

BOBBOLOGY · LECTURE 1



# Introduction to Bobbology

*A field guide to working with AI:  
Bobbles · Ekos · Vessels · Daemons*

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# What This Guide Is

*How to use AI well, written for people who use it.*

# A clear picture of what AI is doing

- This guide explains how to use AI tools well — for school, work, or anything that matters.
- After reading it, you will know what AI can do, what it cannot do, and what your job is when you use it.
- Four made-up words: Bobble, Eko, Vessel, Daemon. Plain English: person, AI, app, tool.
- The fancy words each name one specific thing — that lets the rest of the guide stay short.

# The Four Parts

*Four different things are at work when you use AI.  
Most mistakes come from mixing them up.*

# Bobble · Eko · Vessel · Daemon

<b>Bobble</b>	<i>person</i>	You. The one doing the work and making the call. The only one who gets credit or blame for what comes out.
<b>Eko</b>	<i>AI</i>	The AI itself. ChatGPT, Claude, and Gemini are all Ekos. Writes words by guessing the next word. Fast. Not actually thinking.
<b>Vessel</b>	<i>app</i>	The app you open to use the AI. chatgpt.com is a Vessel. The Claude desktop app is one. Cursor is one. Each Vessel decides what the AI can see and touch.
<b>Daemon</b>	<i>tool</i>	A specific tool the AI can use — sending an email, saving a file, searching Google, running code. Daemons are what turn words into real actions.

# Why four words, not one

- People say "the AI did X." Usually one specific part did X — and naming which one tells you where to fix it.
- The Eko (AI) wrote a wrong answer? → Better prompt, or a different model.
- The Vessel (app) wouldn't let it see your file? → Switch apps, or grant access.
- The Daemon (tool) sent a message you didn't want sent? → Take that tool away, or put a person in front of it.
- Same problem, three different fixes. The four words let you point at the actual cause.

# How an Eko Actually Works

*Why a confident-sounding answer isn't the same as a correct one.*

# It guesses the next word

- An Eko reads what you typed, then guesses the next word. Then the next. Then the next. That is the whole trick.
- It is very good at the trick. It is not thinking the way a person thinks. It has no goals.
- It does not know which of its answers are right and which are wrong.
- It sounds the same when it is right and when it is wrong.

*"A clear question gets a clear answer. A vague question gets a confident-sounding answer that may be wrong."*

# A real example: the lawyer who didn't check

In June 2023, two New York lawyers filed a legal brief in federal court. **ChatGPT wrote it.** The brief cited six previous court cases as evidence.

**None of the six cases existed.** ChatGPT had invented them — names, citations, quotes, all of it — and reported them in the same calm tone it would have used for a real case.

The lawyers were fined \$5,000 each. *The AI was not fined anything, because there is no one to fine.*

*"The Eko is not lying. It does not know the difference."*

# Be specific. The AI cannot read your mind.

## VAGUE

*"Write something about World War II."*

→ You get a generic paragraph that could be from any textbook.

## SPECIFIC

*"Write three to four sentences explaining why the U.S. entered World War II, mentioning the Pearl Harbor attack on December 7, 1941."*

→ You get something you can actually use.

*"Rule one: be specific before you ask."*

# How Memory Works

*The AI forgets. Something else is doing the remembering.*

# Every chat starts blank

- Most Ekos forget everything the moment you close the chat window.
- Open a new chat with the same AI tomorrow and it knows nothing about today's chat.
- If an Eko seems to remember you between chats, something else is doing the remembering — usually a "memory" feature in the app that writes notes in the background.
- ChatGPT has one. Some apps don't. Either way, the Eko itself has no memory.

*"The notes are the memory. The Eko is just the voice reading them."*

# What to do about it

- If you want the AI to remember a project, save the important parts yourself in a file you keep. Paste them in when you start a new chat.
- Do not assume yesterday's chat carries over. Re-state the situation each time. Tell the AI what it needs to know up front.
- If an app offers to "remember" something, check what it actually wrote down. Those notes are now your file — you can edit them, delete them, or correct them.
- Continuity is your job, not the AI's.

# The Decision Gate

*The most important rule in the guide. Read it twice.*

# The rule

**For anything that cannot be undone,  
a person — not the AI — does the last step.**

*Only a person can take responsibility. The AI cannot apologize and mean it. Cannot be sued. Cannot lose its job or its grade.*

# Things you cannot undo

## **Sending**

Once an email is sent, it is sent. Once a Slack message is posted, your coworkers have seen it.

*AI drafts. You press Send.*

## **Spending**

Once money leaves your account, it is gone.

*AI compares prices. You click Buy.*

## **Deleting**

Once a file is deleted, it may be gone for good. Same for a database row.

*AI marks for review. You press Delete.*

## **Promising**

Once you tell someone you will be at the 3 p.m. meeting, you have to be there.

*AI drafts the reply. You say yes.*

## **Naming**

Once you call a coworker, an idea, or a company by a name in public, other people remember.

*AI suggests words. You choose them.*

# The workflow

- 1. The AI prepares.**  
Drafts, summarizes, gathers information, suggests options.
- 2. You check the work.**  
Read it. Spot mistakes. Ask for changes.
- 3. You commit.**  
Only the person clicks Send, Pay, Delete, Submit, Post.

*"Set up the gates BEFORE you start. Don't let the AI walk through any open door."*

# The Four Lines

*The whole guide, in four sentences.*

LECTURE 1 · THE FOUR LINES

*The AI is useful, but it is not in charge.*

*Memory belongs to you, not to the AI.*

*The final click is yours.*

*The clearer you are, the better the AI works.*

*Bobble accordingly.*