



AI as a Companion to Human Learning

**Not an answer machine.
Not a shortcut. A partner
in thinking.**

Pascal Mariany — CEO & Co-founder CivAI

Co-creator of EduGPT, GovGPT, OrgGPT & CareGPT



THE NETHERLANDS
**FESTIVAL OF
EDUCATION**

Edith Stein College, The Hague | Saturday 6 June 2026



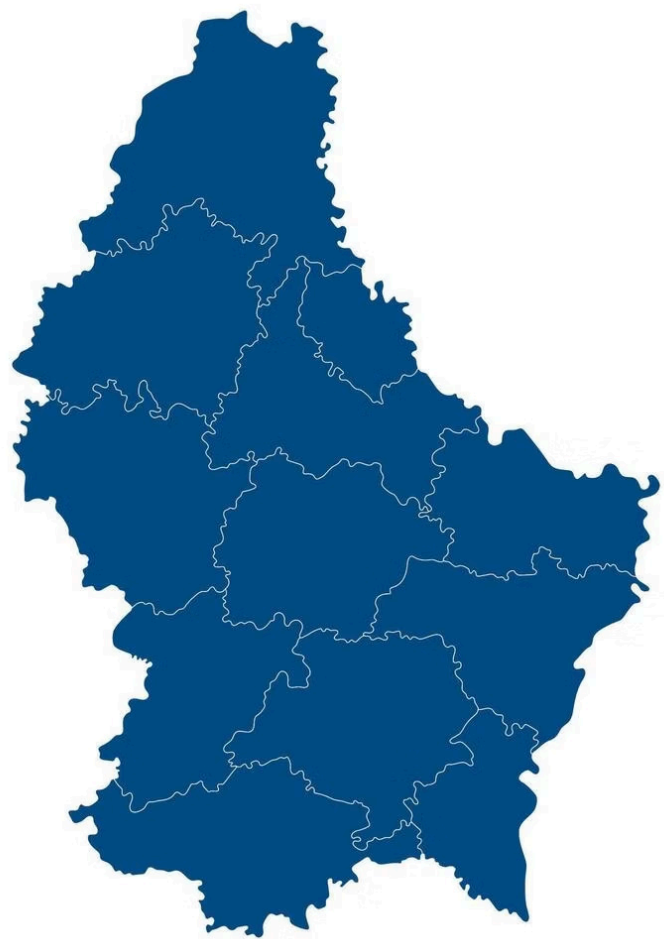
Who am I

Pascal Mariany.

CEO & Co-founder CivAI | Co-creator of EduGPT, GovGPT, OrgGPT & CareGPT | AI-driven Education Innovator & Senior Lecturer | Humane & European AI-Ecosystems | Connecting People, Technology and Future-Ready Learning | 



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Interesting Book



Artificial intelligence is changing education and professional society faster than any technology before it. Students are writing with language models, teachers are designing with AI companions, and organizations are seeking a balance between innovation and integrity. In this rapid development, one question is central: how do we remain human in a world where systems think along with us?

In this book, Pascal Mariani explores how AI literacy offers a new foundation for learning, teaching, and professional identity. Not as a technical skill, but as a way of looking at intelligence, ownership, and human action. Through practical examples, educational frameworks, and direct experiences from his work in higher education, Pascal shows how AI can be used in a visible, discussable, and meaningful way.



The art of living with AI is an inspirational book for teachers, education developers, leaders, and anyone who wants to build a human-centered, future-proof learning environment.

THE TURNING POINT

AI is already entering education since 2022



Students are using it. Teachers are experimenting with it. Schools are trying to understand what it means.

The real question is not *whether* AI will enter education.

- ② The real question is: who gets to shape how it is designed and used?

The Risk

When AI only gives answers, learning can become thinner. Students may skip the struggle, the doubt, the reflection, the ownership.

And that is exactly where learning often begins.

| AI can support thinking. But it can also quietly replace it.



Test your AI literacy in minutes

Want to know where you stand in the age of AI? The **AI Literacy Companion** helps learners, teachers, and professionals gain insight into how they work with AI, where their strengths lie, and what they still need to develop.

This is not just about tool skills. It is about critical judgment, responsible use, awareness of bias, and understanding when AI supports learning and when it starts replacing thinking.

 Try it now: www.ailiteracycompanion.eu



THE OPPORTUNITY

AI can also deepen learning



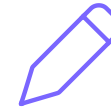
Ask better questions

AI can prompt curiosity and push learners to look further.



Compare ideas

It helps students weigh perspectives instead of accepting one.



Revise and improve

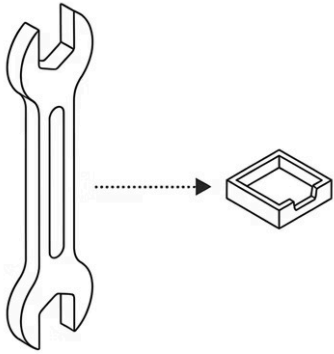
It supports reflection, explanation, and refinement of work.



The question is not: how do we make students faster? It is: how do we help them think better?

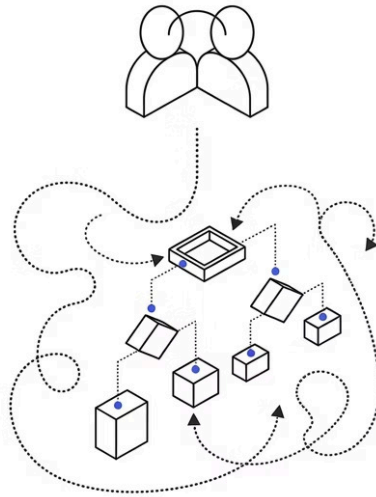
From Tool to Companion

TOOL



**FINISH TASK.
DIRECT OUTPUT.**

COMPANION



**THINK THROUGH.
SLOW PROCESS.**

A tool helps you **finish** a task. A companion helps you **think through** it. That difference matters deeply in education.

A learning companion asks:

- What are you trying to understand?
- What choices are you making?
- What assumptions are hidden?
- What evidence do you have?
- What could be improved?

What Human Learning Needs

Learning is not only producing an answer. It needs attention, curiosity, doubt, dialogue, feedback, creativity, reflection, responsibility, and professional judgment.

If AI removes these

It weakens learning.

If AI strengthens these

It can become a meaningful companion.



HEAR: Human Expressive AI Reasoning

A pedagogical and didactical framework for using AI as a companion in human learning.



H — Human Intent

The human sets the goal, question, and direction. Learning starts with purpose.



E — Expressive Interaction

The learner engages in iterative, exploratory dialogue through prompts and refinement with AI Companions.



A — AI Mediation

AI offers structure, ideas, and analysis as a cognitive amplifier. Output remains provisional.



R — Reasoned Responsibility

The human evaluates, interprets, and decides what is meaningful and correct.

| AI does not do the thinking for us. It helps us think better, more consciously, and more visibly.

01



KNOWLEDGE:

Define, Identify,
Describe, Recognize,
Tell, Explain, Recite,
Memorize, Illustrate,
Quote

02



UNDERSTAND:

Summarize, Interpret,
Classify, Compare,
Contrast, Infer, Relate,
Extract, Paraphrase,
Cite

03



APPLY:

Solve, Change, Relate,
Complete, Use, Sketch,
Teach, Articulate,
Discover, Transfer

04



ANALYZE:

Contrast, Connect, Relate,
Devise, Correlate,
Illustrate, Distill,
Conclude, Categorize,
Take Apart

05



EVALUATE:

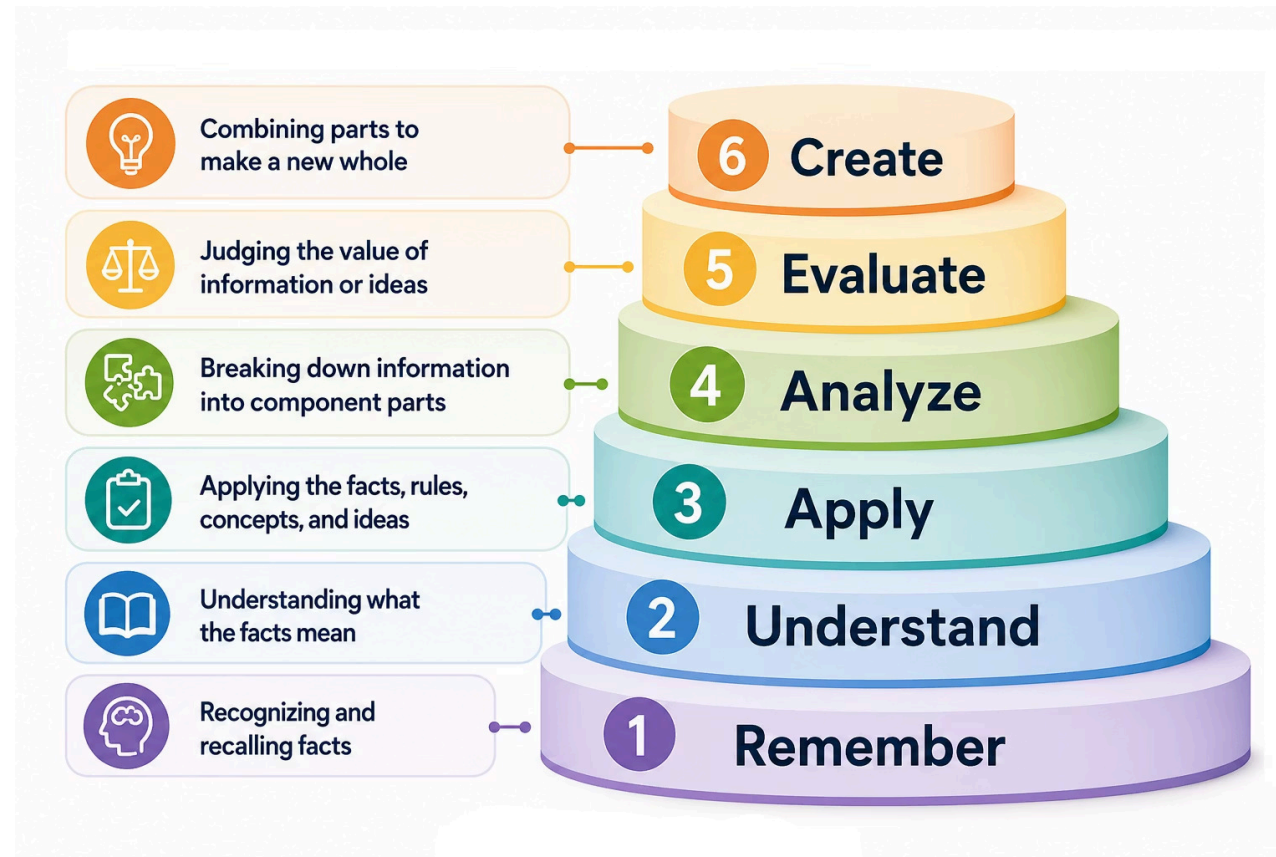
Criticize, Reframe, Judge,
Defend, Appraise, Value,
Prioritize, Plan, Grade,
Reframe

06



CREATE:

Design, Modify, Role-Play,
Develop, Rewrite, Pivot,
Modify, Collaborate,
Invent, Write



AI as a Thinking Partner ✨

Stronger thinking. Better learning. Together.



 Human in the Loop

 **EduGPT**

Human-in-the-Loop

In many AI discussions, human-in-the-loop is treated as a technical or legal safeguard. In education, it should be understood more deeply — as a **didactic principle**.

Teachers retain control

They decide when, how, and why AI is used. Output stays transparent and discussable.

Pupils remain owners

The learning process belongs to the learner. AI never takes over agency or voice.

Assessment stays human

Judgment about growth and quality requires human insight and context.

AI is made visible

Students should know when AI is involved, how it shapes output, and what its limits are.

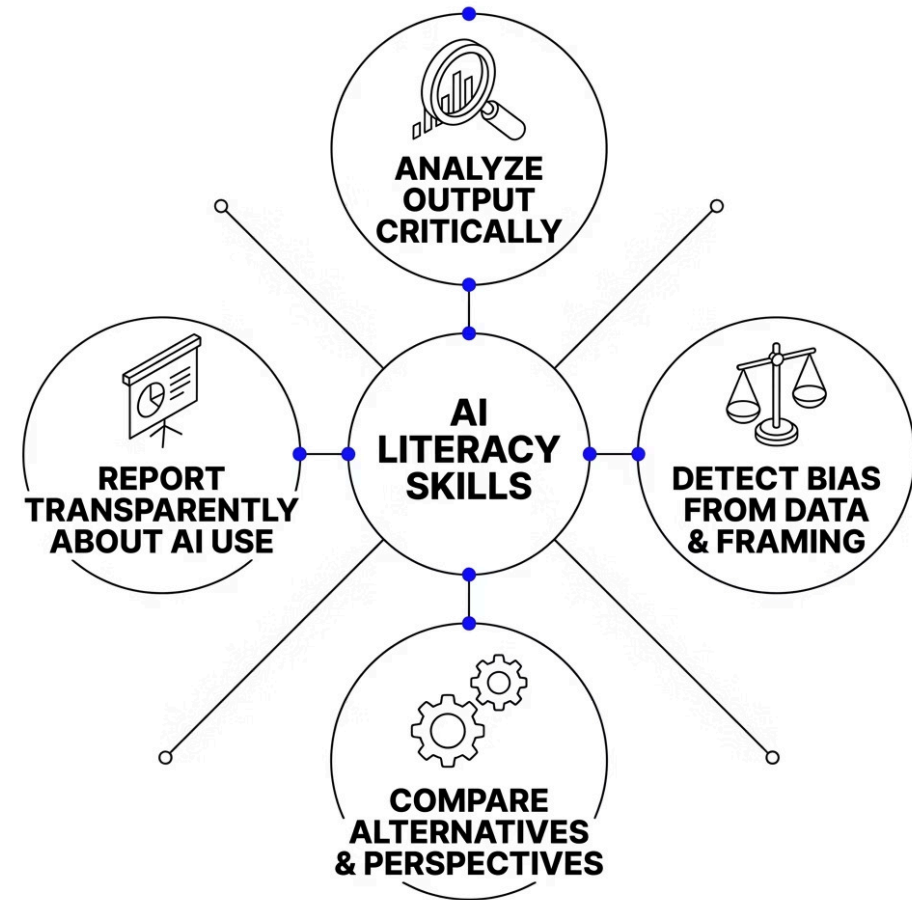
Human-in-the-loop is not a barrier to innovation. It is what keeps education educational.

AI Literacy as a Core Competency

AI literacy is not simply the ability to write a good prompt. Learners need the ability to question, evaluate, compare, and use AI responsibly.

Just as media literacy became essential in the digital age, AI literacy is now becoming a **foundational competence**.

- ❏ AI literacy belongs in the curriculum, not on the sidelines.



The Role of the Teacher

AI should not replace the teacher. It should strengthen the teacher's role as **designer, coach, and guardian** of the learning process.

- Teachers bring context
- Teachers see growth
- Teachers understand the learner
- Teachers know when struggle is useful



IN PRACTICE

EduGPT in Practice



With CivAI and EduGPT we design AI environments for schools and higher education where AI **supports** learning instead of taking it over.

EduGPT is a safe, European, education-oriented AI environment. Not a generic chatbot, not a productivity trick, and not a replacement for the teacher.



Log in at
Email:
Password:

EXAMPLE 1

Critical Thinking

Instead of asking

**Give me the
answer.**

Students learn to ask

- What assumptions am I making?
- What evidence supports this?
- What would a different perspective reveal?
- Where might this answer be incomplete?
- How can I improve my reasoning?

AI becomes valuable when it helps students see their own thinking more clearly.

EXAMPLE 2

Feedback



AI can help students improve their work before final submission — not by grading them automatically, but by helping them understand:

- The criteria
- The quality of their work
- The next step
- The choices they still need to make

✓ Feedback should not only correct. It should help learners grow.



EXAMPLE 3

Ownership

A good AI companion does not remove responsibility. It gives the learner more language, structure, and confidence to take it.

The author

The student remains the author.

The decision-maker

The student remains the decision-maker.

Accountable

The student remains accountable.

AI can support the process. But the learning remains human.

TRUST

Safe and Sovereign by Design

Education needs more than clever AI. If AI becomes part of the learning process, schools need environments they can trust, not only technically, but also **pedagogically & didactically**.



Privacy



Transparency



Governance



**European
hosting**



AI should make thinking visible

Not invisible.

- It should reveal questions
- It should expose assumptions
- It should invite revision
- It should help learners explain their choices
- It should support dialogue between student, teacher, and process

❏ When AI hides the process, it weakens education. When AI opens the process, it can enrich it.



The Bigger Question

Do we want AI that makes students **faster**? Or AI that helps them become more **thoughtful, creative, and responsible**?

The future of AI in education will not be shaped by technology alone. It will be shaped by the values, choices, and courage of educators.

Closing Reflection

The future of AI in education is not about replacing human learning. It is about **protecting and enriching** it.

AI should not make the human mind passive. It should keep the human mind awake.

Let's design AI that keeps the human mind awake.



Thank You

Pascal Mariany — CEO & Co-founder CivAI

Co-creator of EduGPT, GovGPT, OrgGPT & CareGPT



Let's get connected on LinkedIn:



Let's keep learning human.

For schools, educators, and institutions exploring safe, sovereign, and human-centered AI in education:

www.edugpt.nl

www.civai.eu

www.ailliteracycompanion.eu