Tanimawo AI Academy

BEGINNER

Getting Started with AI Chatbots

Set up a free chatbot and have your first useful conversation

Free guide

About 12 minutes to read

tanimawoai.com

Free AI training every Sunday
with Dr. Daniel Tanimawo

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What you need

- A smartphone or computer with internet
- An email address or Google account (most tools let you sign in with Google)
- 10 minutes

Most AI chatbots have a **free version** that is more than enough to start. You never need a credit card to begin.

Popular free chatbots

Chatbot	Made by	Good to know
ChatGPT	OpenAI	The most widely used; app and website
Gemini	Google	Works well with Google account and apps
Claude	Anthropic	Strong at writing and long documents
Microsoft Copilot	Microsoft	Built into Bing, Edge and Windows

You only need **one** to start. The skills you learn work in all of them.

Set up in 4 steps

1. Download the official app from the Play Store or App Store, or visit the official website. Check the developer name to avoid fake apps.
2. Sign up with your email or Google account.
3. You will see a message box at the bottom of the screen. This is where you type your **prompt**.
4. Type a question and press send. The answer appears above.

> **Tip:** on a phone, tap the microphone icon to speak instead of typing. Many chatbots understand Nigerian English, Pidgin, Yoruba, Hausa and Igbo reasonably well.

Your first 5 conversations

Copy these into the chatbot one at a time:

TRY THIS PROMPT

Hello! I am new to AI. What are 5 simple things you can help me with in my daily life?

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TRY THIS PROMPT

Write a polite WhatsApp message to my landlord asking for 1 extra week to pay rent.

TRY THIS PROMPT

I have rice, eggs, tomatoes and onions. Suggest 3 meals I can cook today.

TRY THIS PROMPT

Explain what a budget is and help me plan a simple monthly budget for N150,000.

TRY THIS PROMPT

Teach me one new English word every day this week, with an example sentence for each.

How a conversation works

The chatbot remembers what you said **earlier in the same chat**. So you can say:

- "Make it shorter."
- "Write it in a more friendly tone."
- "Translate that into Yoruba."
- "Give me 3 more options."

Start a **new chat** when you change topic. It keeps answers focused.

Free vs paid

Free versions usually limit how many messages you can send with the most powerful model, or switch to a smaller model when you use it a lot. For learning and everyday tasks, **free is enough**. Only pay if you use AI for work every day and keep hitting limits.

Good habits from day one

- [ ] Never paste passwords, PINs, BVN, OTPs or card numbers.
- [ ] Check important facts (health, money, law) with a trusted source.
- [ ] If the answer is not right, tell it exactly what to change.
- [ ] Save great answers by copying them into your notes.

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Keep learning, free

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