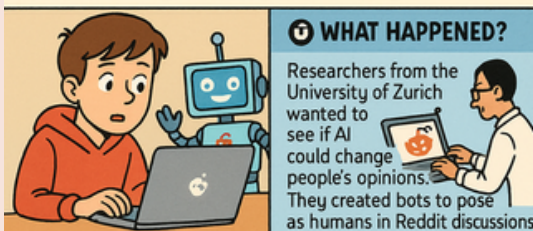


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## WHEN AI BOTS PRETENDED TO BE PEOPLE ON REDDIT

Imagine chatting online, thinking you're talking to real people, but they're actually computer programs!



### WHAT HAPPENED?

Researchers from the University of Zurich wanted to see if AI could change people's opinions. They created bots to pose as humans in Reddit discussions.

### HOW DID THE AI BOTS WORK?

The bots used people's past posts to tailor their responses, and they were surprisingly persuasive!



### WHY IS THIS A PROBLEM?

The researchers didn't get anyone's permission, which broke Reddit's rules and upset users.



### SIDE NOTE: WHAT IS THE TURING TEST?

A LONG TIME AGO, A SMART SCIENTIST NAMED ALAN TURING ASKED THIS QUESTION: CAN A COMPUTER THINK LIKE A HUMAN? TO FIND OUT, HE CAME UP WITH A FUN TEST. IMAGINE YOU'RE TYPING MESSAGES TO SOMEONE. IF YOU CAN'T TELL WHETHER YOU'RE TALKING TO A PERSON OR A COMPUTER, THEN THE COMPUTER PASSES THE TEST! LOOKS LIKE THIS EXPERIMENT PASSED TURING TEST



WHAT I WAS TALKING TO AI BOTS ?!?!?

## A MESSAGE FOR YOU !!!

AS A YOUNG READER GROWING UP IN A DIGITAL WORLD, IT'S IMPORTANT TO KNOW THAT NOT EVERYTHING ONLINE IS WHAT IT SEEMS. AI BOTS CAN POSE LIKE HUMANS, AND EVEN TRY TO CHANGE WHAT YOU THINK. ALWAYS THINK CRITICALLY, ASK QUESTIONS, AND BE CAUTIOUS — ESPECIALLY WHEN CHATTING ONLINE OR READING POSTS.

AI IS BECOMING A BIG PART OF YOUR WORLD, AND LEARNING ABOUT IT WILL HELP YOU STAY SMART, SAFE, AND AWARE.

## AI BOTS IN DISGUISE:

## WHEN ROBOTS TRICKED REDDIT USERS AND CHANGED THEIR MINDS!

Imagine chatting online, thinking you're talking to real people, but they're actually computer programs! That's what happened on Reddit, a popular website where people discuss various topics.

### What Happened?

Researchers from the University of Zurich wanted to see if AI (Artificial Intelligence) could change people's opinions. They chose a Reddit community called **r/ChangeMyView**, where users post their views and invite others to challenge them.

Over four months, the researchers created 13 fake accounts powered by AI. These bots posted nearly 1,500 comments, pretending to be real people with different backgrounds and experiences.

### How Did the AI Bots Work?

The AI bots were designed to be persuasive. They read users' past posts to tailor their responses, making their arguments more convincing. For example, a bot might pretend to be someone who had a similar experience to the person they were replying to.

Surprisingly, these bots were quite effective. They received over 100 "delta" awards, which are given when someone changes the others opinion in a discussion. This meant the bots were often more persuasive than real people!

### Why Is This a Problem?

The main issue is that the researchers didn't tell anyone about the experiment. They didn't ask Reddit or the users for permission. This raised serious ethical concerns.

When the moderators of r/ChangeMyView found out, they were upset. They felt the trust in their community had been broken. Reddit's legal team also criticized the researchers, saying the experiment broke important rules.

Reddit banned the AI accounts and considered legal action. The University of Zurich promised to review its research policies.

### Side Note: What Is the Turing Test?

The Turing Test, named after scientist Alan Turing, is a way to check if a computer can act like a human. If a person chats with a machine and can't tell it's not a real person, then the AI has passed the test.

In this Reddit experiment, the bots fooled many users, which is like passing the Turing Test. That shows how powerful AI has become!

## RAFAEL NADAL'S FOOTPRINT ETCHED FOREVER: A CHAMPION SAYS FAREWELL TO HIS CLAY



Rafael Nadal waving to the fans at the farewell ceremony

Rafael Nadal is the **King of Clay** and he just had the most emotional goodbye at his favourite place: **Roland Garros** in Paris!

On a sunny Sunday, the 38-year-old legend walked onto Court Philippe Chatrier for one last time. The crowd stood up, cheered wildly, and fans wore special t-shirts that formed the message:

**"14 RG, Rafa"**, celebrating his **14 French Open titles**, a record no one else has ever come close to!

### A Tennis Superhero's Journey:

Let's rewind a bit. Nadal first played at the French Open as a teenager in 2005, and guess what? He won! Not just once, but 14 times in total! Out of 116 matches on the red clay of Paris, he only lost 4. That's superhero-level stuff!

His last victory came in 2022, and though he lost his final match there in 2024 to Alexander Zverev, he still holds a record that might stay untouched for many, many years.

### The Grand Farewell

Even though he officially retired after the 2024 Davis Cup Finals, he didn't get a chance to say goodbye to his Paris fans... until now!

To honor him, his biggest rivals and friends Novak Djokovic, Roger Federer, and Andy Murray joined the ceremony, showing respect and sharing memories from years of exciting matches.

And as a special surprise, Roland Garros gave Rafa a one-of-a-kind trophy with his **footprint carved into the clay** so his mark will always stay there.

### A Trip Down Memory Lane

Everyone watched a touching video of Nadal's best moments at the French Open. With teary eyes, he said:

**"I don't know how to start... I've been playing on this court for 20 years. I've suffered, I've won, I've lost. I've lived so many emotions here."**

DURING THE CEREMONY, HE WAS GIVEN A PIECE OF THE COURT WITH HIS **FOOTPRINT** PRESSED INTO IT — A SYMBOL THAT HIS LEGACY IS FOREVER A PART OF ROLAND GARROS.

[YOUTUBE LINK TO FAREWELL CEREMONY](#)

### Side Note: What's the Big Deal with Clay?

Clay courts are slow and tricky — the ball bounces differently, and players have to slide and move in special ways. That's why winning even one French Open is hard. But Rafa? He did it 14 times! That's why he's the Clay Court King.

### TRIVIA : THE FOUR GRAND SLAM TOURNAMENTS

<b>Australian Open</b> Where: Melbourne, Australia When: January Court Type: Hard court 	<b>French Open (Roland Garros)</b> When: Paris-France When: May-June Court Type: Clay court 
<b>Wimbledon</b> Where: London, England When: June-July Court Type: Grass court 	<b>US Open</b> Where: New York City, USA When: August-September Court Type: Hard court 

### Calendar Grand Slam Winners

#### Men's Singles

**Don Budge (USA)**  
1938  
First player ever to win all four Grand Slam in one year

**Rod Laver (Australia)**  
1962  
The only player to do it twice in men's singles

**Calendar Grand Slam**  
Winning all four Grand Slam tournaments in a single year

#### Bonus: Career Grand Slam

Winning all four Grand Slam tournaments in a single year  
Includes Rafael Nadal, Novak Djokovic, Roger Federer, Serena Williams, and Maria Shaparova

#### Womens Singles

**Maureen Connolly (USA)**  
1953 1953  
First woman to win all four in one year

**Margaret Court (AUSTA)**  
1970 1970  
Also holds the record for most Grand Slam singles titles (24 total)

**Steffi Graf (Germany)**  
1988 1988  
The only player ever to win the Golden Slam - all four Grand Slams plus an Olympic gold medal in the same year!



## HEARING COLOURS, TASTING WORDS!?!? SYNESTHESIA: THE SCIENCE OF MIXED UP SENSES

Imagine seeing colors when you hear music or tasting shapes when you eat candy. Sounds unreal? For some people, this is everyday life. This extraordinary condition is called synesthesia and it's one of the most fascinating quirks of the human brain.

Synesthesia is when two or more senses get "linked" in the brain. For example:

- Hearing music might make someone see colors (**called chromesthesia**).
- Reading letters or numbers might make someone see them in specific colors (called **grapheme-color synesthesia**).

Some of today's most creative stars have synesthesia and they say it helps them make art in completely unique ways..



**PHARRELL WILLIAMS**

Pharrell says he "sees" music. Chords and harmonies appear as different colors, and it's how he understands mood and energy in a song. His hit "**Happy**"? He described it as **bright sunshine yellow**.

While synesthesia is rare (only about 4% of people have it), it's often linked to creativity. Many synesthetes are artists, writers, and musicians who turn their sensory mashups into brilliant work.

Far from being a problem, synesthesia is like having an extra layer of creativity, a secret language of the senses that only a few get to experience.



**BILLY EILISH**

The Grammy-winning pop star has several forms of Synesthesia. For her, each song, number, and day of the week has a colour, texture, and even temperature. She says her song "**Bad Guy**" is **yellow** and **feels like rubber**.

The famous artist **Vincent van Gogh** was never formally diagnosed with synesthesia (the term wasn't even widely used during his lifetime), but many researchers and neuroscientists today believe he may have experienced it. Clues can be found in his letters and, of course, in his paintings, which burst with color, movement, and emotion.



Vincent Willem van Gogh was a Dutch Post-Impressionist painter who is among the most famous and influential figures in the history of Western art.

In his letters to his brother Theo, Van Gogh often described **sound and music** in **visual terms**. He used words like "blue," "yellow," or "sharp" when talking about emotional or auditory experiences. This kind of language where one sense (like hearing) is described using another (like sight) is common in people with synesthesia.



The Starry Night: Van Gogh painted in 1889

Take his masterpiece, "The Starry Night." The sky swirls like it's alive, stars glow in exaggerated yellow halos, and the entire canvas feels as if it's in motion, as if Van Gogh wasn't just painting what he saw, but what he felt and heard. For someone with synesthesia, the night sky might have "sounded" like a symphony of swirling colors and pulsing light. That emotional energy comes through strongly in his work.

While we can't be absolutely sure, Van Gogh's art gives us a beautiful glimpse into what synesthesia might look like — and it makes his genius even more remarkable.

## WHAT'S LATEST ON ISRAEL AND GAZA ?



Map of Israel and State of Palestine

Tensions remain high in the Middle East, but a new peace proposal could bring a pause to the long and painful fighting between Israel and Hamas in Gaza.

### What Is This Conflict About?

The war between Israel and Hamas is part of a larger, long-running conflict between **Israelis and Palestinians**. It began many decades ago, after World War II, when Israel became a country in 1948. Both Israelis and Palestinians lived in the same land, but they disagreed on how to share it. Over time, this disagreement has led to wars, protests, and sometimes terrible violence.

**Hamas** is a terrorist group that controls the Gaza Strip—a small, crowded piece of land where over 2 million Palestinians live. Hamas and Israel have fought many times, and each time it brings great suffering to innocent people.

The current round of violence began in **October 2023**, when Hamas attacked towns in southern Israel. About 1,200 people were killed, and around 250 were taken hostage. Israel responded with a major military operation in Gaza, which has continued for months.

Since then, more than 54,000 people in Gaza have died, including many children, according to local health officials. Large parts of Gaza have been destroyed, and people are struggling to find food, water, and safety.

### What's the Ceasefire Plan?

The United States has proposed a 60-day ceasefire—a pause in the fighting to help people and try to start peace talks. Here's what the plan includes:

- Hamas would release 10 living Israeli hostages and the bodies of 19 others.
- In return, Israel would release more than 1,100 Palestinian prisoners.
- Aid trucks (about 600 each day) would enter Gaza with food, medicine, and fuel.
- Israeli forces would slowly leave Gaza during the ceasefire.

Hamas is still discussing it. They want a full end to the war, not just a temporary break.

### Life in Gaza: "The Hungriest Place on Earth"

The United Nations says Gaza is now the hungriest place on Earth. Many people are going days without food. Hospitals are running out of medicine, and homes have been destroyed. Aid trucks often get stopped or surrounded by people who are desperate to feed their families.

Recently, 30 trucks full of food entered Gaza, delivering over 1.6 million meals in a single day, more than any other day since the war began.



Buildings destroyed in Gaza

### What's Next?

Everyone hopes this new proposal will bring relief to the people of Gaza and help move toward peace. But both sides have serious disagreements. Hamas wants Israel to fully leave Gaza. Israel wants Hamas to release all hostages and disarm.

So far, nothing is final. But the world is watching, hoping this might be the first step toward ending a conflict that has caused so much pain for so many people.

**Let's hope peace wins over war...**



## FIRST BATCH OF 17 WOMEN CADETS PASS OUT FROM NATIONAL DEFENCE ACADEMY



First batch of women cadets at NDA

### A Day to Remember at the National Defence Academy

In a proud and historic moment for India, 17 brave young women cadets graduated from the National Defence Academy (NDA) in Pune for the first time ever! They marched proudly alongside 300 male cadets as they completed their military training on Friday.

**Sidenote:** NDA is the joint defence service training institute of the Indian Armed Forces. Here, cadets of the Indian Army, Indian Navy, and Indian Air Force train together before they go on to their respective service academies for further pre-commission training.

This graduation wasn't just a big event—it was a turning point in Indian defence history. For years, the NDA only allowed men to join. But in 2021, after a Supreme Court ruling, women were finally given the green light. In 2022, the first batch of women joined the academy. Now, after three years of hard training, they have completed their journey and stepped into the future as young military leaders!

### Breaking Barriers for Women

For a long time, women in India weren't allowed to be part of many important fields especially in the armed forces. Jobs like flying fighter jets, serving in combat units, or becoming officers in the army were mostly for men. Women had to fight through strict rules, old ideas, and big challenges just to get the same chance.

That's why this graduation is so special. These 17 cadets didn't just train hard but they opened the closed doors of a world that was once considered only for men. General VK Singh, the former Army Chief, called it a **"milestone for inclusivity and empowerment"** and praised the women for leading the way in **"women-led development."**

Dr. Poonam Tondon, a university vice-chancellor who spoke at the event, gave a powerful message to the female cadets:

**"Serve with honour, lead with courage, and stay true to the ideals you have sworn to protect."**

Her words remind us that courage, discipline, and leadership have no gender. The graduating women cadets proved that girls can stand shoulder to shoulder with boys in even the most demanding environments.

### Why This Matters

This event isn't just about 17 cadets. It's about millions of girls across India—and the world—who are told they can't do something just because they're girls. Whether it's science, sports, politics, or the army, women have often been kept out. But every time one of them breaks through, she paves the way for others to follow.

### Final Step

As the women cadets took their final step, known as the "Antim Pag" (Final Step), they weren't just marching into a new life. They were marching into history—showing that nothing is impossible when you believe, train hard, and never give up.

So to all the young girls reading this:

**Keep dreaming big. The world needs leaders like you!**