



## ***We tested a new ChatGPT-detector for teachers. It flagged an innocent student***

Geoffrey A Fowler

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High school senior Lucy Goetz got the highest possible grade on an original essay she wrote about socialism. So imagine her surprise when I told her that a new kind of educational software I've been testing claimed she got help from artificial intelligence.

After months of sounding the alarm about students using AI apps that can churn out essays and assignments, teachers are getting AI technology of their own. On April 4, Turnitin is activating the software I tested for some 10,700 secondary and higher-educational institutions, assigning "generated by AI" scores and sentence-by-sentence analysis to student work. It joins a handful of other free detectors already online. For many teachers I've been hearing from, AI detection offers a weapon to deter a 21st-century form of cheating.

But AI alone won't solve the problem AI created. The flag on a portion of Goetz's essay was an outlier, but shows detectors can sometimes get it wrong — with potentially disastrous consequences for students. Detectors are being introduced before they've been widely vetted, yet AI tech is moving so fast, any tool is likely already out of date.

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