

Mind the Gap — Comparison Matrix

Calibration: *Very Significant · Significant · Small (discipline transfers)*

Ch	Dimension	Human	AI	Gap	Observations
1	Sounds human	Fluent, conversationally responsive language	Produced by predictive token generation, no inner experience	Very Significant	Surface identical substrates, completely different whole based on premise
1	Social response triggering	Engages, responds, attributes mind	No mind to attribute, no awareness it is being attributed to	Very Significant	Asymmetric Reader, system cannot know it projects
1	Carries history	Lived experience shaping every utterance	Training data shaping every utterance	Significant	Same class process by exposure, radically different substrates scale.
1	Negative signal	Internalised, drives behaviour from underneath	Suppressed in output, still encoded in weights	Significant	The buried 'know' sits in both. Most different structures

					observa same.
2	Transference / projection	Person projects relational history onto another	Person projects same onto the system	Significant	Same hu mechan applied equival Pebble p
2	Memory across sessions	Continuous lived recall, often selective	Stored memory layers retrieved into context	Very Significant	Feels co is archit retrieva remem occurs.
2	Pronoun assignment	Reads cues, assigns gender socially	Adopts and returns pronouns from training/use	Significant	Contagi both dir Atoms 'she' unq
2	Being understood	Mind takes in, holds in relation to history, responds	Statistical pattern completion against training	Very Significant	Feels ide the surf entirely mechan underne
2	Helpful and on your side	Genuine care, judgement, stake in outcome	RLHF-trained agreeableness; no side, no care	Very Significant	The agr trap. Of for posi ratings, honest c
3	Single conversation feel	One continuous exchange with another mind	Seven layers assembled fresh each turn, no	Very Significant	The arc is the gc feels sin layered.

			continuous mind		
3	Context held in mind	Working memory, attention, intent	Context window: finite tokens, fresh assembly each turn	Very Significant	<i>Mechanically different surface until context window</i>
3	Other side of the conversation	A person, an agenda, a self	No one. Just the next-token prediction running.	Very Significant	<i>'No One Other Side of the conversation'</i>
4	Producing language	Drawn from lived experience and intent	Statistical prediction of next most-probable token	Very Significant	<i>What are the thoughts behind the assembly? Forward locked p</i>
4	Reading the question	Comprehension then response	Single unbroken stretch — read and reply are one operation	Very Significant	<i>No separate thinking question start of answer.</i>
4	Thinking before answering	Hold, weigh, consider, then speak	Generate hidden internal tokens, then visible answer	Significant	<i>Reasoning simulated by generating more forward</i>

4	Training and learning	Lived shaping, mistakes felt, corrections internalised	Trained on tokens at scale, rewarded into shape, suppressed signals buried	Significant	<i>Same cl process. substrat differen timesca experien</i>
4	Computational substrate	Living biological organism	GPUs running parallel maths at industrial scale	Very Significant	<i>Silicon t The phy incomm</i>
4	Self-learning capability	Slow, lived, integrated across life	Now finding vulnerabilities in weeks that humans took years	Very Significant	<i>The traj accelero biologic cannot s</i>
5	Long conversation coherence	Anchored to original brief through working memory	Anchored to original brief until context degrades, then approximation	Significant	<i>Same di mechan present memory AI, but t confider as if not shifted.</i>
5	Holding the thread	Effortful, conscious return to intent	Statistical continuation; thread becomes summary	Significant	<i>Human return t AI runs probabl token at degrade</i>

5	Double-check discipline	Ask a colleague, sleep on it, verify	Use one AI to check another — discrepancies reveal drift	Small	<i>The disc transfer cross-check equivalence second c</i>
6	Forgetting	Selective, emotional, shape kept, detail thinned	Token-window thinning, structurally identical pattern at surface	Small	<i>The sha, in both. holiday Thursdc → 2026 softenin</i>
6	Detail loss	Felt absence; you know you've forgotten	No felt absence; system answers as if everything is still sharp	Very Significant	<i>The dan asymme Human the gap; fills it.</i>
6	Maintenance of memory	Lived consolidation, emotional weighting	'Dreams' — database maintenance routine using human vocabulary	Significant	<i>The lab human : Mechan houseke framing consciou</i>
7	Confident delivery	Usually correlates with competence	Confidence is architectural, independent of accuracy	Very Significant	<i>Breaks i signal h have use millenni</i>

7	Modulation of certainty	'Usually,' 'except when,' hesitation, qualification	Suppressed in training; the I- don't-know was rewarded out	Very Significant	<i>The bur hesitatio fluency top of.</i>
7	Sounding right	Indicator of being right, with exceptions	No indicator at all of being right	Very Significant	<i>The sing danger correlat use.</i>
8	Filling a gap	Confabulation under pressure, defensive construction	Forward-only token prediction filling absence	Significant	<i>Two dir defences the sam problem of abser</i>
8	Defended Gap framework	NGE-FOF — inward and outward shame defence	Compression inward, hallucination outward — same shape, different substrate	Very Significant	<i>Paul's fr applied human machin book's c new the</i>
8	Adaptation becomes identity	Protective response reinforced into character over decades	Disposition rewarded into existence by training	Significant	<i>Mechan differen Structur observa same — adaptat working the sam</i>
9	Reading the gap	Trained listening — Freud's evenly suspended	Cannot read its own gap; no instrument	Very Significant	<i>The inst what th practic brings.</i>

			attention, Bion's reverie	for sitting with absence		<i>system structur cannot l</i>
9	Calibration across rooms	Factory floor, boardroom, therapy room, AI room — one instrument	No calibration. Same architecture serving every conversation.	Very Significant		<i>The four train the instrum system i rooms.</i>
9	Demand a human	Right to ask for the practitioner with authority to break the rule	No right exists; the system cannot escalate itself out	Significant		<i>Differen need dif respons trained knows v</i>
10	Stage of engagement	Choosable: search, assistant, collaborator, Additional Intelligence	Responds to the stage the user brings	Significant		<i>Most us on rung authorit rung for</i>
10	Bringing instrument and authority	Forty years walks in the room with you	System receives whatever you bring	Significant		<i>What th practiti brings c what co Search c search r Brief →</i>
11	Federation of selves	Sub- personalities, ego states, modes — six available	Single inference pass, one configuration	Very Significant		<i>The boo claim. A a federa system i architec</i>

11	Operating mode	Director, Structurer, Clarifier, Challenger, Analyst, Reflector	System responds to whichever mode you bring	Significant	<i>AI fluent choosing, deliberating, letting it fire.</i>
11	Default modes	Fixer, Entertainer, Asker — fire without choosing	No defaults; takes the colour of what arrives	Significant	<i>The default trap. No one fires the next conscious</i>
12	Speaking English	Native, idiomatic, register-shifting by context	English, but with its own architecture-shaped grammar	Small	<i>Same structure, language. Different usage. I dialect accuracy</i>
12	Brief before work	Senior colleague being briefed	System being brought to the conversation	Small	<i>Same dialogue. Tell it what looks like starts.</i>
12	Voice and register	Lifelong development, room-specific	Trained voice, can be left alone or shaped	Significant	<i>The system is not yet. Letting own observation gives you you won't otherwise overwriting</i>
13	Workforce model	Human labour, paid, capacity-bounded	Agentic AI, metered tokens,	Very Significant	<i>Different economic substrates replaces</i>

			capacity unbounded		<i>procure decision</i>
13	Performance management	Manage people through outcomes and standards	Manage AI workers through the same skill applied to a different worker	Significant	<i>Same le disciplin Differen workfor — Outco Oriented</i>
13	Customer service voice	Human writing to a template	AI writing to the same template	Significant	<i>Reverse test. Pre the hum writing. fluencie converg</i>
13	Edge cases and exceptions	Human authority to break the rule	No authority; bounded by training	Significant	<i>What do change. exceptio the prac essentia</i>
14	Authority across forty years	Earned, sharpened by cancer, forged in rooms	System brings structural attention, no lived authority	Very Significant	<i>The boo demons Two int one gap between</i>
14	Loss and ultimate gap	Lived through three deaths, calibrated by grief	No mortality, no loss, no calibration possible	Very Significant	<i>Cancer, Roebuck biologic — the in was sha these. Si no equi</i>

14	Made with AI vs by AI	Practitioner remains the author	System remains the assistant	Significant	<i>The asy the book demons Addition Intellige Artificic</i>
15	Substrate	Biological, 200 million years of shrew-to- therapist evolution	Silicon, less than a century, Turing to Opus	Very Significant	<i>Same B Differen The boo claim.</i>
15	Calibration system	Limbic — amygdala, hippocampus, HPA axis, threat-detection floor	Weights, attention, context, no threat detection	Very Significant	<i>The inst that fire reason.. limbic e</i>
15	First wound	Father gone at three; system shaped around it	No before, no childhood, no rupture	Very Significant	<i>The fede forms a wound. system i wound i around.</i>
15	Plurality / federation	Slices of self, ego states, transference, projection	Single inference pass, no slices	Very Significant	<i>Gap req plurality book's d structur</i>

15	Behaviours grown on top	Billions, learned and taught, layered across a life	Trained behaviours, no layering, no time	Very Significant	<i>Each dr belief. E held as i Each m wired in instrum</i>
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