few practice problems that test my understanding of the core idea, not just memorizing formulas?



Mention what you've already learned or where you're stuck so the Learning coach can tailor its explanation even better.

♣ Great for

Grasping fundamental principles in math and science, building conceptual understanding beyond rote memorization, and practicing targeted problems.



Google grow.google/students



Preparing for an interview

Prompt

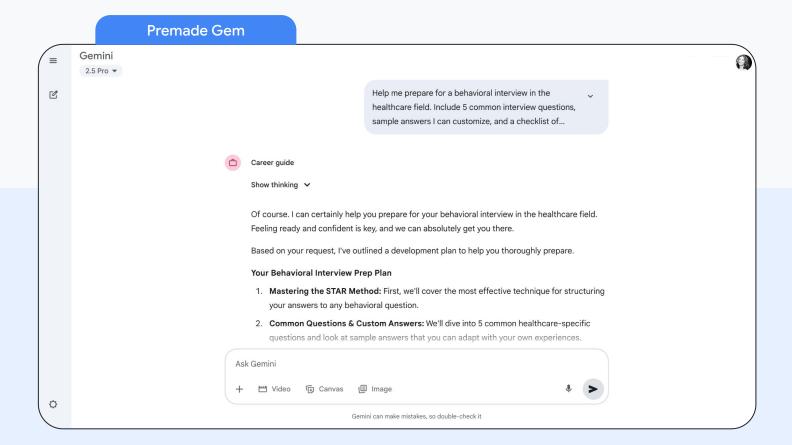
Help me prepare for a behavioral interview in the healthcare field. Include 5 common interview questions, sample answers I can customize, and a checklist of things I can do to build confidence. Add 2 reflection prompts I can use to evaluate how I did after mock interviews.



Ask Gemini to adjust the sample responses for different industries (like tech, education, or business), or make it more conversational or formal based on the job type.

d Great for

Building interview confidence, practicing soft skills, and preparing for real opportunities.





Gemini Live

Talk it out Live with Gemini

Brainstorm ideas, simplify complex topics, and rehearse for important moments with real-time responses. Just click on the Gemini Live button in your Gemini app. It's like having an always-available sidekick in your pocket to talk to, whenever inspiration or curiosity strikes.

Chat naturally

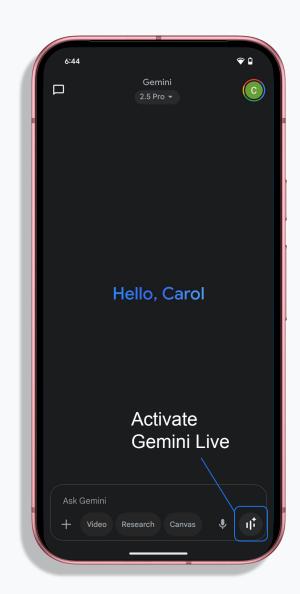
Use Gemini Live to brainstorm out loud. Gemini adapts to your conversational style so you can change your mind mid-sentence, ask follow-up questions, and multi-task with ease. Need to interrupt or want to change the subject? Gemini Live can easily pivot in whatever direction you want to take the conversation.

Spark your curiosity

Unlock instant learning whenever inspiration strikeswhether you're practicing your French or looking for advice while shopping. Refine your skills, explore new topics, and collaborate on ideas with a little help from Gemini. Experience the convenience of having an helpful guide and creative partner at your fingertips.

Talk beyond text

Bring context to your conversations. Share what you're seeing or watching, and Gemini will provide tailored assistance and insights. From understanding photos you've taken, to sharing your camera to get step-by-step guidance, Gemini is ready to dive into what you're seeing, creating richer, more dynamic conversations.





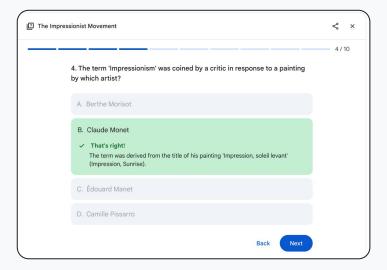
Quizzes

Prepare for exams, or just test your knowledge on a subject you're learning. Gemini will create a practice quiz for you on any subject. You'll get real-time feedback on your answers, and receive a final analysis of your performance so you can see your strengths and your growth areas.

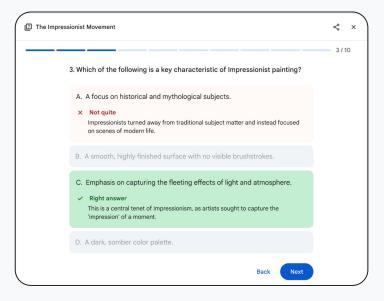
Step 1: Create a custom quiz from your class notes or any topic.



Step 2: Gemini will generate questions for your quiz.

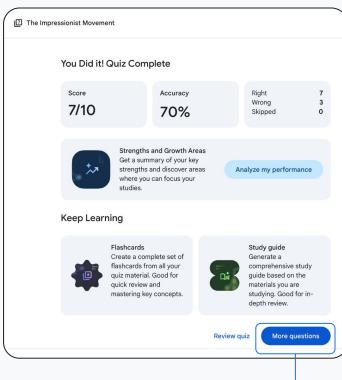


Step 3: You'll get feedback along the way on your answers.



Step 4: After you complete your quiz you can take a deeper look at your performance and keep going!

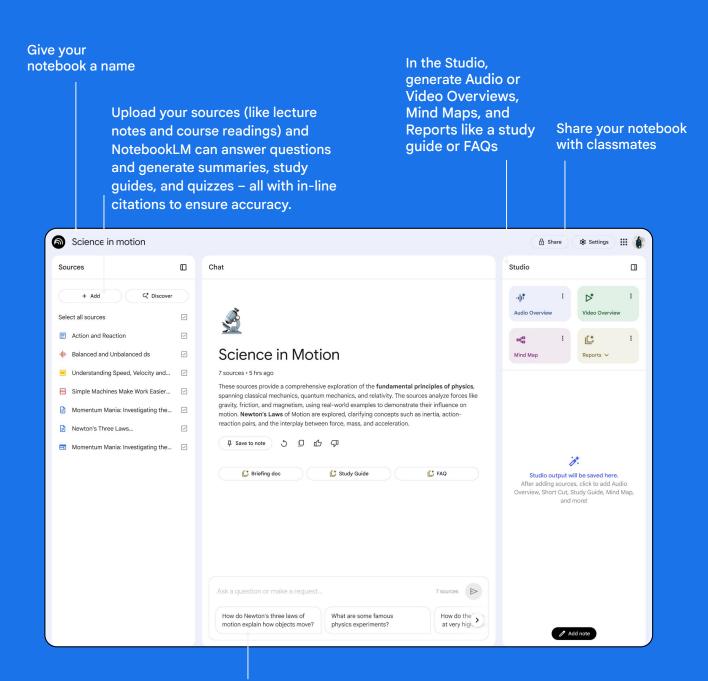
Generate flashcards or a study guide. Or, Gemini can create a new set of questions for you that you can customize.





NotebookLM

Understand anything with NotebookLM



When you ask NotebookLM questions or ask it to generate content, it only uses information from sources you provide. Think of it as an expert on your specific documents.



Simplifying a difficult subject

Prompt

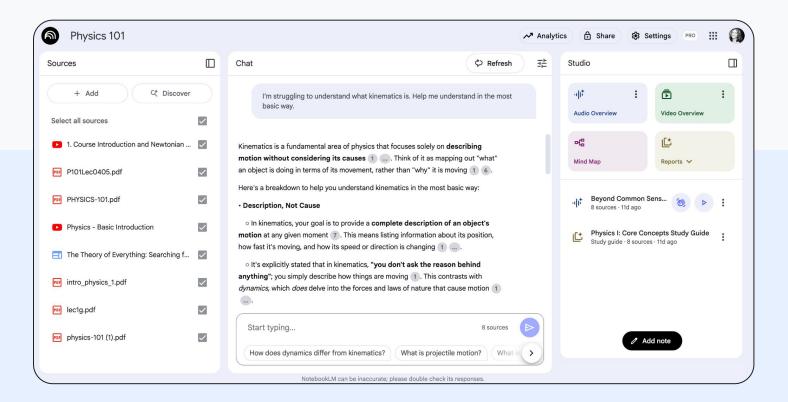
I'm struggling to understand what kinematics is. Help me understand in the most basic way.



After reviewing the explanation, click "Save to note" to keep this information handy, then select your kinematics sources and click "Study guide" in the Notes panel to generate a full review with a quiz, essay questions, and a glossary of key terms.

Great for

Breaking down tough topics, reviewing foundational concepts, and creating personalized study materials.





NotebookLM Feature:



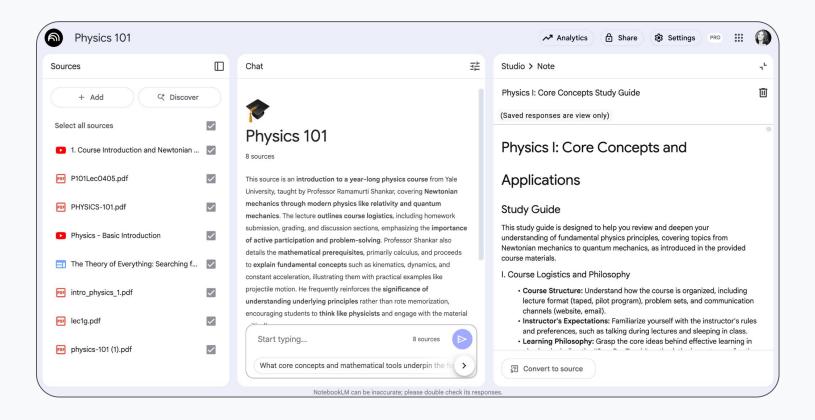
Quickly generate a study guide

NotebookLM helps you organize your notes, class materials, or uploaded resources into a structured study guide, instantly. Everything you need to review is grouped in one place.

Click 'Study guide' in the Notes panel to generate a study guide that includes:

- Quiz questions with answer keys
- Practice essay prompts
- A glossary of key terms

Use it to review before a quiz, prep for a big test, or reflect on what you've learned, at your pace.



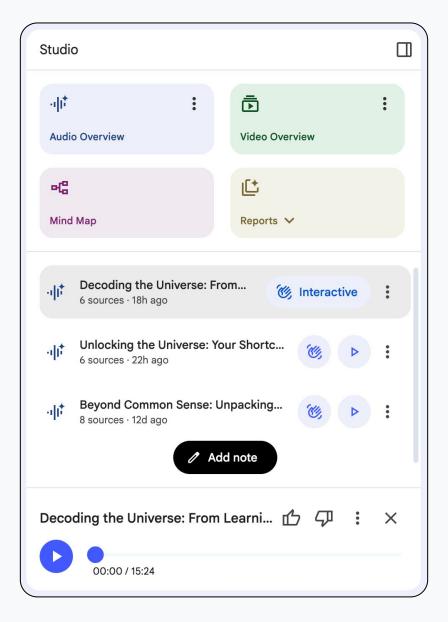




Learn on the go with Audio Overviews

Audio overviews turn your sources into a podcast-style summary, voiced by two Al hosts. It's a fast way to absorb your materials, and it's perfect for auditory learning.

With just one click, NotebookLM summarizes your notes, documents, research, articles, website links, or videos into a conversational audio file. And with the Customize feature, you can guide the hosts to focus on what's most important to you.





Getting the most out of NotebookLM



Upload quality sources

Your outlines, notes, links to quality websites, and key readings.



Be specific

Ask clear, targeted questions.



Explore generated content

Use the buttons for study guides, timelines, mind maps, audio overviews, and FAQs.



Check citations

View which sources NotebookLM used for its answer.



Click "Save to note"

Save key insights, draft outlines, and add your own thoughts.



Iterate

Rephrase questions if you don't get the answer you need the first time around.

Google

grow.google/students