

What Is AI?

Sort everyday technology, bust common myths and explain in your own words what artificial intelligence is.

Name _____ Date _____ Class _____

Learning objective: I can explain what AI is and spot where it is used.

✓ I can say whether something uses AI ✓ I can spot myths about AI ✓ I can explain how AI learns

Artificial intelligence (AI) is when a computer has been trained on lots of examples so it can spot patterns and make predictions or decisions. An ordinary program just follows fixed rules written by a person.

1 AI or not? Circle the best answer for each.

- 1 A digital clock that shows the time
☐ (A) uses AI ☐ (B) does not use AI
- 2 A phone that unlocks when it recognises your face
☐ (A) uses AI ☐ (B) does not use AI
- 3 An app that turns your speech into text
☐ (A) uses AI ☐ (B) does not use AI
- 4 A kettle that switches off when the water boils
☐ (A) uses AI ☐ (B) does not use AI
- 5 A music app that builds a playlist based on songs you like
☐ (A) uses AI ☐ (B) does not use AI
- 6 A ruler
☐ (A) uses AI ☐ (B) does not use AI
- 7 An email service that moves junk mail to a spam folder
☐ (A) uses AI ☐ (B) does not use AI

2 Myth or fact? Circle T if it is a fact or F if it is a myth.

	TRUE	FALSE
1 AI can make mistakes.	☐	☐
2 AI understands and feels things exactly like a human.	☐	☐
3 AI learns from data (lots of examples).	☐	☐
4 If an AI says something confidently, it must be true.	☐	☐
5 People design, build and train AI systems.	☐	☐

What Is AI?

3 Explain it

1 In your own words, what is AI? [2 marks]

2 How is a calculator different from an AI chatbot? [2 marks]

3 Give one way AI helps people and one thing we should be careful about. [2 marks]

4 How does an AI learn to spot cats?

Number the steps in order.

☐

A The AI is tested on photos it has never seen.

☐

B The computer looks for patterns in the labelled photos.

☐

C Each photo is labelled 'cat' or 'not cat'.

☐

D People collect thousands of photos.

☐

E If it makes mistakes, it is given more examples and trained again.

Answer Key

What Is AI?

Question	Answers
1 AI or not?	1 B (does not use AI) – it simply counts seconds using fixed rules; 2 A (uses AI) – face recognition is trained on many images; 3 A (uses AI) – speech recognition is a form of AI; 4 B (does not use AI) – a simple temperature switch – no learning; 5 A (uses AI) – recommendation systems spot patterns in what you listen to; 6 B (does not use AI) – it is not a computer at all; 7 A (uses AI) – spam filters are trained on millions of examples
2 Myth or fact?	1 True ; 2 False – AI finds patterns in data; it does not have feelings; 3 True ; 4 False – AI can sound confident and still be wrong, so always check; 5 True
3 Explain it	- e.g. A computer system that learns from lots of examples so it can spot patterns and make predictions or decisions. - A calculator follows fixed rules and always gives the same answer; a chatbot was trained on lots of text and predicts a likely reply, so it can be wrong. - Helps: e.g. translating languages, helping doctors spot illnesses in scans. Careful: e.g. it can be wrong or biased; protect personal information.
4 How does an AI learn to spot cats?	Correct order: D, C, B, A, E People collect thousands of photos. → Each photo is labelled ‘cat’ or ‘not cat’. → The computer looks for patterns in the labelled photos. → The AI is tested on photos it has never seen. → If it makes mistakes, it is given more examples and trained again.

Teaching note: AI is described in a simple, age-appropriate way: systems trained on data to recognise patterns.