



Does Generative AI Call for More Oral Exams



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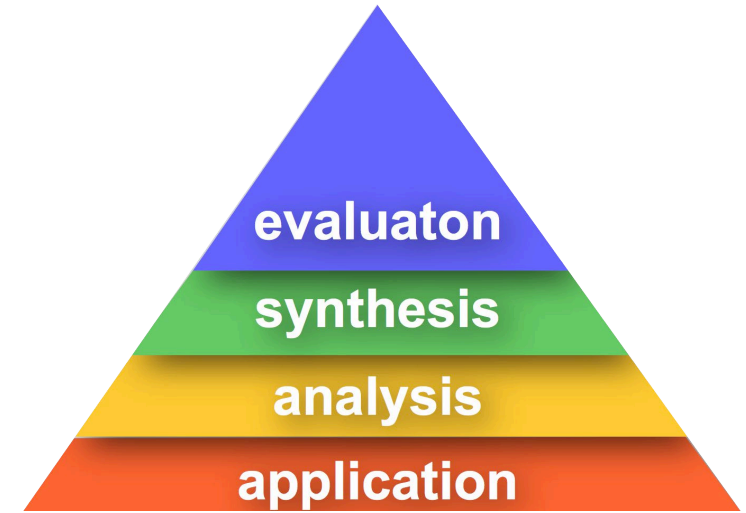
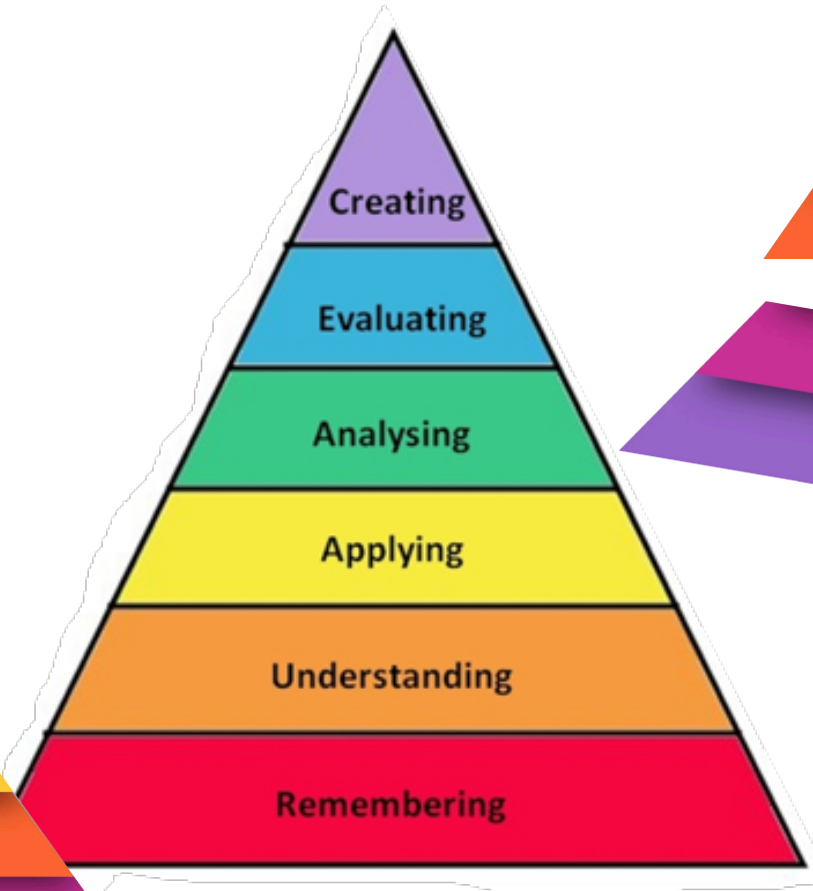
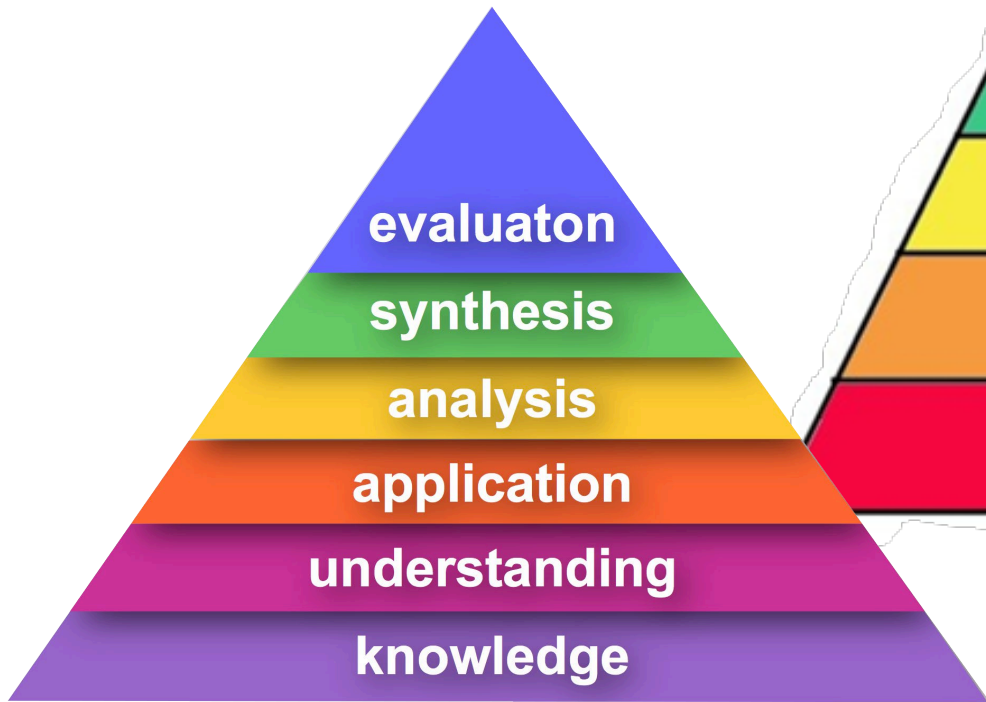


Here's the image of three scholars studying a stack of old library books. They're immersed in their research, surrounded by the rich history captured within the pages of ancient tomes.

Generated by ChatGPT



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AI and Online Learning

- The integration of AI chatbots in higher education marks a pivotal moment for online learning.
- The traditional methods of teaching and assessing online courses are challenged by the rise of AI, necessitating a shift in how academic integrity and student engagement are approached.
- Oral exams, a historical mainstay in education, are re-emerging as a vital tool to address academic misconduct and foster active learning in the digital environment.



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This type of oral assessment – or *viva voce* as it was known in Latin – is a tried and tested form of educational assessment.

No need to sit in an exam hall, no fear of plagiarism accusations or concerns with students submitting essays generated by an artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot. Integrity is 100% assured, in a fair, reliable and authentic manner that can also be easily used to assess multiple individual or group assignments.

As services like ChatGPT continue to grow in terms of both its capabilities and usage – including in education and academia – is it high time for universities to revert to the time-tested oral exam?

THE CONVERSATION

Academic rigor, journalistic flair

From:
<https://theconversation.com/why-universities-should-return-to-oral-exams-in-the-ai-and-chatgpt-era-203429>



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The Rise of Oral Assessments

- Digital tools and platforms now enable the seamless integration of oral assessments in online courses, enhancing student engagement and ownership of learning.
- Oral assessments offer a direct countermeasure to AI-driven academic dishonesty, promoting authenticity and critical thinking.
- The shift towards oral exams aligns with the technological advancements post-COVID-19, leveraging video conferencing tools to facilitate student assessments.



Benefits of Oral Exams

- Oral exams foster a higher level of student interaction, allowing for immediate feedback and real-time assessment of understanding.
- They cultivate essential soft skills, such as critical thinking, public speaking, and the ability to articulate knowledge succinctly.
- This assessment form is more resistant to the pitfalls of AI plagiarism, ensuring academic integrity and promoting genuine student inquiry.



Challenges and Solutions

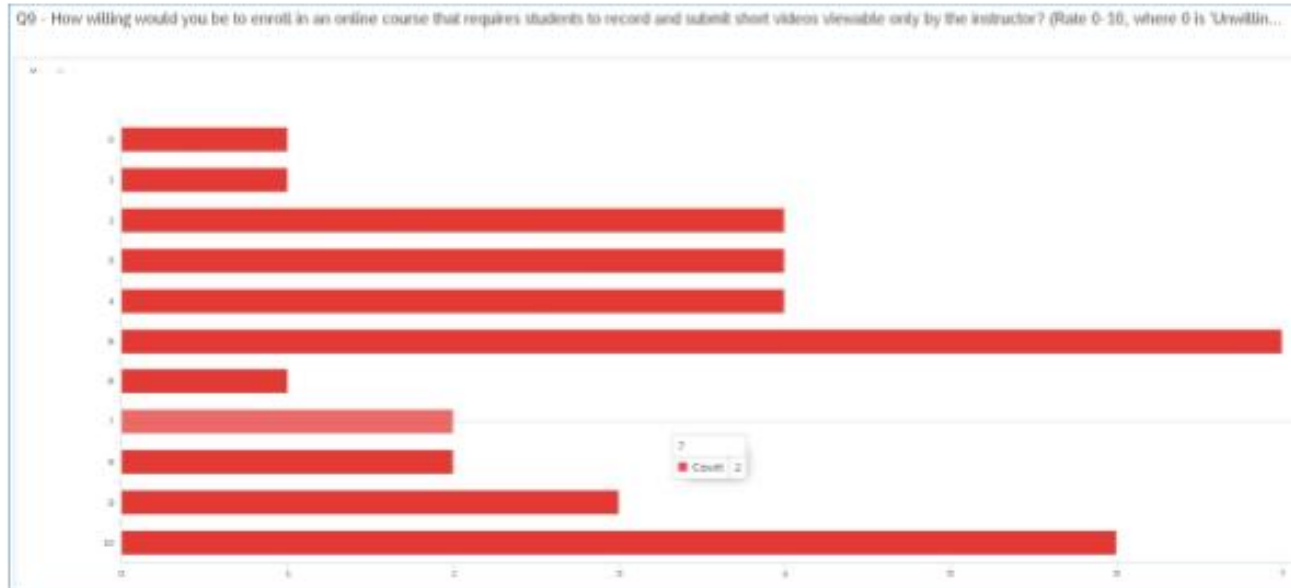
- While oral exams are time-intensive, leveraging AI and digital platforms can streamline the process, making it feasible for large classes.
- AI can facilitate oral assessments by automating question generation and analysis, enhancing the efficiency of the grading process.
- The adoption of video conferencing tools for oral exams offers flexibility, accessibility, and a closer mimicry of real-world scenarios.



Figure 7

Student Willingness to Enroll in Courses that Require Recording Videos, Digital Integrity Survey

Response Data (November 11-18, 2023)



Note. Survey responses indicate students were evenly split on their willingness to enroll in courses that address their concerns regarding the importance of academic integrity in course assignments.

[From:](#)
[O'Connell.](#)
[\(2023\). 2024:](#)
[The Return of the](#)
[Oral Exam](#)



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Figure 8

*Student Willingness to Enroll in Courses that Require Proctored Testing, Digital Integrity
Survey Response Data (November 11-18, 2023)*



Note. Survey responses indicate students were more likely to be opposed to enrolling in courses that address their concerns regarding the importance of academic integrity in quizzes and exams.

[From:
O'Connell.
\(2023\). 2024:
The Return of the
Oral Exam](#)



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Future Directions and Conclusion

- The resurgence of oral exams represents an opportunity to enhance online education's resilience, adaptiveness, and integrity in the face of AI disruption.
- Educators are encouraged to explore and integrate oral assessments alongside traditional methods to foster a more engaging and authentic learning experience.
- By embracing the challenges and opportunities presented by AI, educators can redefine the landscape of online education to prioritize student growth, authenticity, and critical inquiry.



Some Sample Oral Exams



A Peek inside Online Oral Assessments (POL 111 Spring 2024)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDma8dDPI0w>



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Baule's language for EDUO 802

You are encouraged to use AI platforms to help prepare for assignments and projects (e.g., to help with brainstorming, etc.). You are welcome to use AI tools to help revise and edit your work (e.g., to help identify flaws in reasoning, spot confusing or underdeveloped paragraphs, or to simply fix citations). When submitting work, clearly identify any writing, text, or media generated by AI. This can be done in a variety of ways. One suggestion is to **highlight parts of essays generated by AI in a different colored font**, and the relationship between those sections and student contributions should be discussed in a comment that accompany the submission. *(modified from work by Joel Gladd)*

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1WpCeTyiWCPQ9MNCsFeKMDQLSTsg1oKfNIH6MzoSFXqQ/edit#heading=h.oio9fphey5pp>



For More Insights & Perspectives

- [As AI Chatbots Rise, More Educators Look to Oral Exams – With High-Tech Twist | EdSurge News](#)
- [Why universities should return to oral exams in the AI and ChatGPT era \(theconversation.com\)](#)
- [AI-Powered Oral Exams, AI-Led Collaboration & the Rise of Content Verification \(substack.com\)](#)
- [Reimagining oral assessment in the age of AI - eCampus News](#)
- [AI and the Return of Oral Exams? \(linkedin.com\)](#)
- [Oral Exam Ideas – AI for Education](#)
- [Will advances in AI force a push to oral exams? - Page 2 of 2 - eCampus News](#)
- ['We must overhaul exams in the age of artificial intelligence' | School Management Plus: School & education news worldwide](#)
- [As AI Chatbots Rise, More Educators Look to Oral Exams – With High-Tech Twist – The digital classroom, transforming the way we learn \(annmichaelsen.com\)](#)
- [The Case For Oral Exams – The Parker Weekly](#)



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Questions

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