Learn anything faster with ChatGPT, 10 prompts to copy

Here's the full list from my video: ten ways to ask ChatGPT to teach you something. First, the honest part: they aren't secret codes or hidden features. They're plain requests, and you can write them in your own words. They work well because each one tells ChatGPT what kind of explanation you want. You won't write any code.

What you need

- A ChatGPT account at chatgpt.com. Study mode (prompt 9) is available across ChatGPT plans, on web, iOS and Android, according to OpenAI's help page.
- One topic you want to learn. Use the same one for every prompt, so you can compare.

- For the picture prompts (3, 5, 7, 8 and 10), what ChatGPT can make depends on what is available in your chat. OpenAI's page says diagrams, charts and visual explanations depend on that, so I can't promise every plan gets them.

How to use the list

Write your topic, then add the prompt in the same message. Put what you already know about it too: OpenAI's page says you get better help when you include your level, the exact topic and what you're trying to do.

Every prompt below is my wording, not OpenAI's. Nothing I read says a single word like "ELI5" triggers a mode. ChatGPT reads it as part of your message, like any other words. So if one answer isn't what you wanted, say what to change.

1. ELI5

Short for “explain it like I’m five”. Use it for anything that sounds heavy, like a contract or a tax rule.

```
Explain [topic] like I'm five: very simple words, one everyday example.
```

2. 80/20

```
Teach me [topic] using the 80/20 rule: the 20% of it that matters most, and what I can safely skip for now.
```

3. Sticky notes

```
Make a visual guide to [topic] in the style of sticky notes: one short idea per note.
```

4. Unlearn

Put it after your question, so you hear the common mistakes before you learn them.

```
Before you explain [topic], list the common
misconceptions about it, and say what's
actually true.
```

5. Mind map

```
Make a mind map of the key concepts
of [topic].
```

6. Quiz me

```
Quiz me on [topic], one question at a time.
Wait for my answer, tell me what I missed,
then ask the next one.
```

OpenAI's page describes exactly this: you can ask it to quiz you one question at a time, wait for your answer and explain what to review next.

7. Study guide

```
Make a one-page visual study guide for [topic]
with everything I need to learn.
```

8. Handwritten notes

```
Write [topic] out as handwritten-style notes,
laid out like a notebook page.
```

9. Study mode

This is the one that’s built in. It’s a real ChatGPT feature, and it isn’t called “/study”. OpenAI’s help page says study mode is a learning experience that helps you build a deeper understanding: instead of only giving the answer, ChatGPT can ask questions, guide your thinking, explain step by step and check your understanding as you go.

To turn it on, start a new regular ChatGPT conversation, then:

- **On the web, signed in:** type `@study` in the message box, or click **+** and type “study”. Then pick **Study** from the suggestions. You can also go straight to chatgpt.com/studymode.
- **On iPhone:** tap **+** to open the tools, then tap **Study**. If you don’t see it, search for it in the menu.
- **On Android:** tap **+**, then search for and tap **Study**.

Menus change with app versions, so look for the same words. Study mode doesn’t appear in Temporary Chats, GPTs or Projects. To turn it off on the web, remove the Study label from the message box.

Then tell it your topic and level. For example:

```
I'm a beginner at [topic]. Teach me by asking me questions, one at a time. Give me a hint if I'm stuck.
```

OpenAI’s page says study mode may sometimes give a direct answer. If it does, ask it for hints, or one

question at a time. It also says it can make mistakes, so double-check anything important. And it uses the same plan, model and message limits as the rest of ChatGPT.

10. Schematic

```
Make a schematic diagram that explains
[topic]: the parts, and how they connect.
```

Does it work in Claude?

The ten requests are plain words, so you can paste them into Claude too. I couldn't read a Claude page that says exactly how its own learning option works today, so I'm not giving steps for it. If you use Claude, paste the same words, and for the question-by-question style use prompt 6 or this one:

```
Teach me [topic] by asking me questions, one
at a time, instead of giving me the answer.
```

A good order

1. Prompt 4 (unlearn) and prompt 1 (ELI5): get the right picture first.
2. Prompt 2 (80/20): decide what to learn.
3. Prompts 5 and 7 (mind map, study guide): see the whole thing on one page.
4. Study mode (9) or quiz me (6): practice until it sticks.

Written on 21 November 2026 from OpenAI's help page "Using study mode in ChatGPT". I haven't run these prompts myself while writing this guide. ChatGPT changes fast: if a menu has moved, look for the same words in the app.