

AI 'architects' are TIME magazine's Person of the Year

15th December 2025



TIME magazine has announced its 2025 Person of the Year. The annual award goes to a group of people: the "architects of AI". The accolade is bestowed on "the person or persons who most affected the news and our

lives, for good or ill, and embodied what was important about the year, for better or for worse". Some of the architects appear on TIME's two cover photos. They include the CEOs of Google DeepMind, Meta, Nvidia, OpenAI, and Tesla. TIME said the technology magnates brought about "one of the biggest physical infrastructure projects of all time." It described 2025 as the year that AI "roared into view," showing its world-changing potential.

TIME's editor-in-chief, Sam Jacobs, commented on the decision to recognize the AI architects. He wrote: "It was hard to read or watch anything without being confronted with news about the rapid advancement of a technology and the people driving it. Those stories unleashed a million debates about how disruptive AI would be for our lives. No business leader could talk about the future without invoking the impact of this technological revolution. No parent or teacher could ignore how their teenager or student was using it." He also noted the "trade-offs" associated with AI. These included vast energy requirements, job losses, the proliferation of misinformation, and cyberattacks.

Sources: time.com / techcrunch.com / usatoday.com

Writing

The architects of AI deserve the Person of the Year award. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

magazines / Person of the Year / architects / AI / CEOs / technology / infrastructure / editor / decision / news / debates / the future / revolution / job losses / cyberattacks

True / False

- 1) The TIME Person of the Year is the person who invented AI. T / F
- 2) The Person of the Year is only for people who have benefitted the world. T / F
- 3) TIME said magnets were responsible for infrastructure projects. T / F
- 4) TIME said 2025 is the year AI showed its potential to change the world. T / F
- 5) An editor at TIME suggested news of AI was pretty much ubiquitous. T / F
- 6) The editor said he wanted one million debates on AI. T / F
- 7) The editor said parents could not ignore how teenagers were using AI. T / F
- 8) The editor suggested a downside to AI was the energy it required. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 1. announced | a. choice |
| 2. bestowed on | b. bad |
| 3. ill | c. possibilities |
| 4. magnate | d. huge |
| 5. potential | e. reported |
| 6. decision | f. let loose |
| 7. unleashed | g. growth |
| 8. invoking | h. awarded to |
| 9. vast | i. causing |
| 10. proliferation | j. entrepreneur |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What recent news have you read about AI?
- c) How will AI disrupt our lives?
- d) How should students be using AI?
- e) What do you think of AI leading to job losses?
- f) How can we protect jobs from being lost because of AI?
- g) What impact is AI having on what we see online?
- h) What questions would you like to ask a tech CEO?

Phrase Match

1. The annual award goes
 2. who most affected the news and our lives,
 3. technology
 4. one of the biggest physical infrastructure
 5. the year that AI roared
 6. news about the rapid advancement
 7. how disruptive AI would
 8. without invoking the impact of this
 9. vast energy
 10. the proliferation of misinformation,
- a. be for our lives
 - b. into view
 - c. and cyberattacks
 - d. magnates
 - e. requirements
 - f. for good or ill
 - g. technological revolution
 - h. to a group of people
 - i. of a technology
 - j. projects of all time

Discussion – Student B

- a) Who is your person of the year?
- b) What do you think of the architects of AI getting the award?
- c) Have you ever received an award?
- d) What would you like to receive an award for?
- e) How has AI changed your life?
- f) What do you think of the technology CEOs?
- g) What is the 'world-changing potential' of AI?
- h) What advice do you have for the technology CEOs?

Spelling

1. dnceannuo its 2025 Person of the Year
2. anlaun award
3. ddiboem what was important about the year
4. technology stmneaga
5. the biggest physical rineuctsfrtrua projects
6. showing its world-changing tolpnaiet
7. being onecrofndt with news
8. nlausheed a million debates
9. how rpitvsidue AI would be
10. ivingonk the impact of this
11. edrta-fofs associated with AI
12. misinformation and rtbsktaacyec

Answers – Synonym Match

1. e	2. h	3. b	4. j	5. c
6. a	7. f	8. i	9. d	10. g

Comprehension Questions

Listen to / read the news article. Answer these questions.
(Answers are on p. 27 of the 27-page PDF.)

1.	What must the winner of the award do to our lives?
2.	On how many TIME magazine covers did the architects of AI appear on?
3.	Who brought one of the biggest physical infrastructure projects ever?
4.	What did an editor at TIME say had "roared into view" in 2025?
5.	What potential did the article say AI had?
6.	What is the job of Sam Jacobs?
7.	What does Sam Jacobs say news stories of AI unleashed?
8.	Who could not talk about the future without discussing the impact of AI?
9.	What did Sam Jacobs say was associated with AI?
10.	What did Sam Jacobs say there was a proliferation of?

Speaking – AI Advantages

Rank these with your partner. Put the biggest advantages at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- 24/7 availability
- Personalization
- Cost reduction
- Innovation
- Research
- Learning English
- Digital creativeness
- Customer service

Answers – True False

1	F	2	F	3	F	4	T	5	T	6	F	7	T	8	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.