The CRIT Framework (for K–12 Educators)

The CRIT Framework, developed by Geoff Woods, helps educators use AI more effectively by asking **clear, purposeful questions** that lead to practical, classroom-ready results.

The CRIT Prompt-Engineering Framework = **Context · Role · Intent · Task**

C represents Context

By providing context, you give AI the educational background it needs to respond appropriately. For example:

- Grade level and subject
- Curriculum or standards
- Student needs, constraints, and classroom realities

Why this matters: Without context, AI gives overly generic or developmentally inappropriate content.

For example, good context might be:

- *"I teach Grade 6 science in a Canadian public school. My class includes several English language learners and students with diverse learning needs."*

R represents Role

By giving AI the role it will play, you tell the AI **what perspective to adopt**. For example:

- Classroom teacher
- Instructional coach
- Special education specialist
- Curriculum designer

Why this matters: The role determines the instructional tone, pedagogy, and scaffolding.

For example, a good role description could be:

- *"Act as an experienced instructional coach who supports inclusive classroom design."*

I represents Intent

By telling AI the intent, you clarify **what you want to accomplish educationally**. For example:

- Support student understanding
- Differentiate instruction

- Assess learning
- Save preparation time without lowering quality

Why this matters: Intent keeps AI focused on learning outcomes rather than just content generation.

For example:

- *"I want to support conceptual understanding and engagement, not just memorization."*

T represents Task

By specifying the **concrete instructional output** you want, you guide AI to produce clear tasks. For example:

- Lesson plan
- Assessment rubric
- Parent communication
- Student-friendly explanation

Why this matters: Clear tasks produce materials that are immediately usable in the classroom.

For example:

- *"Create a 45-minute lesson plan with clear learning goals, an inquiry-based activity, and formative assessment questions."*

Why the CRIT Framework Works in Education

Woods emphasizes that AI strengthens professional judgment rather than replacing it. In K–12 settings, CRIT helps you:

- Align AI outputs with curriculum and pedagogy
- Maintain professional responsibility and ethical use
- Ensure age-appropriate, inclusive learning materials

CRIT is especially useful for:

- Lesson planning and differentiation
- Creating accessible explanations
- Supporting new or overwhelmed teachers
- School and district instructional leadership

CRIT can help you think clearly about learning goals before asking AI for help. When you define Context, Role, Intent, and Task, AI becomes your teaching assistant, not a shortcut.