

For High School Students



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# **TAI** / **TEENS in AI** **CHALLENGE**

# TAI Exploration Topics

**Register**

[LIFEINAI.CENTER/TAI](https://LIFEINAI.CENTER/TAI)

**APRIL 19, 2026**

In-person, Bay Area Campus

This document outlines core topics and questions to be explored across all components of the TAI Challenge. It guides InsightX exploration and projects in MindStory, VibeApp, and StageX.



**SPRING 2026 EDITION**

DETAILS WILL BE FINALIZED BEFORE MARCH 15, 2026 (CHALLENGE START DAY). THE ORGANIZERS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO AMEND THE DETAILS OF THE CHALLENGE AT ANY STAGE.

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# Decision-making in Brain and AI

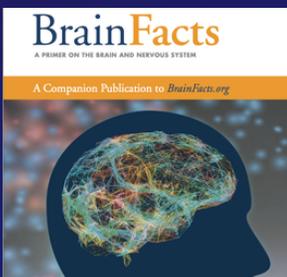


The TAI Challenge centers on decision-making in everyday teen life, through the lens of the brain, AI, and their interaction.

This is not about memorizing. It is about curiosity and understanding. You explore ideas through stories and everyday scenarios, using short readings, videos, guided chatbot prompts, and group discussions. There are no lectures or formal instruction.

Explore how the brain and AI make decisions in the context of teen life in an AI-influenced world.

## Neural Foundations of Thinking (Effort ~1 hr)



- 📖 Read [Chapters 4 & 5](#) (p. 32-43, 11 pages) on Learning, Memory, Emotions, Thinking, Planning, Language.
- Note: This book is also used by students preparing for the International Brain Bee.

## Decision-making in the Brain (Effort ~2 hrs)



- Watch – Nobel Laureate Daniel Kahneman's [Google Talk](#) on Thinking, Fast and Slow (also a book).
- Ask 🤖 to summarize the book and explore major criticisms and recent developments.

## How AI “Decides” at a High Level (Effort ~3 hrs) 🤖

- Pattern matching (based on similarity, not understanding)
  - Probability-driven outputs (most likely is not always correct)
  - Training data bias (past data shape present outputs)
  - Optimization goals (what the system is designed to prioritize)
- 📖 Read – [Why AI Hallucinations Matter?](#) - Article on UC Berkeley

# Explore 3 biases out of 200+ (~9 hrs)



Researchers have identified 200+ common thinking patterns in the human mind. In this challenge, you'll explore three that show up in everyday decisions, and even in AI systems.

📖 Confirmation bias (looking for reasons we're right)

📖 Sunk cost trap (losses from past > not more can be lost)

📖 Availability illusion (easily known wins, may not be the truth)

📖 Read – [Confirmation Bias - Blog](#).

📖 Read – [List of Cognitive Biases](#) – For more biases.

## Chatbot Prompts for Exploring Biases

In the following, replace “Confirmation bias” with the bias you want explore.

- What is Confirmation Bias?
- Examples of confirmation bias
- How is a person affected by confirmation bias?
- How are groups affected by confirmation bias?
- How is society affected by confirmation bias?
- Explain the neuroscience behind confirmation bias
- Explain the psychological basis for confirmation bias
- How does confirmation bias affect teenagers?
- Explain confirmation bias in AI chatbots
- How to avoid confirmation Bias

InsightX Quiz and projects reflect the exploration materials. Projects can also go beyond them to the larger context of the life of teens in an AI-influenced world.