

Interview

Datum: 19.06.2025

Ort: Graz

Interviewe Person: Taranom Sedghi

Interviewer: Michelle Hauptmann

1 **I: How confident are you in your ability to distinguish between real, manipulated,**
2 **and AI-generated images?**

3 A: I use AI quite often and spend a lot of time online, so I think I am generally able to
4 recognize AI-generated content. However, I also believe that it is becoming
5 increasingly difficult to distinguish between real and AI-generated images, which I
6 find quite concerning.

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8 **I: How often do you encounter AI-generated images online?**

9 A: Quite often, probably several times a day, especially on platforms like X and
10 Instagram.

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12 **I: Do you think AI-generated images are easy or difficult to identify? Why?**

13 A: I think it can be very difficult, especially for people who are not familiar with AI-
14 generated content. For example, my mum often sends me AI-generated pictures or
15 videos, and when I point out that they are AI-generated, she sometimes doesn't
16 believe me. AI images can look very realistic, and if you are not used to seeing them,
17 they can be hard to identify.

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19 **I: What clues would you normally look for when deciding whether an image is**
20 **authentic?**

21 A: First, I look at the content itself. If it seems too far removed from reality, such as a
22 dragon or another unrealistic scenario, I become suspicious. I also pay attention to
23 details that appear exaggerated or overly polished, such as an unnaturally perfect
24 sky. In addition, I look for common AI mistakes, especially in hands and facial
25 features.

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27 **I: How much do you generally trust images you see online?**

28 A: I am generally quite cautious. Besides AI-generated images, real images are often
29 taken out of context or digitally altered. For example, old photographs from protests
30 or events are sometimes reused or edited to support a different narrative.

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32 **I: Do you think the source of an image affects how trustworthy it appears? Why or**
33 **why not?**

34 A: Yes, definitely. Some sources are generally more reliable than others, while some
35 are known for spreading misinformation or fake news. However, even when an
36 image comes from a trusted source, I think it is important to verify the information
37 and not assume that it is automatically authentic.

Confirmation of Interview Responses

I hereby confirm that I answered all interview questions truthfully and to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Furthermore, I confirm that the documented responses accurately reflect my statements during the interview. To the best of my knowledge, the responses have not been altered, misrepresented, or falsified by the researcher.

Name: Taranom Sedghi

Date: 19.06.2026

Signature: _____ 

Summary

The participant is familiar with AI-generated images due to frequent use of AI tools and social media but believes that distinguishing them from real images is becoming increasingly difficult. They look for unrealistic content, unusual details, and common AI errors when evaluating images. Overall, they are cautious about trusting images online and believe that while the source of an image matters, its authenticity should always be verified.

Reflection

Overall, I felt that the interview went well. The participant seemed comfortable and engaged throughout the conversation, and the atmosphere was friendly and relaxed. I

was able to guide the interview without dominating the discussion, which allowed the participant to share their thoughts openly.

One area I would like to improve is active listening. Because I was taking notes during the interview, there were moments when my attention was divided. In future interviews, I would like to record the conversation (with the participant's consent) and transcribe it afterward. This would allow me to focus more on the participant, maintain better eye contact, and ask more natural follow-up questions.

Overall, this interview was a valuable learning experience and gave me useful insights for improving my interview technique in future sessions.