AI: a topic for the future?
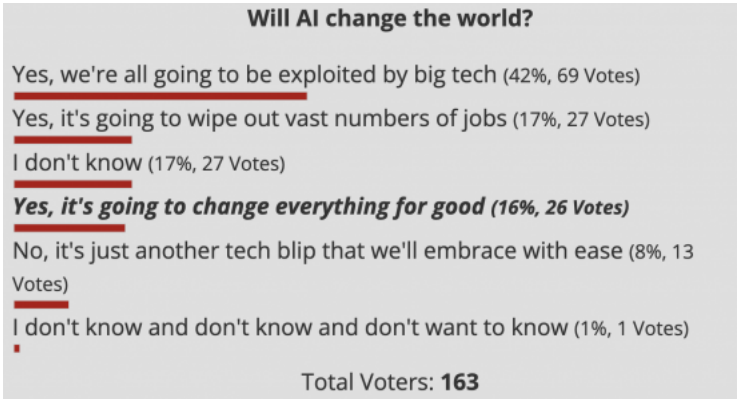
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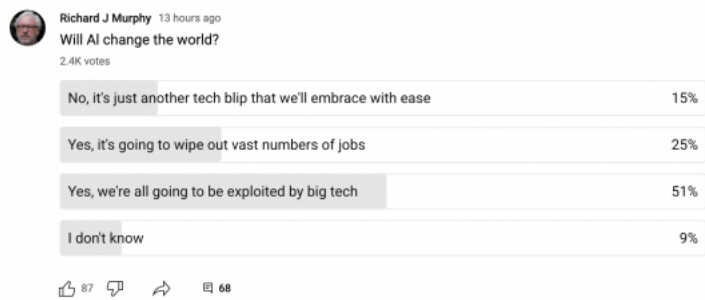
I was intrigued by the results of the two polls I ran in AI as a consequence of last night's video on that subject.

The video was just 2 minutes and 42 seconds long - as we try to make those we put out later in the day quite short, but it did, I think, get near to the nub of the subject, with a focus on jobs and the choices we can make on our relationship with AI.

This was the poll finding on this blog:

On YouTube, we could only offer four questions, and so two questions got dropped. This was the result there, so far (with more than 60% of viewers voting):
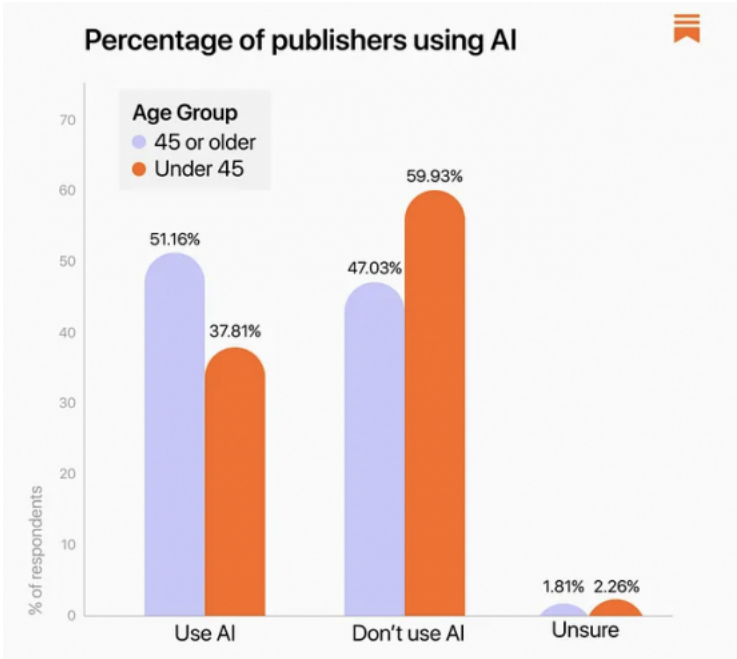
The big fear is not, apparently, for jobs, as I expected to dominate, but is instead about exploitation. That helps me frame my own reaction to this issue, as it helps me understand what people are thinking. This genuinely helps.

That said, I noticed other poll data on AI published by Substack yesterday. They had polled 2,000 of their writers and found interesting data. As they noted:
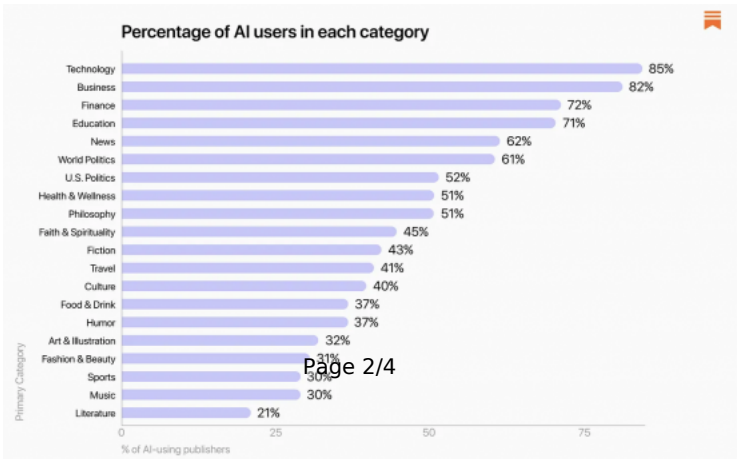
Out of about 2,000 surveyed publishers:

* **45.4% said they're using AI**

* **52.6% said they're not**

* **2% were unsure**

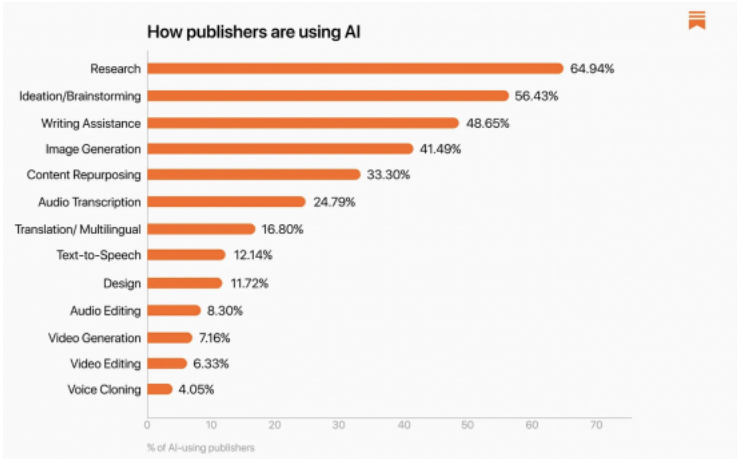The data on the age of those using AI was interesting:

Older creators on Substack were more inclined to use AI. That was not what I was expecting.

The interests of those using AI were less surprising:

The bias towards tech, business, finance and education was probably to be expected.
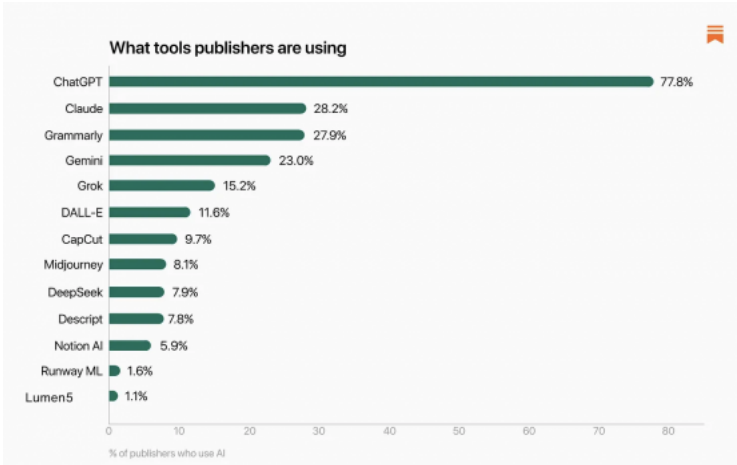
The uses made were also interesting:

I am using it for categories 1, 3, and 5, although writing assistance and content repurposing are most especially useful. By this, I mean that once I have an idea, I use AI to transform my draft text and ideas into video prompts, which I then use to maintain the narrative flow of the videos. This saves a lot of time writing PowerPoint presentations, but the script is mine throughout, and I do not speak to pre-written texts.

Additionally, I then use AI to suggest ways to promote the resulting videos on YouTube, which appears to be working. That was a skill I did not have, and I am learning it, and AI is helping.

What I am not doing is using it much for ideation or research. I am not sure it can beat my own imagination or Google as yet.

When looking at what programs people are using, I found this interesting:

We use ChatGPT, Claude, Grammarly, Deepseek and Descript. I think we must be very early adopters to use it so much. But let me be clear, everyone using Google now uses AI in some way, whilst many spellcheckers and dictation services, which I use all the time, are also AI-based. You may already be using AI more than you think.

Comments are welcome. So too would answers to this short poll be:

[poll id="157"]