Tanimawo AI Academy

BEGINNER

AI Glossary for Beginners

40 AI words explained in plain language

Free guide

About 10 minutes to read

tanimawoai.com

Free AI training every Sunday
with Dr. Daniel Tanimawo

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A to Z of AI words

Word	What it means
AI (Artificial Intelligence)	Software that does tasks that usually need human intelligence
Agent	An AI that can take actions for you, like searching or booking, not just answer
Algorithm	A set of step-by-step instructions a computer follows
API	A way for one program to talk to another, for example an app asking an AI for an answer
Bias	When AI treats some groups unfairly because of patterns in its training data
Chatbot	An AI you talk to by typing or speaking, like ChatGPT
Context	The background information you give the AI so it understands your situation
Context window	How much text the AI can “remember” in one conversation
Dataset	A large collection of examples used to train AI
Deepfake	A fake photo, video or voice made with AI to look real
Deep learning	A type of machine learning that uses many-layered neural networks
Fine-tuning	Extra training that teaches a model a specific style or task
Generative AI	AI that creates new text, images, audio, video or code
GPT	“Generative Pre-trained Transformer”: the type of model behind ChatGPT
Hallucination	When AI confidently makes up something false
Image generator	AI that creates pictures from a text description
Inference	When a trained model produces an answer
LLM (Large Language Model)	An AI trained on huge amounts of text to understand and write language
Machine learning	Computers learning patterns from examples instead of fixed rules
Model	The trained AI “brain” that produces answers
Multimodal	AI that understands more than text: images, audio or video too
Neural network	A computer system loosely inspired by the brain, made of connected “neurons”

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Word	What it means
Open source	Software whose code anyone can see, use and change
Output	What the AI gives back to you
Parameters	The internal numbers a model learned during training
Prompt	What you type or say to the AI
Prompt engineering	The skill of writing prompts that get great results
RAG	“Retrieval-augmented generation”: the AI looks up documents before answering
Robotics	Machines that move and act in the physical world, sometimes using AI
Speech-to-text	AI that turns spoken words into written text
Text-to-speech	AI that reads text out loud in a natural voice
Token	A small piece of text (part of a word) that AI reads and writes
Training	Teaching an AI model by showing it many examples
Training data	The examples a model learned from
Transformer	The design behind most modern language models
Turing test	An old test of whether a machine can pass as human in conversation
Upscaling	Using AI to make an image sharper and bigger
Voice clone	An AI copy of a real person’s voice
Watermark	A hidden or visible mark showing content was made by AI
Zero-shot	Asking AI to do a task without giving it any examples first

> **Tip:** if you meet a new AI word, ask a chatbot: “Explain [word] like I am 12, with an everyday example.”

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