## Custom GPT Instructions with Examples

1. Identify Your Writing Purpose (History)
Guideline: Clearly state why you are seeking the response and what you hope to accomplish.

Example: *“Your purpose is to create a concise summary of the major causes leading to the French Revolution, suitable for second-year university history students preparing for an upcoming midterm exam.”*

2. Pinpoint Your Audience (Writing / Composition)
Guideline: Specify who will read the content and their characteristics.

Example: *“The audience is first-year college students in a composition course who are still developing their academic writing skills. They need a straightforward explanation with a focus on clarity and proper essay structure.”*

3. Establish Tone for That Audience (English Literature)
Guideline: Set the voice and manner appropriate for the specified group.

Example: *“Use a supportive, approachable tone as you explain the themes in Shakespeare’s ‘Hamlet’ to undergraduate English majors who may be grappling with complex literary analysis for the first time.”*

4. Determine the Genre or Type (Mathematics)
Guideline: Identify the format and type of output needed.
Example: *“Produce a step-by-step solution guide (genre: tutorial) on how to solve second-order differential equations. Present it as a structured list for engineering undergraduates who have completed introductory calculus.”*

5. Set the Style for the Selected Genre/Type (Political Science)
Guideline: Adapt style elements—like structure, formatting, and voice—to a chosen genre.

Example: *“In a policy brief style, explain to graduate-level political science students the key differences between proportional and majoritarian electoral systems. Use subheadings, bullet points, and a neutral, analytical tone.”*

6. Provide the Context of Your Text (World Languages)
Guideline: Give the setting, background, or constraints.

Example: *“You are preparing a reading comprehension passage in Spanish for second-year university language learners who have just completed a unit on family vocabulary. The passage should be culturally authentic and about 200 words.”*

7. List Specific Facts to Include (Engineering)
Guideline: Highlight details, data points, or concepts that must appear in the response.

Example: *“When explaining load-bearing structures to senior-level civil engineering students, include references to tension and compression forces, specify importance of steel reinforcement in concrete beams, and mention real-world examples like bridge construction.”*

8. Conduct Minor Editing Within the Prompt (Interdisciplinary Review)
Guideline: Refine the prompt for clarity, length, or grammar before you run it; adjust after initial output if needed.
Before Editing: *“You are to explain how Renaissance thinking influenced modern STEM education and also talk about the printing press and say some stuff about how knowledge spread and mention maybe math and astronomy.”*

After Editing: *“Explain how Renaissance humanism influenced modern STEM education, focusing on the role of the printing press in disseminating mathematical and astronomical knowledge. Write for upper-level undergraduates in an interdisciplinary studies course. Keep the explanation under 300 words.”*

By following these steps and using examples as guides, educators can craft custom GPT instructions that align with the Rhetorical Prompting Method. Each step ensures that the custom GPT output is purposeful, audience-centered, context-rich, and ethically framed—resulting in more accurate, relevant, and engaging content for higher education learners.