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Exploring Childhood Psychological Disorders through Chat GPT: Writing Fictional Vignettes from a Parent's Perspective

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Exploring Childhood Psychological Disorders through Chat GPT: Writing Fictional Vignettes from a Parent's Perspective

Assignment Description

In this assignment, you will step into the shoes of a parent and utilize Chat GPT, a language model, to develop fictional descriptions of children with psychological disorders (vignettes). By adopting a parent's viewpoint, you will gain insights into the experiences faced by families when raising children with psychological disorders. Additionally, you will enhance your understanding of the symptoms, impacts, and potential strategies for supporting these children in their everyday lives. Because our course focuses on children with typical development, this assignment will help broaden your understanding of neurodiversity and functional diversity in children. Furthermore, you will get guidance on how to license your work to have it publicly available to improve access to accurate information about children with disorders.

Instructions

Familiarize yourself with different childhood psychological disorders: Begin by researching and studying various psychological disorders that commonly affect children. Examples include autism spectrum disorder, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), anxiety disorders, and mood disorders. Understand the symptoms, diagnostic criteria, causes, and potential treatment options for each disorder. Use the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) on the UND library's website to find the disorder and see the criteria for the disorder (click on Quick Links at the top and search for the DSM). Also, use these fact sheets from the National Institutes of Health, the state of Minnesota, and the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry to educate yourself on the disorder you chose. You may also use your textbook or websites from respected sources (e.g., Center for Disease Control, National Institution of Mental Health, or reputable health care providers such as the Mayo Clinic).

Develop your fictional child character: Create a fictional child character representing a psychological disorder. Give the child a name. Consider their ages, genders, backgrounds, and any additional relevant information that can contribute to a comprehensive understanding of their experiences. Reflect on how these factors might impact the child's behavior, emotions, and interactions within the family. Create a concept map (see the template here or on Blackboard, please resize the textboxes) to help track your ideas. In your concept map, include the demographics of the child, the child's disorder, the DSM criteria of the disorder, the symptoms the child exhibits that are relevant for the disorder, and some description of the child outside of the disorder. Remember, a child with a psychological disorder is still a child. They are more than their disorder. For example, what do they like to do for fun?

Conduct interactive sessions with Chat GPT: Prompt ChatGPT to draft a description for you. Continue to prompt to refine based on your fictional child character description. Download these sessions as a PDF to turn in with your final paper. You should have a minimum of two prompts to improve your vignette. We will go over how to prompt ChatGPT to improve the draft in class. If you do not want to use ChatGPT, that is fine! Simply turn in an early draft (everyone will turn in a first draft) that can just be your notes and brainstorming about the child.

Important! ChatGPT functions by predicting what word comes next. It does not really understand facts and references. Therefore, it very often has inaccuracies and fabricates (makes up) references such as books and research articles. Be careful that what ChatGPT write about the child is consistent with what the DSM says the criteria are.

Here are some example prompts:

"Include an example of intrusive thoughts (for a child with anxiety)"
"Add more detail about the child's developmental milestones."
"Put in that the child likes dinosaurs."
"Include that the child has a good sense of humor."

Develop the descriptions: Based on the interactive sessions with Chat GPT, compile the information gathered and craft fictional descriptions from a parent's perspective for the fictional child with a disorder. The descriptions should include the following components:
   a. Introduction: Provide an overview of each child, including their age, gender, background, family/home life, what disorder they have, and the duration of their diagnosed disorder (how long have they had this disorder or how long ago were they diagnosed?). How did they progress on developmental milestones (e.g., first words, crawling, first steps) as an infant and toddler? This should be about 2-3 paragraphs.
   b. Child's Characteristics: Describe the child's symptoms associated with the chosen disorder. Reflect on how these symptoms affect the child's interactions, development, and overall well-being. This should be about how the child generally interacts with the world. For this part, be careful that ChatGPT is often inaccurate. Check the actual DSM criteria to make sure what is being described is actually relevant to the diagnosed disorder. This should be about 1-2 pages.
   c. Scenario: Describe a scenario in which the child is particularly challenged because of their disorder. For example, children with anxiety may find a new caregiver particularly difficult to handle. In this part, you will write a short story about the scenario and how the child reacts. Include how the parent (remember it's written from the parent's perspective) reacted and how the parent helped or hindered the child in the scenario. This should be about 1-2 pages.

Reflective Analysis: Write a reflective analysis **in your own words** (not using ChatGPT for this part) of your experience using Chat GPT to develop the descriptions. Discuss the benefits, limitations, and ethical considerations of leveraging AI in this context. Reflect on how Chat GPT assisted or hindered your understanding of the parent's perspective raising children with psychological disorders. This is from your viewpoint, not the fictional parent's viewpoint. This should be about ½ to 1 page.
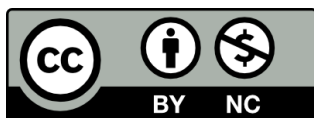
Peer review: You will review two of your peers' papers through Blackboard. In your review, you are required to identify three strengths of each of their papers and three suggestions for improvement. Students will use this feedback to improve before submitting their final drafts.

Formatting and Submission: Use Times New Roman 12-point font. Please have headings for each of the sections (introduction, child characteristics, parent's perspective, reflective analysis). Be sure to reference any sources you use (including the textbook and ChatGPT). The entire paper should be between 4-7 double-spaced pages.

Licensing: I would like to use these vignettes with future students as well as share them with other faculty who may be interested. Your work on this paper could be very valuable for helping someone understand the experiences of various psychological disorders in childhood. If you would be open to having your work used to help others, please add the following at the end of your final paper:

"[insert your assignment title" by [insert your name] is shared under a CC BY-NC license

 CC BY-NC: This license allows reusers to distribute, remix, adapt, and build upon the material in any medium or format for noncommercial purposes only, and only so long as attribution is given to the creator.

If you are willing to have it publicly available without your name for attribution, then you should include the following at the end of your final paper:

 CC0 (aka CC Zero) is a public dedication tool, which allows creators to give up their copyright and put their works into the worldwide public domain. CC0 allows reusers to distribute, remix, adapt, and build upon the material in any medium or format, with no conditions.

I recommend watching this video to provide more information about student rights in terms of copyright and attribution.

References

The DSM should be cited with this reference (enter the title of the chapter you used):

American Psychiatric Association. (2022). Title of chapter. In *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (5th ed., text rev.). DOI of chapter

Here's an example of a chapter :

American Psychiatric Association. (2022). Bipolar and related disorders. In *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (5th ed., text rev.). https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.books.9780890425787.x03_Bipolar_and_Related_Disorders

If you use ChatGPT include this citation:

OpenAI. (2023). *ChatGPT* [Large language model]. https://chat.openai.com/chat

To cite fact sheets, follow directions here.

Deadlines:

Concept map: September 22

Interactive sessions with ChatGPT submission: September 29

First draft: October 20

Peer review: November 1

Final draft: November 13

Rubric:

Concept map (points awarded for completing each of the boxes in the template): 10 points

Interactive sessions with ChatGPT (points awarded for submitting a document with at least two prompts. If you opt not to use ChatGPT, please turn in your brainstorming notes for this project): 10 points

First draft (full credit for submitting a completed draft with introduction, child characteristics, parent perspective): 10 points

Peer review (points awarded for at least three specific strengths and three specific areas for improvement for two peers): 10 points

Final draft (110 points):

	Criteria	Points
Introduction: content	All of these areas addressed: Provide an overview of each child, including their age, gender, background, family/home life, what disorder they have, and the duration of their diagnosed disorder (how long have they had this disorder or how long ago were they diagnosed?). How did they progress on	10

	developmental milestones (e.g., first words, crawling, first steps) as an infant and toddler?	
Introduction: writing quality	Sentence and paragraph structure is clear Written from the parent's perspective Transitions are used, so writing flows Spelling and grammar are correct Length is 2-3 paragraphs	5
Child's characteristics: content	Includes: Describe the child's symptoms associated with the chosen disorder. Reflect on how these symptoms affect the child's interactions, development, and overall well-being. This should be about how the child generally interacts with the world. Accurate in the context of the disorder criteria and description by reputable sources. No credit for completely inaccurate content (e.g., hallucinations being named as a symptom of autism).	20
Child's characteristics: writing quality	Sentence and paragraph structure is clear Written from the parent's perspective Transitions are used, so writing flows Spelling and grammar are correct	10

	Length is 1-2 pages	
Scenario: content	Includes: Describe a scenario in which the child is particularly challenged because of their disorder. In this part, you will write a short story about the scenario and how the child reacts. Include how the parent (remember it's written from the parent's perspective) reacted and how the parent helped or hindered the child in the scenario. Accurate in the context of the disorder criteria and description by reputable sources. No credit for completely inaccurate information in the scenario (e.g., a child with autism experiencing hallucinations reportedly due to autism).	20
Scenario: writing quality	Sentence and paragraph structure is clear Transitions are used, so writing flows Written from the parent's perspective Spelling and grammar are correct Length is 1-2 pages	10
Reflective analysis: content	Write a reflective analysis in your own words (not using ChatGPT for this part) of your experience using Chat GPT to develop the descriptions. Discuss the benefits, limitations, and ethical considerations of leveraging AI in this context.	15

	Reflect on how Chat GPT assisted or hindered your understanding of the parent's perspective raising children with psychological disorders.	
	Sentence and paragraph structure is clear Transitions are used, so writing flows Written from the perspective of you (the student writing this) Written in the student's own words Length is 1-2 pages	10
Formatting	Use Times New Roman 12-point font. Please have headings for each of the sections (introduction, child characteristics, parent's perspective, reflective analysis). Be sure to reference any sources you use (including the textbook and ChatGPT). The entire paper should be between 4-7 double-spaced pages. **If there are no references, it will be returned to you to add them. You will not receive credit without references for ChatGPT and any other sources.** There will be an automatic 10 point deduction if your paper is returned for lack of references.	10