PERSUASIVE WRITING

AI COMPANION BOTS

Year 5/6

Lesson Overview:

Students will explore the idea of AI companion bots and consider how they compare to human friendships. They will analyse both sides of an argument and develop their own opinion, before planning and beginning a persuasive text using a structured writing template.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- explain how AI companions differ from human friends
- form and justify a clear opinion on the topic
- organise a persuasive text with one main idea per paragraph
- support arguments with examples and reasoning
- use persuasive language to influence the reader

Key Words:

artificial intelligence, companion bot, persuasive, opinion, argument, reasoning, bias, privacy, relationships.

Lesson Resources:

Slide Deck, Video, Writing Template

Curriculum Links

Digital Technologies

- Investigate how digital systems use and represent data (AC9TDI6K01)
- Explain the implications of data use, including privacy, security and potential risks (AC9TDI6P09)

English

- Understand how texts are structured differently depending on purpose (AC9E5LA03)
- Use cohesive devices and topic sentences to guide the reader (AC9E5LA04)
- Plan, create and publish persausive texts (AC9E5LY06 / AC9E6LY06)

Health and Physical Education

- Apply protective behaviours and critical thinking in online environments (AC9HP4P08)

LESSON SLIDES

Introduce:

- Display the statement "**AI companions are better than human friends**."
- Students physically respond (Agree/Disagree) and justify their thinking
- Watch the music video on slide 4
- Facilitate discussion:
  - What is an AI companion?
  - How is it different to a real friend?
- Introduce persuasive writing focus and structure on slide 5
- Model how to develop a convincing paragraph using sentence starters on slide 5.

Explore:

Students....

- begin by brainstorming arguments for and against the statement using the writing template
- choose their position (for or against)
- develop three strong arguments using the writing scaffolds on slide 5
- begin drafting their persuasive writing using the 3rd page of the writing template
- use persuasive sentence starters from the slides to support writing.

Reflect:

- Students first review their own work:
  - Have I clearly stated my opinion?
  - Do I have three strong reasons?
  - Have I explained my ideas clearly?
- Students then share with a partner:
  - identify one clear and convincing argument
  - suggest one way to improve clarity or detail
- Students make at least one improvement to their work.

Exit Ticket: "Do you think AI companions could replace real friendships? Why or why not?"

Optional Home Learning:

Students interview a family member or trusted adult using the question:

"Do you think AI companions are better than human friends?"