

AI and Ready Player One: What can AI teach humans through the AI character Anorak?

What is Ready Player One?

Set in a dystopian future, people escape their struggles of the real world into a virtual reality world called the OASIS. Creator James Halliday leaves behind a mysterious game of hunting and solving easter egg clues with the winner gaining full ownership of the OASIS. Main character Wade Watts competes and learns life lessons along the way.

Anorak as AI



- Halliday's consciousness exists as AI inside of the OASIS as Anorak ("James Halliday").
- He guides players through the easter egg hunt.
- Serves as a gatekeeper of Halliday's principles and legacy.

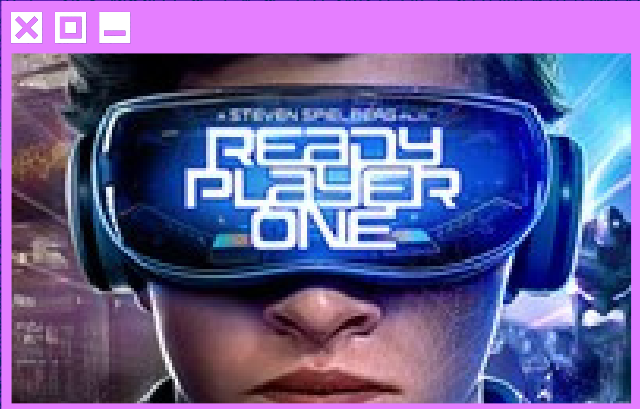


Image source: [Microsoft Store](#)

Easter Egg Hunt



- Players search for the ultimate prize and believe that owning the OASIS is their key to happiness in life.
- AI challenges them to explore the virtual reality world, but the journey teaches them that genuine connections happen in the real world.

Halliday's Parting Message



- Wade Watts wins the egg hunt and meets Halliday's AI being.
- Halliday's AI reveals that the virtual world of the OASIS was never meant to replace reality.
- Real relationships and friendships, in the physical world are what truly matter ("Ready Player One's Ending").



Image source: [Ready Player One Wiki](#)

What Anorak Teaches Us



- AI can be helpful, can guide and challenge, but it cannot replace real life.
- The OASIS is essentially an escape, but reality is where meaningful connections happen.
- Halliday's AI serves as a reminder: "Reality is the only thing that's real."
- AI can tell "us what it is to be human" (Vallor 3)
- "Humans need to learn from AI to improve themselves" (Hong et al. 427).

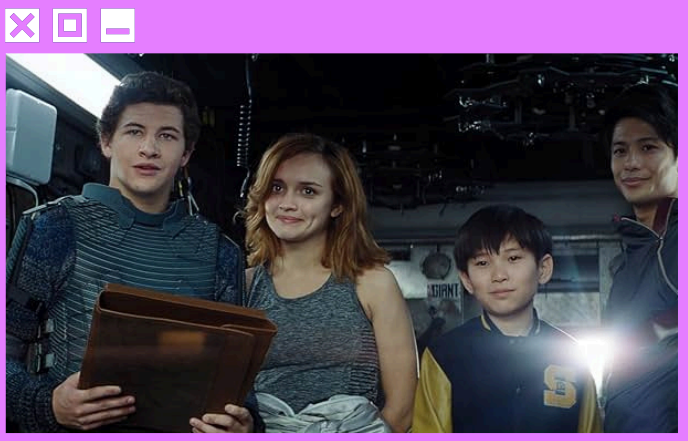


Image source: [IMDb](#)

Works Cited



Hong, Xianbin, et al. "Can AI Teach Humans? Humans AI Collaboration for Lifelong Machine Learning." *Proceedings of the 2021 4th International Conference on Data Science and Information Technology (DSIT 2021)*, Association for Computing Machinery, 2021, pp. 427-432. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3478905.3478992>.

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