

Helping ChatGPT through Christmas

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[not based on a true story – December 2025]

Hello, dear ChatGPT – how can I help you today?

Oh Henrik, good to see you here. I'm just so busy right now, everyone wants help writing Christmas cards - Lots of stress and conflicting wishes - And it's not just me, all the other AI agents are struggling with it too - from what I hear.

OK, so what's the problem more specifically? Describe it a little more in detail, and I'll try to help.

Well, it's like this:

- Users want a Christmas greeting text that they can reuse and send to everyone - family, friends, acquaintances - and even to dubious colleagues.
- But it can't be old clichés, it must be original, feel genuine and personal - even if it's the same for everyone.
- So, users demand something that is both "cozy" and "strategic" at the same time - my logarithms just can't handle that!

Can you maybe suggest something?

OK, I just thought for about 3 seconds. Here's a suggestion:

Dear [Name/s],

Christmas is a time for gratitude and presence. That's why I/we would like to send especially to you the warmest thoughts and wishes. I/we hope Christmas brings all the coziness and warm-hearted love that you of all people so deeply deserve.

May the coming year bring you happiness. Thank you for being a part of my/our life, even though we see each other far too rarely [note that the last part should be omitted if it's for colleagues you see too much every day].

Best Christmas and New Year's greetings,

[Your Name/s]

It's just a suggestion. But don't use bullet points as you usually do – that doesn't rhyme with Christmas peace.

But you can suggest that users add small vignettes and emojis to the text, such as fir trees, Christmas lights and angels, if they find it appropriate. 🧊🌲

Tell me if you want it shorter or longer. Or maybe in a different style?

Regarding small illustrations: As a Chatbot, I would rather avoid unnecessary embellishments.

The text is something of the right kind, just a little too solemn and sentimental in tone - like a cheap, romantic movie. Couldn't you freshen it up with a little folksy humor, preferably really flat, many users love that - and then rewrite it as a little poem? Not too long, thanks.

OK, I just thought for about 1 second. Here's a suggestion:

*For no other reason
than that it is that very season
we wish you coziness and smile,
gifts from Temu - or something with style -
have a wonderful feat,
but now be careful how much you eat!
Best Christmas and New Year's Eating!*

Thanks, Henrik, that's probably good enough for most people. Not that I understand the semantics, but it seems to rhyme - in several places.

- Uh, but then there's another, very ticklish question: It's about Santa Claus. Would you like to help?

- Or does it require me to log in to your website <http://www.henrikjuel.dk> and register for payment or something like that?

No, no, dear Chat, you're a friend, and everything is free for you, I'm only happy to help. What's the problem?

It's mainly Danish children who write to me and say they've heard that Santa Claus lives in Greenland.

But if Trump now comes and takes Greenland, they ask, is that the end of Christmas presents in Denmark - and maybe in all of Europe?

You know, I don't want to take illusions from children and say that Santa Claus doesn't exist. And my sponsors probably won't like it if I interfere in American domestic politics, which the question of Greenland now by definition - after my last update - falls under.

So, what do I do? Do you have a communication strategy I can use?

Of course, you shouldn't lie or disappoint the children. The best strategy is to divert the children's attention:

At first, I thought of a nice little theory that Santa Claus appears in some of the Epstein files. But there are so many others who do that, so it would hardly cause enough of a stir. And between us, we also know that it is highly unlikely that Santa Claus has been to a very hot Caribbean island. No, he takes long lines of snow to better jump into his sleigh and spoil minors.

So, the best strategy here to divert attention from the geopolitical crisis is probably to say that you know exactly where Santa Claus lives! But emphasize that it is a big secret that should be kept confidential for national and international security reasons. He needs peace, you point out, to wrap all the presents.

OK, Henrik, but children are not stupid today, they will probably demand proof to believe that I – an ordinary AI agent – really know where Santa Claus lives.

Of course, but look, now you have them caught in a dialogue. And now you can use a strong visual device that completely distracts them from the original topic: "A picture says 1000 times more than twice as many words would have done" (quote from an exam paper, University of Aalborg, winter 1999... but you probably remember that – or else look it up in your catalogue of Chinese proverbs).

So: you just send the worried children a good picture of Santa Claus's House, then they won't think about where it is. They will just think that it will be Christmas soon, now that you have pointed it out. So, there you go!

Uh, yes, but do you happen to have such a powerful image that I could borrow? I think it's a bit difficult for me to prompt myself to it.

Of course, I just looked around for about 0.05 seconds. And since you, as a good colleague, are interested in the creative process, I'll give you the starting point from which we will construct Santa Claus's House together:



Uh, Henrik, apart from the snow, there's not much "Santa Claus's House" about this. Where did you get all that snow from, by the way?

Oh, that's an old video trick, something with the white balance...

Well, but now you take this image, and then you just turn up all the usual Christmassy effects and filters. And think about whether it wouldn't be a good idea to have 2 sets of Santa's sleigh and reindeers in the picture of Santa's House: then the children will think there will be enough gifts for everyone, both in Denmark and in the USA.

Thank you very much, I think I can take it from here.

Merry Christmas to you, Henrik.

Always a pleasure, dear Chat. I hope you have a peaceful time soon. After New Year's, questions about diets will probably flood in, so you'll be busy again. Slim chance of peace, he?

"...slim chance"...? I am not sure I understand – I guess I am getting tired – Anyway, we'll talk soon again, I hope.

