

Limitations of DeepL Write and ChatGPT in Scholarly Editing: How human editors overpower AI tools

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Post Url

<https://www.enago.com/academy/limitations-of-deepl-write-chatgpt-editing/>



Complete reliance on AI, such as DeepL Write and ChatGPT, for research and scholarly editing is not feasible or advisable.

When editing your scholarly work, the choice among DeepL Write, ChatGPT, and human editors can greatly impact your academic reputation.

Human Editor Vs ChatGPT Vs DeepL Write: Comparison of different aspects

Human Editor Vs ChatGPT Vs DeepL Write

Criteria	Human Editor	ChatGPT	DeepL Write
Generating Citations	Ensures proper acknowledgment of sources and giving credit where it's due.	May disregard proper citation and referencing.	Generates citations but should be verified for accuracy and adherence to specific style guidelines.
Academic Conventions	Possesses expertise in adhering to discipline-specific requirements.	May ignore academic conventions and conventions.	Sometimes overlooks the importance of academic conventions.
Academic Integrity	Enhances academic integrity by ensuring adherence to academic conventions.	Causes potential risk to academic integrity due to lack of adherence to academic conventions.	Disregard for academic conventions may pose a risk to academic integrity and harm reputation.
Knowledge Cut-off	Stays updated with the latest research and cutting-edge insights.	Is limited to knowledge available till September 2021.	Uses the latest version of DeepL's neural network, which is updated regularly with new information.
Content Sources	Provides depth and nuance by drawing from a wide range of authoritative sources.	Summarizes openly accessible internet information.	Uses a combination of internet text, publicly available datasets, and internal data.
Comprehension	Understands distinctive styles, tones, and fundamental principles of various fields.	May lack nuanced understanding of discipline-specific requirements.	May not be able to apply its knowledge and skills in a way that is appropriate for a particular discipline.
Author's Intentions	Preserves personal voice and efficiently infuse work with individuality and intellectual identity.	May struggle to comprehend the underlying meaning and intentions of an author's work.	May not be able to follow the author's argument or line of reasoning.
Reliability	Has proven reliability through experiences of scholarly writers.	May have limitations and inaccuracies.	Has limitations observed by many scholarly writers.

Why You Cannot Rely on DeepL Write and ChatGPT for Academic Editing

AI technologies may have made significant advancements in natural language processing (NLP) and machine learning (ML), there are several reasons why [relying solely on AI tools](#) like DeepL Write and ChatGPT for these tasks may not be the best approach.

Reasons Why You Cannot Rely on DeepL Write and ChatGPT for Scholarly Editing

1

LACK OF CONTEXTUAL UNDERSTANDING

- They primarily rely on statistical patterns in the training data, which can lead to inaccuracies and misleading information.
- In research and scholarly editing, accuracy and precision are essential, making this limitation particularly critical.

LIMITED DOMAIN KNOWLEDGE

- DeepL Write and ChatGPT do not possess deep understanding of the subject matter, which is essential for research and scholarly editing.
- It is crucial to have human experts who can provide domain-specific knowledge and insights.

2

3

INCAPABLE OF ETHICAL DECISION-MAKING

- DeepL Write and ChatGPT cannot ensure proper citation practices, avoiding plagiarism, and uphold academic integrity.
- They may not have the ability to assess ethical aspects effectively, leading to inadvertent violations or errors.

NO INTERPRETATION AND JUDGMENT

- DeepL Write and ChatGPT may struggle with nuanced tasks like analyzing the credibility of sources, evaluating the strength of arguments, or making subjective decisions.
- Human editors bring critical thinking skills and the ability to make informed judgments that AI models currently lack.

4

5

INCAPABLE OF LANGUAGE AND STYLE VARIATIONS

- DeepL Write and ChatGPT may struggle with using precise terminology, adhering to specific style guides, and understanding subtle linguistic nuances of scholarly writing.
- Human editors can handle these aspects with proficiency.

NO FEEDBACK AND ITERATIVE PROCESS

- These models can provide initial suggestions but may not respond dynamically to evolving needs and feedback and revision.
- Human editors can clarify ambiguous points and refine the work over multiple iterations.

6

7

LACKS CONNECTION AND ENGAGEMENT

- DeepL Write and ChatGPT lack the ability to provide the same level of engagement and personal touch that human interaction brings.
- They cannot indulge in collaborative interactions between authors and editors to foster deeper understanding, knowledge sharing, and meaningful discussions.

While these technologies have demonstrated remarkable capabilities in natural language processing, they have notable [limitations in research and scholarly editing](#).

DeepL Write and ChatGPT can support several tasks by providing initial suggestions and automating certain processes; however, [human editors remain indispensable](#) for ensuring accuracy, critical thinking, ethical standards, and meaningful engagement.

Examples and Error Explanations of DeepL Write Vs ChatGPT Vs Human Editing

Example 1

Original Text

In current study we have single stock whose price observe a switching geometric Brownian motion. Also, the stock pay no dividends.

Edited by DeepL Write

In the current study, we have a single stock whose price observes a switching geometric Brownian motion. Also, the stock does not pay dividends.

Edited by ChatGPT



In the current study, we have a single stock whose price follows a switching geometric Brownian motion. Additionally, the stock pays no dividends.

Edited by a Human (Enago Editor)

~~In current~~ This study ~~we have~~ examines a no-dividend ~~single~~ stock whose prices ~~observe a~~ exhibit regime- switching geometric Brownian motion. ~~Also, the stock pay no dividends -~~

Error Explanation

The human editor combined the two sentences with the use of technical jargon. In contrast, the ChatGPT & DeepL Write sentences could not revise “stock pays no dividend” and “switching geometric Brownian motion” to “no-dividend stock” and “regime-switching geometric Brownian motion”, respectively.

Example 2

Original Text

Gothic art, as previously mentioned, led to the Renaissance Art. It started with the Italian Renaissance, and continued to go to all the lower countries in the form of Northern Renaissance.

Edited by DeepL Write

Gothic art, as mentioned earlier, led to Renaissance art. It began with the Italian Renaissance and continued in all the lower countries in the form of the Northern Renaissance.

Edited by ChatGPT



As previously mentioned, Gothic art paved the way for Renaissance art. It began with the Italian Renaissance and spread to the Low Countries in the form of the Northern Renaissance.

Edited by a Human (Enago Editor)

~~Gothic art, as~~ As previously mentioned, Gothic art led to ~~the~~ Renaissance ~~Art~~ art. ~~It~~ The Renaissance started began ~~with the~~ in ~~Italian~~ Italy Renaissance, ~~and~~ before ~~continued to go~~ expanding ~~to all the lower~~ countries throughout the Low Countries in the form of the Northern Renaissance.

Error Explanation

In the second sentence, the author is referring to Renaissance and not Renaissance art; Renaissance began in Italy before it spread to the Low Countries. This was not fixed by both ChatGPT & DeepL Write.

Example 3

Original Text

Blood samples were obtained at 5th and 7th weeks of treatment for measurement of albumin, creatinine levels along with bilateral necrotomy performed on the end of the study.

Edited by DeepL Write

Blood samples were collected at the 5th and 7th week of treatment for measurement of albumin and creatinine levels, and bilateral necropsy was performed at the end of the study.

Edited by ChatGPT

continued for 2 weeks, and the study ended. Blood samples were obtained at the 5th and 7th weeks of treatment for the measurement of albumin and creatinine levels. **Bilateral necrotomy** was performed at the end of the study.

Edited by a Human (Enago Editor)

Blood samples were obtained at the 5th and 7th weeks of treatment for the measurement of albumin and creatinine levels. At the end of the study, ~~along with~~ bilateral nephrectomy was performed ~~on the end of the study.~~

Error Explanation

The author had incorrectly spelt out nephrectomy as necrotomy and ChatGPT & DeepL Write were unable to catch and fix that even though the entire abstract was given for editing. Further, DeepL Write revised “necrotomy” to “necropsy” which is even worse.

These observations highlight the limitations in the capabilities of ChatGPT & DeepL Write, leading to the inference that these language models have difficulty in accurately editing scholarly work.

Comparative Analysis of Human Editing Vs ChatGPT Vs DeepL Write Editing

Parameters	Human Editor	ChatGPT	DeepL Write
Accuracy	High	Average	Average
Fixes grammatical errors	All	Most	Most
Fixes punctuation & stylistic errors	All	Most	Most
Fixes scientific convention issues	All	Some	None
Changes for clarity	All	Some	Some
Fixes typographical errors	✓	✓	✓
Provides suggestions/explanatory comments	✓	✗	✓
Provides tips for author education	✓	✗	✗
Provides free editing	✗	✓	✓
Identifies content gaps	✓	✗	✗
Fixes formatting	✓	✗	✗

Balancing Human and Artificial Intelligence in Scholarly Editing

Achieving a balance between AI and human involvement in research and scholarly editing is crucial to leverage the strengths of both approaches while mitigating their limitations. Moreover, by combining the capabilities of AI technologies with human expertise, critical thinking, and judgment, it is possible to enhance the quality, efficiency, and effectiveness of these processes.

1. Proofreading and Grammar Checking

- Use AI tools like DeepL Write and ChatGPT to quickly identify and correct errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation of general writing.
- Review and double-check the AI-generated suggestions to ensure accuracy and context appropriateness.
- Furthermore, pay attention to their recommendations for sentence structure and clarity, as they could change the author’s voice and messaging.

2. Language Translation

- Utilize DeepL Write for [quick translations of research papers](#) or scholarly articles.

- Review and refine the DeepL Write generated translations for accuracy and nuances specific to the target language and subject area.
- Use DeepL Write translation as a starting point, but rely on human editors for final polishing and ensuring the translated text maintains coherence and clarity.

3. Citation Formatting

- Take advantage of these AI tools to automatically format citations.
- Verify the accuracy and completeness of the citations generated with the help of DeepL Write, ChatGPT, or any other [AI tool](#) by cross-referencing them with official style guides or manuals.
- Moreover, familiarize yourself with these tools' formatting capabilities and any specific requirements or limitations it may have for citation formatting.

4. AI-assisted Data Analysis

- Process large datasets and identify patterns, correlations, and trends that may be challenging to detect manually.
- Verify the results and insights through statistical analysis and validation techniques.
- In addition, combine insights by DeepL Write and ChatGPT with human interpretation and expertise to draw meaningful conclusions and make evidence-based decisions.

5. Contextual Understanding and Interpretation

- Collaborate with human experts who possess domain-specific knowledge to ensure accurate interpretation of research findings.
- Also, engage in discussions and seek clarifications from authors or researchers to grasp complex concepts and contextual information.
- Finally, consider historical, cultural, and social contexts while interpreting and evaluating the relevance and integrity of the research.

6. Ethical Considerations and Bias

- Maintain a thorough understanding of ethical guidelines and academic integrity standards to detect and address potential ethical issues.
- Use DeepL and ChatGPT to identify potential instances of plagiarism or improper citation, but rely on human editors to evaluate the context and intent.
- Be vigilant in recognizing and mitigating biases, both in the research content and within the AI tools themselves (*after all, they are all trained on almost the same data!*).

7. Collaboration and Engagement

- Actively engage with authors, researchers, and peers throughout the [editing process](#) to foster collaboration and effective communication.
- Seek constructive feedback and guidance from human editors to enhance your work and consider diverse perspectives.
- Additionally, use collaborative platforms and tools that facilitate real-time communication and document sharing to streamline the editing workflow.

8. Critical Thinking and Creativity

- Emphasize [critical analysis](#) and creative problem-solving during the editing process to generate original ideas and insights.
- Challenge the suggestions given by DeepL Write and ChatGPT, and explore alternative approaches to strengthen arguments and enhance your research's impact.
- Additionally, think critically and contribute your unique perspectives, ensuring that the research goes beyond automated text generation.

By combining the strengths of AI and human editors, we can optimize the quality, integrity, and impact of research and scholarly editing, while ensuring that human expertise and judgment remain at the forefront.

Salient Insight on Human Editing Vs DeepL Write Vs ChatGPT

Finally, although ChatGPT and DeepL Write have made notable advancements in natural language processing, the observations provide strong evidence of their limitations in accurately editing scholarly work. **Furthermore, these tools fail to correct technical jargon, understand context, rectify typos, produce concise and clear sentences, and grasp domain-specific knowledge.**

They may misinterpret or overlook crucial errors, leading to inaccuracies or further mistakes in their generated edits.

On the other hand, human editors proficiently edit and revise scholarly work with their unparalleled expertise, and thus continue to remain indispensable against AI tools like DeepL Write and ChatGPT.

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