The Teen Entrepreneur's Guide to ChatGPT for Beginners

Why Your AI Responses Are Basic (And How to Fix It)



Ever ask ChatGPT for help and get back something that sounds like your most boring teacher wrote it? It's like asking your friend for outfit advice but forgetting to tell them whether you're going to a funeral or a pool party.

The secret sauce to good <u>ChatGPT</u> responses is CONTEXT? <u>Context</u> means giving the background information of the questions you're asking the chatbot. Think of it like this: ChatGPT is like that really smart friend who can help with literally anything, but they have zero memory and know nothing about your life. Every time you talk to them, it's like meeting for the first time. So you gotta give them the tea about who you are, what you're building, and who you're trying to reach.

The Magic Prompt Formula:

ADD INFO ABOUT

Yourself +

Your Business +

Your Customers

TO GET THE BEST RESPONSES

Instead of "Give me a business name" (SOOOOOO basic), try: "I'm 14 years old and make custom phone cases with anime designs for other teens at my school who are obsessed with Demon Slayer and Jujutsu Kaisen. I need a business name that sounds cool but not too extra."

Try this prompt with all the information in it, and you'll see a big difference in the response compared to the basic "give me a phone case business name" prompt.

That extra background information (or context) turns ChatGPT from a random answer generator into your personal business bestie who actually gets your vibe.

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EXAMPLE RESPONSE of DETAILED PROMPT (QUESTION):

Choosing a great business name is a fun part of starting your own business. Since you're targeting other teens who love anime like **Demon Slayer** and **Jujutsu Kaisen**, you'll want a name that sounds cool and creative without being over the top.

Here are a few options, broken down by style, to get you started:

Action-Oriented Names

These names suggest the power and excitement of the anime your customers love.

- Shonen Shells: "Shonen" is a term for a genre of anime and manga aimed at a young male audience, which fits your demographic perfectly.
- Spirit Cases: This name evokes the "spiritual energy" or cursed energy seen in series like Jujutsu Kaisen.
- Final Form Cases: A "final form" is a common concept in many anime, symbolizing a character's ultimate power.

Playful & Modern Names

These names are clever and a bit more subtle, which can feel more current.

- Pixel Pop: This is a playful name that hints at both the digital art aspect of anime and the fun, "popping" designs.
- Glitch & Glam: "Glitch" can sound a little edgy and modern, while "Glam" speaks to the custom, stylish nature of your phone cases.
- Otaku On-Demand: "Otaku" is a Japanese term for people with an obsessive interest in anime and manga. This name tells your customers exactly what you do—you make custom cases for passionate fans.

Direct & Simple Names

These names are easy to remember and clearly state what you do.

- Anime Armor: This name suggests that your cases are both a tribute to anime and a form of
 protection for their phones.
- Case Kaisen: A direct and catchy play on the title of Jujutsu Kaisen.
- Demon-Slayer Devices: This name is a straightforward nod to one of your most popular series.

Remember, the best name for your business is the one you feel most proud of. Think about which one sounds the best when you say it out loud and feels the most like you.

Why This Works (The Real Talk)

When you give an Al background info and context, it's like giving it a cheat code to get the best answers. Here's why it's so important:

1. It Saves You Time

Imagine you're trying to get a cool idea for a science fair project. You could ask, "What are some science projects?" and get a huge, long list that you have to read through. Or, you could say, "I'm a fifth grader, and I want a science fair project about magnets that's easy to do at home and uses stuff from the kitchen." Now, the AI knows exactly what you need and can give you a perfect idea right away.

2. The AI Learns Your Personality

Do you want the AI to sound like a teacher, a funny friend, or a serious news reporter? You can tell it! If you say, "Explain how a volcano works, but make it sound like a video game," the AI will use words like "power-up," "lava boss," or "leveling up."

3. It Understands Who You're Talking To

This one is super useful if you're trying to create something for a specific group of people. Let's say you're making a flyer for a school bake sale. Instead of just asking, "Write a bake sale flyer," you could say, "Write a bake sale flyer for my school's art club. It should be colorful, mention that all the money goes to new paint supplies, and be funny to get other students excited." The AI now understands that the flyer needs to appeal to kids who like art and knows the goal is to raise money for paint.

4. No More Generic Answers

When you add context, you stop getting those "one-size-fits-all" answers. Instead of a generic explanation of a video game, you might get a summary that focuses on the characters you like or the levels you find challenging. So, next time you use an AI, remember to give it all the details you can! IT WILL REMEMBER EVERYTHING YOU'VE TOLD IT IN THAT SPECIFIC CHAT OR CONVERSATION. It's the key to unlocking its full potential and getting a response that's perfect for you.



20+ Prompts That Actually Hit Different

PRO TIPS FOR BETTER PROMPTS

REPLACE WORDS INSIDE [BRACKETS] BEFORE SENDING PROMPT: In the prompts

below, you MUST enter your own information where there are [brackets]. For example, copy and paste this prompt: "I'm starting a [business type] called [name if you have one]" and make it work for you by updating the words inside the brackets like this... "I'm starting

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a t-shirt business called Grafix Tees."

Be Specific About Your Age: Saying "I'm 14" gets you age-appropriate advice instead of suggestions meant for adults with business degrees and trust funds.

Include Your Limitations: No budget? No car? Can only work after school? Tell ChatGPT your real limitations so it doesn't suggest anything unrealistic.

Mention Your Customer & Location Vibe: Urban school?

Small town? Church customers? Suburban? Different environments need different strategies.

Use Follow-Up Questions: Don't settle for the first response. Ask "Can you make that sound more like how teens actually talk?" or "What if I can't use social media?" or "Don't use slang you think teens like."

Get Multiple Options: Always ask for several choices so you can pick what you like and will use.

Starting Strong: Business Foundation PROMPTS

- **1. Business Idea Validator** I'm a teen who wants to start a [your business idea, like a custom sneaker cleaning service]. My target customers are [describe them, like students at my school who wear expensive shoes]. I have [amount] to start with and about [time] hours per week to work on this. Is this idea realistic? What should I watch out for?
- **2. One-Page Business Plan (Keep It 100)** I'm starting a [business type] called [name if you have one]. I'm selling [product/service] to [your people be specific about age, interests, location]. My goal is to make [amount] per month by [when]. Help me write a simple one-page business plan that doesn't sound like a textbook.
- **3. Mission Statement That Slaps** My business is [what you do] for [who]. I want my brand to feel [3 vibes, like "creative, authentic, and fun"]. Write me three short mission statements that sound like something I'd actually say, not something a corporation would put on their website.

Branding That Hits Different PROMPTS

4. Business Names That Don't Suck *I'm starting a [specific business] that [what makes it special]. My customers are [age group and what they're into]. I want a name that's [vibe you want, like "catchy but not cringe"]. Give me 15 options that sound cool when my friends talk about it.*

Examples by business type:

- Clothing Brand: I design streetwear hoodies with positive mental health messages for teens who struggle with anxiety and depression...
- **Jewelry Business**: I make beaded bracelets and necklaces using crystals and charms for spiritual teens who shop at thrift stores...
- **Recording Studio**: I want to offer music recording services for young rappers and singers in my area who can't afford big studios...
- **5. Taglines That Actually Stick** *My business [name] sells [product] to [customers]. I need a tagline that's short enough for an Instagram bio but memorable enough that people would put it on their story. Give me 10 options that sound like something my target customer would actually say.*
- **6. Brand Voice Guide** *I* want my brand to sound [3 personality traits]. Write me a "brand voice guide" that explains how I should talk to customers on social media, in texts, and on flyers. Use examples of what TO say and what NOT to say.
- **7. Logo Ideas (DIY-Friendly)** I need a simple logo for my [business type]. My brand is all about [main theme/value]. Describe five logo concepts I could actually create myself using Canva, including specific shapes, icons, and text styles that would work.
- **8. Color Palette That Speaks** My [business type] is called [business name], has a [describe your vibe] energy, and sells to [describe customer]. What colors would make my brand feel [desired emotion] without looking like every other business? Give me a palette with hex codes and explain why each color works for my audience.

Marketing Without the Cringe PROMPTS

- **9. Content Ideas That Don't Feel Like Ads** *I run a [business type] and my followers are mostly [age/interests]. Give me 10 Instagram post ideas that will show off my business without looking like I'm desperately trying to sell something. Include captions and hashtags that sound like how I actually talk.*
- **10. First Customer Game Plan** *I'm launching my* [product/service] next week, and I know literally nobody. What are 5 realistic ways I can get my first customers without spending money or being annoying? My target customers are [specific description].
- **11. School/Community Event Ideas** *I want to promote my [business] at school and in my community, but most events are boring. Help me brainstorm 3 creative, low-cost event ideas that would actually get people excited about what I'm doing and wouldn't get me in trouble.*

Examples by business:

- Skincare Line: Host a "self-care Sunday" workshop in the library...
- Sports Media: Organize a pickup basketball tournament and livestream it...
- Bible Study: Plan a game night with discussion questions built into the activities...
- **12. Collaboration Pitch** There's this [influencer/creator/student] at my school who [what they do] and has [rough follower count/influence level]. Write me a DM I can send them to collaborate with my brand [name]. Make it sound genuine and not like I'm using them.
- **13. Word-of-Mouth Strategy** How can I get my first customers to actually tell their friends about my [product] without being pushy? Give me 3 specific things I can do or offer that would make people want to share my business naturally.
- **14. Social Media Content Calendar** Create a 2-week content plan for my [business type] Instagram. I can post every other day and want a mix of behind-the-scenes, product pics, and posts people want to share and comment on. Make sure each post has a purpose, hashtags, and sounds like someone my age.

Selling: Prices & Business Stuff PROMPTS

- **15. Pricing That Makes Sense** *I* make [specific product] and it costs me [material cost] per item, plus about [time] to create each one. I'm selling to [customer type with their budget reality]. What should I charge to actually make money but not so much that my customers won't pay?
- **16. Unique Selling Proposition (What Makes You Different)** My business idea is [describe it]. There are probably other people doing similar things. Help me figure out what makes my version special and different. Give me 5 unique selling points that would make someone choose me over competitors.
- **17. Detailed Customer Description** Help me create a detailed profile of my perfect customer. I'm selling [product/service] and I think my customer is [basic description]. Ask me 10 questions that will help me understand them better, then create a detailed customer profile I can use to sell better. Keep in mind, this is my first business, and I am [13] years old.

Problem-Solving & Growth PROMPTS

- **18. Convincing People to Buy** When I tell people about my [business], they usually say [common things people say when they don't believe in you or your product]. How can I push past this concern in a way that doesn't sound immature and actually makes them more interested?
- **19. Growing Your Business Without Losing Your Mind** *My* [business] is starting to get busy, and I'm feeling overwhelmed. I'm making [current money made per week] but working [hours] per week. How can I grow without doing more and getting overworked? Give me specific things I can do every week.
- **20.** Seasonal/Holiday Strategy My [business type] probably sells better during [season/time]. How can I plan my marketing and inventory around these patterns? Also, what can I do during slower periods to keep money coming in?

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Advanced Moves: Next Level Stuff

- **21.** Partnership Opportunities What businesses or organizations in my area might want to partner with my [business type]? Give me 5 specific types of partnerships and how to contact them like a professional business person.
- **22.** Building Your Email List (But Make It Cool) I know I need to collect customer emails, but "sign up for my newsletter" sounds boring. Give me 5 creative free things I could offer that my target customer would actually want in exchange for giving me their email address. Ask me questions if you need more information.
- **23. Crisis Management** If something goes wrong with my business like a bad review, product problems, or basic business drama, how should I handle it? Give me examples for responding to 8 different crisis situations in a way that shows maturity and professionalism.
- **24. Exit Strategy Planning** *I* might not want to run this business forever. What are some ways *I* could eventually stop grinding every day but still make money from what *I* built?

Quick Safety Note 🖤

Remember that AI tools are powerful but not perfect. Never share personal info like your address, phone number, or financial details in your prompts. For more comprehensive guidance on staying safe with AI tools, check out <u>Common Sense Media's AI Safety Guide for Teens</u>.

Your Turn

Pick one prompt from this guide and try it right now.

Copy it, paste it into <u>ChatGPT</u>, <u>Gemini</u>, <u>Claude</u>, whatever Al Chat account you have, then fill in your details inside the [brackets], and see what happens.

Remember: the more specific you are about your situation, the better your results will be.

You've got this. Your business idea deserves prompts that are just as unique and creative as you are. *Now go make ChatGPT work for YOUR success story.*