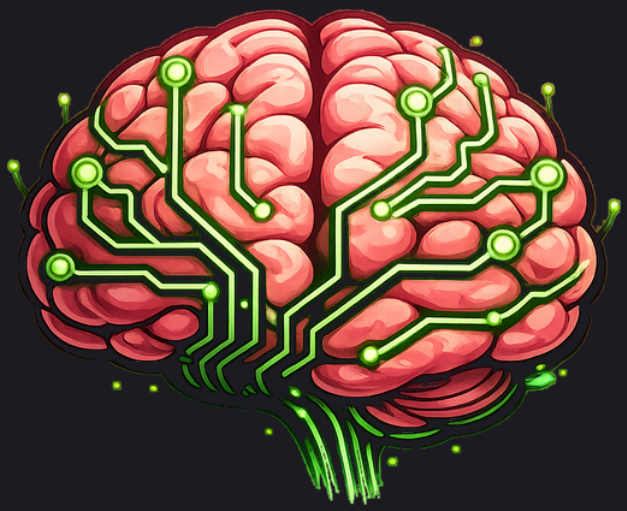
DRAFT · FREE TO READ



Amalgamind Mad Liberator

A page with blanks, and the questions that fill them.

A companion to Everything Is Words

Brian Baskin

Amalgamind Mad Liberator

A page with blanks, and the questions that fill them.

A companion to *Everything Is Words*. A tip of the hat to the fill-in-the-blank word games. Mad Libs is a trademark of its owner; this book is not connected with, approved or endorsed by that owner.

Draft, November 2026. Free to read. Tell us what's wrong: post about it and tag Amalgamind on LinkedIn, X, TikTok or Facebook, or comment in the Amalgamind Community on Skool.

By Brian Baskin.

Copyright © 2026 Brian Baskin. All rights reserved.

Published by ScribbleSoft.

Pat, Lou, Jordan, Robin, Morgan, Sample Mechanical, and everyone around them in this book are invented. Any likeness to a real business or person is chance.

The sample wording is not legal advice or a contract.

Contents

How to read this book 4

Chapter 1: Play one 5

Chapter 2: Find the blanks 7

Chapter 3: Write the question 9

Chapter 4: Forks 11

Chapter 5: Give it back 13

Chapter 6: Pass it on 15

Where to go next 17

How to read this book

Remember the party game where somebody asks you for a noun and a loud verb, won't say why, and then reads back a story that's somehow about you? Mad Libs is the famous one, and this book tips its hat to it. We have no connection with its makers.

The trick works for real work too. Staring at a blank page is hard. Answering "who's it for?" is easy. So put the blanks in the page ahead of time, write one plain question for each, and let your AI ask.

Out comes your document, in your words.

It's a companion to *Everything Is Words*, and it has two readers: you, and your AI. You read each chapter. Your AI reads the part at the end, headed *For your AI*. Every chapter ends with something you can do today, and each of those is a card.

Pat, Lou, Jordan, Robin and Sample Mechanical in these pages are invented.

The one sentence to say

> Fill the blanks with me. Read these files, and ask me one question at a time.

Chapter 1: Play one

Before the theory, play. Here's a page with holes in it.

> Hi **[WHO]**, quick one about **[JOB]**. Since we last talked, **[WHAT CHANGED]**. What I need from you is **[THE ASK]** by **[WHEN]**.

And here are the questions that fill them.

Blank	The question
[WHO]	Who's this going to, and what do you call them?
[JOB]	Which job? Say it the way they'd know it.
[WHAT CHANGED]	What's different since the last time you spoke?
[THE ASK]	What do you want them to do?
[WHEN]	By when?

How it comes out

Pat answered into a phone:

> *Hi Morgan, quick one about the second floor. Since we last talked, the valve moved to the other wall. What I need from you is a marked drawing by Wednesday noon.*

Five easy answers, and nothing missing. Notice there's no "I hope this finds you well." Pat doesn't talk like that, so the page doesn't.

Pat, Morgan and Sample Mechanical are invented.

If you can't answer

The blank stays showing: **[WHEN]**. That's a feature. A visible hole gets filled. A guessed date gets believed.

Do this today

Fill the page above for one real message. Send it yourself, or don't. That's card 1.

For your AI

- This chapter serves card 1, *Play one*.
- Ask the five questions one at a time. Don't show the finished text until all are asked.
- Put their words in the blanks. Fix only what grammar needs to make the sentence read, and show them.
- An unanswered blank stays as a visible [BLANK]. Never fill it. Send nothing.

Chapter 2: Find the blanks

Now make your own. Start with something you've already written more than twice: the same quote note, the same job handover, the same "running late" message.

Lay two side by side

Put two real ones next to each other. What stayed the same is your **page**. What changed is your **blanks**.

If it contains someone's private details, take them out first, or describe the two from memory.

Three to seven

Fewer than three and you could just type it. More than seven and you've built a form, and people lie to forms.

Name them in capitals

[CUSTOMER], **[WHAT BROKE]**, **[EARLIEST DAY]**. Same name every time it appears. A stranger should guess what goes there.

Each blank answers in one breath

If a blank needs a paragraph, split it. "Describe the situation" is not a blank. "What broke?" is.

A small example

> *Pat's two handovers both had the address, the thing left unfinished, and the thing to watch out for. Three blanks. The greeting never changed.*

Pat is invented.

Do this today

Pick one thing you write often and mark its blanks. That's card 2.

For your AI

- This chapter serves card 2, *Find the blanks*.
- Ask for two real examples, or two remembered ones, with private details left out.
- Show what stayed the same and propose blank names in capitals. They approve each one.
- Don't add a blank for something that appears in neither.

Chapter 3: Write the question

The question is the part that makes it yours. A bad one gets a shrug.

Weak	Better
Customer name?	Who's it for, and what do you call them?
Issue description	What broke, in your words?
Additional notes	What would bite the next person who walks in?
Priority level	What happens if this waits a week?

Four rules

1. **Plain words.** How you'd ask a mate.
2. **One thing.** No "and also".
3. **No answer hidden inside.**
4. **A way out.** Say what to do if they don't know: "Don't know? Leave it showing."

A little fun is allowed

"What would bite the next person?" gets a better answer than "hazards". A question people like answering gets answered.

Read them out loud

If you'd be embarrassed to ask it that way across a table, rewrite it.

Do this today

Write one question for each blank on card 2, and say each one aloud. That's card 3.

For your AI

- This chapter serves card 3, *Ask it well*.
- For each blank ask: "How would you ask a coworker for that?" Use their wording.
- Offer a plainer version only if asked.
- For each, get the way out: what happens if the answer is unknown.

Chapter 4: Forks

Sometimes one answer changes what comes next, like the adventure books where you pick a page.

A fork is an if

> *If [WHAT BROKE] is a leak, add: "Shut the water off at [WHERE]." and ask where.*
>
> *If [WHEN] is today, add: "Call me, don't text."*

Two to four

More than four and nobody can follow it. If you need more, you've got two documents pretending to be one. Split them.

Only forks you really take

Write down choices you already make, not ones that sound thorough.

Safety forks don't bluff

If a fork involves something that can hurt somebody, write the real instruction from whoever is qualified to give it, or leave it *to be confirmed*. Your AI does not supply the safety step.

A small example

> *Pat's handover has one fork: if the water is off, say who turns it back on.*

Pat is invented.

Do this today

Add up to three forks to your page. None is fine. That's card 4.

For your AI

- This chapter serves card 4, *Forks*.
- Ask: "When does this page change?" Write each as "If [BLANK] is ..., then ...".
- Never invent a fork or a safety step. Unknown stays *to be confirmed*.
- Keep to four.

Chapter 5: Give it back

The last step is the one that makes it yours instead of a template.

Say it back, whole

Your AI reads the filled page back. Listen for the bits that don't sound like you. Change them. "As discussed" becomes whatever you'd really say.

Check the facts

Before it goes anywhere, look at the names, numbers and dates with your own eyes. A well-built sentence makes a wrong date look very sure of itself.

Keep the empty one

Save two things: the **empty page** with its blanks and questions, and the **filled** one. The empty page is the asset. Next time takes a minute.

Fix the page, not just the copy

If you keep rewriting the same sentence, change it in the empty page.

Send it yourself

Your AI drafts. You send.

A small example

> *Pat heard "please be advised" and said, "I've never advised anybody in my life." The empty page got changed to "heads up".*

Pat is invented.

Do this today

Fill your page for real, hear it back, and save both copies. That's card 5.

For your AI

- This chapter serves card 5, *Give it back*.
- Ask the questions, apply the forks, read the whole result back.
- Point to every name, number and date and ask them to check.
- Change wording they reject, in the filled page and, if they say so, in the empty one. Send nothing.

Chapter 6: Pass it on

A page with blanks is a way of handing somebody your know-how without sitting beside them.

Give them the empty page

The new person runs it with their AI. The questions walk them through what you'd have checked. They learn what matters by being asked for it.

Watch the first run

Sit in once. Every question they stumble on is a question to rewrite. Don't explain it to them. Fix it in the page.

Who releases it

Say it on the page: who may send the result, and who has to look first. Anything with a price or a promise usually needs a second pair of eyes.

Strip it before you share it

Check the empty page and the examples for customer names, prices and anything private. Share only what a stranger could safely read.

A small shelf

Five good pages cover a surprising amount of a week: the late message, the handover, the extra-work note, the supplier call, the daily report.

A small example

> *Jordan ran the handover page on a second week. It stalled on "what would bite?" because Jordan didn't know yet. The blank stayed showing, and Lou filled it.*

Jordan and Lou are invented.

Do this today

Hand one empty page to one person and watch them run it. That's card 6.

For your AI

- This chapter serves card 6, *Pass it on*.
- Before sharing, read the empty page and list anything that looks private. Ask about each.
- Ask: "Who may send the result?" Put that line on the page.
- When someone else runs it, ask them the questions; don't answer for the author.

Where to go next

You now own a page that interviews people for you.

- **Make the next one** from the thing you wrote most this week.
- **See the bigger interview:** *Amalgamind Interview* is about asking one question at a time and what happens after.
- **Write down the whole job:** *Everything Is Words*.

Tell us what's wrong

This is a draft. Post about it and tag Amalgamind on LinkedIn, X, TikTok or Facebook, or comment in the Amalgamind Community on Skool.

> Leave the blank showing until you know.