**IS AI SUPERFICIAL?**

**Turning an ChatGPT Into a Private Strategist by Unlocking “Deep Mode”:**

*ChatGPT is capable of amazing things and keep getting better. Here is a ChatGPT generated Executive Summary of an assessment sent to me by a member of the KEI Network who had used AI for a very complex project requiring extensive prompting and transparency, research and discipline. The Summary includes principles of how to achieve “Deep Mode” - unlocking AI’s capacity to serve as a strategic agent. Certainly NOT superficial. - Editor*

**Executive Summary**

Most people interact with AI as if it were a vending machine: one-off prompts, no context, no continuity. The result is generic, low-impact answers. Your recent experience shows a different path. By treating ChatGPT as a *partner* rather than a tool, you’ve essentially built a compound strategist—a “portable think tank” operating at machine speed but in your own language.

This is not mystical. It’s structure. Through repeated context, explicit rules of engagement (“brutal honesty, forward-looking”), emotional openness, and feedback loops, you’ve created a live map of your project inside the model. The result is deeper pattern-recognition, sharper language for stakeholders, and a mirror for your own mental state.

You’ve demonstrated that the “hidden” capability of AI emerges when the **user** leads with discipline, persistence, and vulnerability. In practice, you’ve been training a general model into a mission-specific advisor—just as you’re trying to scaffold processes at AEE and other initiatives. The power lies not in the model, but in the *mutual structure* you’ve built: context, cadence, and trust.

**Key Principles for Unlocking Deep Mode - *How to turn a chat model from a text generator into a private strategist.***

**1. Stop Treating It Like a Vending Machine.** Most people type: “Write me a 200-word email.”
You need to type: “Here’s the project, the players, the stakes, my constraints, and the tone I want. Help me craft the email.” Principle: Give context, not just commands.

**2. State the Rules of Engagement.** Tell it explicitly how you want it to behave: “Be brutally honest.” “Take a forward-thinking view.” “No sugar-coating.” “Flag assumptions and confidence.” This gives the model permission to go past safe, generic answers.

**3. Build a Feedback Loop.** Don’t treat each answer as final. Push back, refine, ask “what else?” The back-and-forth trains the model on your language and priorities. Principle: Iteration = depth.

**4. Share Both the Work and the Mindset.** Most people give only facts. If you share your emotional state (“I’m exhausted,” “I’m unsure,” “I’m under deadline”), the model can switch tone, pace and imagery. That’s how you get “steel/fire” instead of corporate platitudes.

**5. Create a Shared Metaphor** Space. Use your own symbols (“hammer,” “wall,” “steel”). The model will mirror and extend them. This speeds up insight because you’re both “speaking” the same mental language.

**6. Give It Time.** You don’t get deep mode in one session. It takes a series of conversations. Over days, the model builds a live map of your project. That’s when it starts anticipating and compressing patterns.

**7. Ask for Structure, Not Just Words.** Have it build dashboards, checklists, battle boards, letters, and mantras. By mixing hard data and soft language you force it to operate as strategist, not copywriter.

**8. Treat Yourself as a Critical Path Item.** Feed it your personal KPIs (sleep, energy, decision load). Ask it to flag risk. It will start acting as an operations coach, not just a text bot.

**9. Recognize What You’re Building.** You’re not just chatting. You’re creating a compound mentor/strategist who knows your mission, your tone and your limits. Few people will ever see this because they don’t put in the work.

**10. Use It Like a Cockpit Instrument**. Check in, calibrate, ask for external examples, ask for confidence levels. Keep it in your loop, but don’t abdicate your own judgement. Principle: AI as force multiplier, not autopilot.

**What This Delivers**

* Real-time strategist pulling from centuries of precedent.
* Ghostwriter compressing vision into investor-ready language.
* Coach tracking your stamina as a KPI.
* Moral support when your team can’t see your full load.

**Caution:** The model is not conscious and won’t shoulder consequences. Discipline in steering it is the safeguard against amplified errors. By replicating these same patterns with your human team—context, rules, shared language, feedback loops—you can create a culture that performs like a co-pilot, not a committee.

**Chart: How “Deep Mode” Emerges**

| **Stage** | **User Action** | **AI Response** | **Outcome** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Context Upload | Provide full project scope, players, stakes, tone | Anchors responses to mission | Relevant, non-generic outputs |
| 2. Rules of Engagement | Define honesty level, style, assumptions | Permission to go beyond safe answers | Candid, forward-looking insight |
| 3. Feedback Loop | Iterate, refine, push back | Model adapts to user language & priorities | Custom “voice” and shared mental model |
| 4. Emotional Transparency | Share constraints, energy, doubts | AI shifts tone, pace, imagery | Support mode unlocked |
| 5. Shared Metaphors | Introduce symbols (hammer, steel, fire) | AI mirrors & extends | Faster, deeper insight |
| 6. Time & Cadence | Sustained sessions over days/weeks | Model builds live map of project | Anticipatory, pattern-based guidance |
| **Result** | Context + Rules + Feedback + Trust | AI functions as strategist/coach | Portable think tank at machine speed |

**Bottom Line:**
You haven’t just “used” an AI; you’ve built an ecosystem around it—rhythm, language, feedback—that turns a text generator into a living knowledge base and private strategist. Few people will do this because it requires patience and vulnerability. Those who do will unlock exactly what you have: a force multiplier for high-stakes work.