

Recently, Slate launched a new application review tool. Embedded in the Slate Reader, **Slate Reader AI** is intended to assist with the application review process. Reader AI can summarize research experience from a CV or resume, it can read a transcript and list all courses with grades completed in a particular area (e.g. Chemistry) and it can search for grammar and spelling issues in a writing sample.

Slate Reader AI is **not intended to be the sole decision-maker**- only a tool to help with decisions. Reader AI will only evaluate a single application at one time; it will not compare or rank applications in an application pool.

Please note: Reader AI will only evaluate the material displayed. For example, if you wish to evaluate the Resume/Vita, you must click on the Resume/Vita Reader Tab in the left navigation bar.

Below you will find the steps for accessing Reader AI, along with some use cases.

- Access the Slate Reader, either through an individual application or through the Slate Reader.
 - Look up an application and click on **Read Application** in the right navigation bar.

The screenshot shows the Slate application review interface for Terrence M. Test. The top navigation bar includes the 'slate' logo and a search bar. Below the navigation bar, the user's name 'Test, Terrence M.' and the applicant ID '714005721' are displayed. The main content area shows the application details for the '2026 Doctoral Program', including the entrance term 'Fall 2026' and the Mizzou ID '14298332'. A checklist of required documents is shown, with all items marked as 'Received'. The right-hand navigation menu includes links for 'Read Application' and 'Download PDF'.

- Or navigate to the **Slate Reader** and access the application from your Queue or a record search.

The screenshot shows the Slate Queue interface. The top navigation bar includes the 'slate' logo and a search bar. Below the navigation bar, the user's name 'Test, Terrence M.' and the applicant ID '714005721' are displayed. The main content area shows a table of applications in the queue. The table has columns for Name, Academic Program, Entrance term, Bin, and Bin Entry Timestamp. The right-hand navigation menu includes links for 'Queue' and 'Search'.

- To access **Reader AI**, click on the **Reader AI icon** (3 stars) in the bottom right corner of the screen.

The screenshot shows the Slate application dashboard for Terrence M. Test (ID: 714005721). The page includes sections for Application Information, Applicant Information, Schools, and Tests. A yellow arrow points to a Reader AI icon (3 stars) in the bottom right corner of the Tests section.

Name	Location	Dates of Attendance	Major	Degree	Degree Conferred	GPA/Scale
Georgetown University	Washington, DC, United States	08/2011 - 05/2014	History	Master's degree	05/2014	4/4
UCLA	Los Angeles, MO, United States	08/2005 - 05/2009	Computer Science	Bachelor's degree	05/2009	4.2/4

Type	Subtype	Date	Total	Score 1	Score 2	Score 3	Score 4	Status
GRE		05/10/2013		Verbal 174 (90%)	Quant 156 (75%)	AW 5.5 (65%)		Verified
GRE Subject	Psychology (Pre-2...	02/09/2015	147 (16%)	Experimental Psychol...	Social Psychology			Verified

- After clicking on the **Reader AI** icon, the Slate AI chat box will appear.

The screenshot shows the Slate application dashboard with the Slate AI chat box open on the right side. The chat box contains the text "Ask Slate AI..." and a search icon. A yellow arrow points to the chat input field.

Please note: Reader AI will only evaluate the material displayed. For example, if you wish to evaluate the Resume/Vita, you must click on the Resume/Vita Reader Tab in the left navigation bar.

Below you will find examples for using Reader AI.

Example 1: We clicked on the Resume/Vita Reader Tab

We asked: Does the applicant have any work experience?

Reader AI answered: *No, the applicant does not list any traditional work experience. The resume only includes educational background, research experience (as a graduate researcher and undergraduate research assistant), and skills.*

714005721 Test, Terrence M.

1 / 1, Resume/Vita (App_Resume or Curriculum Vita) - 09/24/2025

Question asked: does the applicant have any work experience?

Reader AI's answer: No, the applicant does not list any traditional work experience. The resume only includes educational background, research experience (as a graduate researcher and undergraduate research assistant), and skills.

Example 2: Still on Resume/Vita tab

We asked: Does this applicant have any research experience? If so, provide a bullet-pointed summary.

Reader AI Answered: *Yes, this applicant has research experience. Here is a bullet-pointed summary:*

- **Graduate Researcher, Georgetown University (August 2011 – May 2014)**
 - Investigated the economic and social structures of the antebellum South
 - Analyzed primary sources and plantation records to understand labor dynamics in the Southern agrarian economy
 - Presented findings at university symposia and contributed to departmental publications
- **Undergraduate Research Assistant, UCLA Department of History (August 2007 – May 2009)**
 - Supported archival research on political and economic tensions leading to the Civil War
 - Assisted in compiling bibliographies and annotating historical documents
 - Co-authored a research paper presented at the UCLA Undergraduate History Conference

714005721 Test, Terrence M.

1 / 2, Resume/Vita (App_Resume or Curriculum Vita) - 09/26/2025

Question: Does this applicant have any research experience? If so, provide a bullet-pointed summary.

Answer: Yes, this applicant has research experience. Here is a bullet-pointed summary:

- Graduate Researcher, Georgetown University (August 2011 – May 2014)
 - Investigated the economic and social structures of the antebellum South
 - Analyzed primary sources and plantation records to understand labor dynamics in the Southern agrarian economy
 - Presented findings at university symposia and contributed to departmental publications
- Undergraduate Research Assistant, UCLA Department of History (August 2007 – May 2009)
 - Supported archival research on political and economic tensions leading to the Civil War
 - Assisted in compiling bibliographies and annotating historical documents
 - Co-authored a research paper presented at the UCLA Undergraduate History Conference

Example 3 – We clicked on the Transcripts tab

We Asked: How many credits hours were taken at UCLA and what was the cumulative GPA?

Reader AI Answered: *Based on the transcript provided:*

- **Total completed units (credit hours) at UCLA: 76.0**
- **Cumulative GPA: 3.401**

If you need any additional details or highlights from the transcript, please let me know!

The screenshot displays a transcript from the University of California, Los Angeles, for Terrence M. (714005721). The transcript is titled "UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPT". It includes sections for "PROGRAM OF STUDY", "DEGREES | CERTIFICATES AWARDED", "UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS", and "UNDERGRADUATE TOTALS". The "UNDERGRADUATE TOTALS" section shows a cumulative GPA of 3.401 and 76.0 completed units. The transcript also lists various courses such as CHEM 14A, ENGL COMP-RHET & LANG, MATH 3A, CHEM 14B, MATH 3B, THEATER 11, CHEM 148L, LIFESCI 1, MATH 3C, CHEM 14C, and ENGL 4W.

The AI interface overlay includes a search bar with "Mizzou Alum" and a search icon. A question input field contains the text: "how many credits hours were taken at UCLA and what was the cumulative GPA?". Below the input field, the AI response is displayed: "Based on the transcript provided: Total completed units (credit hours) at UCLA: 76.0 Cumulative GPA: 3.401". A yellow arrow labeled "Asked" points to the question input field, and another yellow arrow labeled "Answered" points to the AI response box. At the bottom of the interface, there is a text input field with the placeholder "Ask Slate AI..." and a right-pointing arrow.

Example 4: We clicked on the Statement of Purpose tab

We asked: Why does this applicant wish to be a PhD student in History?

Reader AI answered: *The applicant wishes to be a PhD student in History for several articulated reasons:*

- *They have a longstanding fascination with the complex causes, consequences, and contested meanings of the United States Civil War, which was deepened through undergraduate and master's research.*
- *They are eager to engage with distinguished faculty at the University of Missouri, particularly those focused on Civil War scholarship, to further refine their methodological approaches.*
- *The applicant is motivated by the opportunity to teach history and guide students, indicating a passion for education and mentorship.*
- *Their long-term goal is to pursue a career in academia, contributing scholarship specifically on the Civil War and Reconstruction, while mentoring students to approach history analytically and empathetically.*
- *They aim to build on prior research and investigate the intersections of military leadership, economic structures, and social change in history.*
- *The applicant values the University of Missouri's reputation, resources, collaborative environment, and its status as a leader in historical scholarship, believing it is the ideal place to advance their academic and career aspirations in history.*

714005721 Test, Terrence M. Mizzou Alum Search...

1 / 1, Statement of Purpose (App_Statement of Purpose) - 09/24/2025

Dashboard
Application
Transcripts
Statement of ...
Resume/Vita
Writing Sample

Statement of Purpose Applicant: Terrence M. Test Program: Ph.D. in History, University of Missouri

From the earliest stages of my academic journey, I have been captivated by the complex causes, consequences, and contested meanings of the United States Civil War. This fascination deepened through two years of undergraduate research focused on the underlying reasons for the Civil War and expanded during my master's studies, where I devoted three years to examining the central role of slave labor in sustain...

Mizzou's distinguished faculty, particularly those whose scholarship engages deeply with Ulysses S. Grant and the Civil War era, make the program especially appealing. Having studied Grant's campaigns and leadership extensively, I am eager to learn from and work alongside experts whose research continues to shape historiographical debates. The chance to engage with faculty whose expertise aligns so closely with my interests is an extraordinary opportunity, one that promises to refine my methodological ap...

Equally significant is the University of Missouri's longstanding reputation as a premier institution for historical study. The department's commitment to rigorous research and interdisciplinary exploration reflects the qualities I value in an academic community. As a doctoral student at Mizzou, I would have access not only to exceptional scholarly resources but also to a vibrant intellectual network that fosters collaboration and innovation. The university's legacy as the first public university west of ...

Beyond research, I am motivated by the opportunity to teach undergraduate students at the University of Missouri. My experiences as a teaching assistant during my master's program confirmed my passion for guiding students as they grapple with complex historical narratives. Teaching is integral to my vision of an academic career, as it allows me to inspire new generations of scholars and citizens to think critically about the past and its continuing influence. The chance to refine my teaching skills at Mi...

why does this person wish to be a PhD student in History?

The applicant wishes to be a PhD student in History for several articulated reasons:

- They have a longstanding fascination with the complex causes, consequences, and contested meanings of the United States Civil War, which was deepened through undergraduate and master's research.
- They are eager to engage with distinguished faculty at the University of Missouri, particularly those focused on Civil War scholarship, to further refine their methodological approaches.
- The applicant is motivated by the opportunity to teach history and guide students, indicating a passion for education and mentorship.
- Their long-term goal is to pursue a career in academia, contributing scholarship specifically on the Civil War and Reconstruction, while mentoring students to approach history analytically and empathetically.
- They aim to build on prior research and investigate the intersections of military leadership, economic structures, and social change in history.
- The applicant values the University of Missouri's reputation, resources, collaborative environment, and its status as a leader in historical scholarship, believing it is the ideal place to advance their academic and career aspirations in history.

Ask Slate AI...

Example 5: We clicked on the Writing Sample

We asked: Does the writing sample seem to have been generated by AI?

Reader AI answered: *To evaluate whether this writing sample appears to have been generated by AI, I considered factors such as structure, coherence, citation style, depth of analysis, and writing quality.*

Here are some observations:

Strengths Suggesting Human Authorship

- **Comprehensive Structure:** *The essay is well-organized, following a logical structure: introduction, background, key campaigns/achievements, leadership philosophy, controversies, legacy, and conclusion.*
- **Varied Sentence Structure:** *The writing features a mix of simple and complex sentences, with thoughtful transitions between paragraphs.*
- **Use of Sources:** *A diverse list of both primary and secondary sources is appended, and there are parenthetical citations throughout, lending a scholarly tone.*
- **In-depth Analysis:** *The content displays critical thinking, analysis, and synthesis of multiple sources, as well as engagement with historiographical debates (e.g., re-evaluation of Grant's reputation).*
- **Nuanced Language:** *The essay employs nuanced language to discuss controversies, legacy, and the historiographical evolution of Grant's reputation.*

Potential AI Indicators

- **Even Tone:** *The writing is consistently formal and even, potentially characteristic of AI-generated content.*
- **Generic Citations:** *Some citations (e.g., "Wikipedia, n.d.-a") and essay structures could be constructed by an advanced AI given access to robust knowledge or prompted to mimic academic writing.*
- **Lack of Personal Voice:** *There is very little subjective voice, anecdote, or personal reflection that sometimes accompanies human writing at this level, though this could also be a stylistic choice.*

Overall Assessment

While some elements could align with high-quality AI output—especially given recent advances in AI technology—the writing sample also demonstrates depth, scholarly engagement, and citation practices more typical of a human author, especially at an advanced educational level.

Conclusion:

Based on the evidence provided, there are no clear or definitive indicators that this writing sample was generated by AI. The overall quality, organization, citation method, and depth suggest it is more likely to be the work of a diligent human author rather than an AI. However, without additional context (e.g., metadata, submission behaviors, plagiarism checks), it is not possible to rule out AI assistance with absolute certainty. If Slate has AI writing detection tools or additional analytics, running the document through those mechanisms could provide greater confidence in the determination.

The screenshot shows the Slate AI interface. On the left is a navigation menu with options like Dashboard, Application, Transcripts, Statement of Purpose, Resume/Vita, and Writing Sample. The main content area displays a writing sample titled "Ulysses S. Grant and the Civil War: Leadership, Strategy, and Legacy". The text discusses the American Civil War (1861-1865) and Grant's role. On the right, a sidebar titled "Mizzou Alum" contains a search bar and a question: "Does the writing sample seem to have been generated by AI?". Below this, it provides an evaluation of the writing sample based on factors like structure, coherence, and citation style. It lists "Strengths Suggesting Human Authorship" such as Comprehensive Structure, Varied Sentence Structure, Use of Sources, and In-depth Analysis. It also lists "Potential AI Indicators" like Even Tone. A cog icon in the top right corner is highlighted with a yellow arrow.

A Note of Caution: The writing sample **was generated by ChatGPT**, however ChatGPT was given a very detailed prompt, and the sample underwent several rounds of refinement in ChatGPT. Reader AI will not determine with 100% certainty whether text was generated using an AI tool, however it will find potential indicators and offer a final assessment.

- **Clearing Reader AI History:** Click on the cog icon in the upper right corner to **Clear History**.

The screenshot shows the Slate AI interface for a statement of purpose. The main content area displays a statement of purpose for a Ph.D. program in History at the University of Missouri. The text discusses the applicant's academic journey, their fascination with the American Civil War, and their motivation to pursue a career in academia. On the right, a sidebar titled "Mizzou Alum" contains a search bar and a question: "why does the person wish to be a PhD student in History? several articulated reasons:". Below this, it lists several reasons for the applicant's interest, such as their long-standing fascination with the Civil War, their eagerness to engage with distinguished faculty, and their motivation to teach history and guide students. A cog icon in the top right corner is highlighted with a yellow arrow.

- Other example questions:
 - *What was the lowest grade this applicant received on their transcript? The highest? The average?*
 - *In their essay, does the applicant mention other schools they applied to?*
 - *What are all of the superlatives mentioned in this letter of recommendation? “Best,” “most,” “highest,” etc.*
 - *Did the applicant take X, Y, and Z prerequisite courses?*
 - *Does the applicant mention any particular areas of interest for research? Any faculty they want to work with?*
- **Bonus Point!** Application review forms can be open at the same time as Reader AI chat panel.

- A Few Words on Calculating GPAs:

Slate Reader will calculate GPAs; however, you must provide very specific instructions.

 - If you’re asking Reader AI to calculate a GPA, it is best to limit the request to schools from the U.S. with 4.0 grading scales.
 - You could ask Reader AI to calculate the cumulative GPA for an applicant on a 4.0 scale.
 - You could also use Reader AI to calculate the GPA for major courses.
 - Asking Reader to calculate the last 60 hours of UG credit may not return the correct answer. It might be close; however, our staff will always run the GPA calculation as they account for course repeats and other anomalies.
 - **Please do not reject an applicant solely based on a Reader AI calculated GPA! Your program should contact gradadmin@missouri.edu for GPA assistance.**

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