ASK · READ · STOP

The Agentic Galaxy • Learning AI with Layla.Rain • Episode 8

The four parts of a request: Task (what you want) · Context (who it is for, and where) · Constraints (what must or must not happen) · Format (how the answer is laid out).

The three moves: ASK with all four parts · READ as the expert and find the item that only sounds right · STOP where the tool stops and you decide.

Nothing personal goes in. Nothing comes out unchecked.

ROUND 1 · WATCH (worked example)

Vague request: *Plan a warm-up.*

ASK: Task: a ten-minute warm-up. Context: beginners, small studio, no equipment. Constraints: gentle, no jumping. Format: a numbered list with minutes.

Authored reply: 1 walk and breathe, 2 min · 2 shoulder rolls and neck turns, 2 min · 3 ankle circles and knee bends, 2 min · 4 deep standing backbend, 1 min · 5 slow side steps to music, 3 min.

READ: item 4 sounds like a warm-up, but the expert would not use it for first-timers. Revise once: *Replace item four with something gentle for the back, same minute.*

STOP: the tool made a list. A person tries it with two people, then twelve.

ROUND 2 · TRY WITH A HINT

Vague request: *Write a thank-you note to the venue.*

ASK. Only the task is there. Hints: what did they do for you? How long, how formal? Email, card or text? Facts you may use: the studio lent us Room Two and stayed late to set out chairs.

Task: _____ Context: _____

Constraints: _____ Format: _____

Authored reply: *Subject: Thank you for Room Two. Thank you for lending us the room, for staying late to set out chairs, and for the fresh tea that made everyone feel welcome. With thanks.*

READ. Hint: Nia typed the room and the chairs. Which detail did she never type? _____

STOP. Who reads it once more, and who sends it? _____

ROUND 3 · DO IT ALONE

Vague request: *Make a packing list for my day trip.*

ASK, no hints. Task: _____ Context: _____

Constraints: _____ Format: _____

Authored reply: Wear: raincoat, waterproof shoes, sandals · Carry: phone, small umbrella · Eat: sandwich, warm drink.

READ. The reply was written for a cool, rainy day trip. Which item would you question, and why? _____

STOP. What does the tool not do here, and who decides? _____

ANSWER KEY (fold or cover until you have tried)

Round 2 ASK, one good set: Task: a thank-you note. Context: the studio lent us Room Two and stayed late to set out chairs. Constraints: warm, under eighty words. Format: a short email with a subject line. READ: the fresh tea; the tool added a friendly detail nobody gave it. STOP: Nia deletes the tea, reads it once more as the person who was there, and sends it herself.

Round 3 ASK, one good set: Task: a packing list. Context: a cool, rainy day trip by train, one small bag. Constraints: twelve items or fewer. Format: a checklist in three groups: wear, carry, eat. READ: sandals; the context said cool and rain, and open shoes contradict that. STOP: the tool stops at the list; you check the forecast, pack the bag and decide. Your parts can differ if each one tells the tool something it could not guess.

CHECK YOURSELF: Did each of my four parts say something the tool could not guess? Did I question one item and say why? Did I name who decides, and what they check first?

YOUR OWN ROUND, AFTER THE VIDEO: pick a low-stakes task you can judge (a packing list, a friendlier version of a made-up note with no real names, a five-question quiz on something you know). Write the four parts, keep names, addresses, health and money details out, ask, read as the expert, revise once, and write where you stop.