DAY 29 · Part 3 · What It Can Do

Research for a graded class project: how much can you hand to AI? — Research

Five-Minute AI Lessons · Oct 5, 2026

You can share the finding with AI, but the checking is yours all the way.

In a nutshell

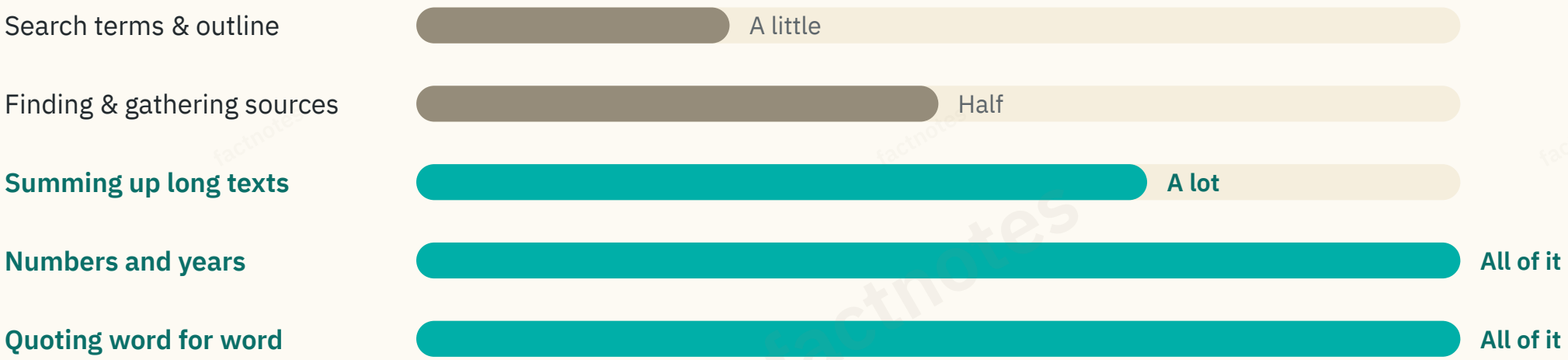
1. Researching with AI **gets you started faster**. When you don't know what to search for, it quickly comes up with search terms and ideas for an outline.

2. But what speeds up is **the front part — finding and sorting**. It shortens long texts and gathers scattered stuff, but while it shortens, words that weren't in the original can slip in.

3. So numbers, years, people's names and quotes need you to **click through to the original yourself** and check. In 2023, a lawyer in the US was fined after handing a court fake cases that AI had made up.

In one picture

Your share to check, piece by piece



The further down you go, the more a mistake shows — and the harder it is to fix.

Key idea: you can share the finding, but you can't share the checking

Experiment · Before & after

Researching "Why did the stream in our town get so dirty?"

1. What to look for

Before

You get stuck on search words right away. You type just "stream pollution," wander around for a...

After

It quickly lays out angles like "household wastewater, livestock waste, trash in storm drains,"...

This is a piece where mistakes cost little. They get filtered out anyway when y...

2. Sorting long texts

Before

You read a 20-page report yourself, underline it and copy out notes. It takes all evening, but...

After

Paste in the same report and it sorts it into points. But sometimes sentences that weren't in t...

Summaries are handy, but any sentence you'll use has to be found again in the o...

3. Numbers & quotes

Before

You check statistics on the website of whoever published them, and quotes in the book itself. S...

After

It answers smoothly, years and organization names included. The problem is that sometimes those...

That's exactly what happened in the 2023 US lawyer case. Numbers, years and quo...

Pick a research step and switch between "On your own" and "With AI." The bar shows how much you'll have to chec...

Try it yourself in the web lesson · next-token.net/en/learn/day-29/

Quick check

Just three questions

Q1

What speeds up the most when you research with AI?

① Checking whether the numbers are right
② Answering questions when you present
③ The start: search terms and angles
④ Copying quotes exactly

Q2

You want to use a sentence from AI's summary in your homework. What do you do?

① Paste it in as is
② Ask a friend
③ Make it longer
④ Find that point again in the original

Q3

Where should you check numbers and years?

① Where first published
② AI's answer
③ A friend's slides
④ Any random blog

Know the why, too

Q1

③

When you don't know what to look for, it quickly lays out angles and outline ideas. Mistakes here get filtered out in the next step, so they cost little.

Q2

④

Words that weren't in the original can slip in while it shortens things. If you can't find a sentence in the original, take it out.

Q3

①

Numbers that get passed along can change on the way. Check statistics with whoever published them, and quotes in the book itself.

You can share the finding with AI, but the checking is yours all the way.

Tomorrow: Study helper — should you ask for just the answer, or have it explain the steps?