

## Ethics of AI Activity

**Essential Question:** How are AI technologies both potentially improving and challenging to human lives?

**Directions:**

- In groups, discuss the different scenarios where AI is used.
- Use the scale below to rate them from unethical to ethical. You may need some more knowledge about these scenarios before deciding.
- Cut out each scenario and place it under the scale rating where your group decided it fits.
- Then answer the discussion questions with your class.

**Scale:**

Unethical or Risky	Neutral or Questionable	Highly Ethical and Beneficial
This AI use poses ethical issues or risks harm to individuals or groups. It could perpetuate biases, invade privacy, or create societal disadvantages.	This AI use has both benefits and drawbacks. It may improve efficiency or convenience but could also have unintended negative consequences.	This AI use represents a positive, innovative, and responsible application. The purpose is clear, transparent, and equitable.

**Scenarios:**

<p>AI for Healthcare Diagnostics</p> <p>AI systems are used to analyze medical images (e.g., X-rays, MRIs) to assist doctors in diagnosing diseases like cancer more accurately and quickly, improving patient outcomes. Health care algorithms also demonstrate significant bias against Black patients.</p>
<p>AI for Disaster Response</p> <p>AI-powered drones and robots are deployed in disaster zones to locate survivors, assess damage, and deliver supplies, reducing risk to human responders.</p>

### AI for Current Events

A blogger uses AI to generate articles on trending topics they don't fully understand. The AI creates attention-grabbing and sensationalized headlines and content that drives traffic to their site, earning revenue from ads.

### AI for Environmental Conservation

AI is used to monitor deforestation, track wildlife populations, and predict climate change impacts, aiding in the protection of ecosystems.

### AI for Accessibility Tools

AI-powered tools like speech-to-text, text-to-speech applications, and captioning help individuals with disabilities communicate more effectively and access information.

### AI in Surveillance

Governments or corporations use AI to mass-monitor citizens through facial recognition and data tracking. Facial recognition software misidentifies Black individuals at much higher rates, leading to wrongful arrest cases.

### AI as Deep Fake

AI-generated deep fake videos or audio are used to spread false information, manipulate public opinion, or defame individuals.

### AI in Hiring

AI recruitment tools are trained on biased data, leading to discriminatory hiring practices that favor or exclude certain demographics. Algorithms used in hiring process have demonstrated bias against women and those with disabilities

### AI in Self Driving Cars

AI is used in autonomous vehicles so drivers don't have to control the car. In emergencies, the AI decides what it thinks is the best course of action.

### Using AI when Traveling

Someone travels to another country where they do not speak the language. Using AI, they translate street signs and conversations to those around them.

### AI in Advertising

AI algorithms on platforms like TikTok or Instagram push are to used target specific audiences, persuading people to follow their message, or buy their product or service

### AI as Homework Helpers

AI-powered apps like tutoring bots help students understand difficult concepts in math, science, or languages, providing personalized explanations and practice problems

### AI in Creative Work

AI tools like music generators or art assistants help students explore their

creativity by suggesting ideas, melodies, or designs for school projects.

### AI for Healthy Habits

AI apps track students' physical activity, sleep, and nutrition, offering tips to help them stay healthy and balanced during busy school weeks

### AI for School Safety

AI systems analyze security camera footage to detect unusual behavior (e.g., someone entering a restricted area) and alert school staff to keep students safe.

### AI in Gaming

AI in video games learns how to keep players engaged for hours.

### AI for Recommendations

Schools use AI to recommend students for advanced classes or scholarships, but the AI is biased and overlooks students from certain backgrounds or with unconventional talents

### AI for Writing

AI can write your essay for History class for you.

### AI for Mental Health Support

AI chatbots can offer students a safe space to talk about their feelings and provide coping strategies for stress or anxiety, especially when they're hesitant to talk to an adult.

#### AI in Sports

AI analyzes athletes' movements during practice (e.g., shooting a basketball or swimming) and gives tips to improve their technique and performance.

#### AI on Social Media

Creates fake trends or challenges that pressure students into doing something risky or embarrassing to "fit in."

#### AI in Art

An AI model is trained on the work of renowned artists whose pieces sell for millions. It then creates new images inspired by those works, sold for profit by the owners of the model.

#### AI for Law Enforcement

A city implements AI analysis into their public safety department. It analyzes the city and predicts areas where crimes are more likely to happen.

#### Environmental Impact of AI

Massive amounts of energy is needed to power AI. These large corporations impact carbon emissions, contributing to climate change.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What made some scenarios more challenging to classify? Were there any scenarios where your group debated between two categories? Why?
2. What guidelines or principles could help determine whether an AI application is ethical? If we were to create a "code of ethics" for AI, what might it include based on today's activity?
3. Were there any scenarios where your reasoning differed from other groups? How might different perspectives (like job roles or personal experiences) have influenced these differences?
4. How does the constant monitoring of people affect the way we think, speak and behave?