COMPANION TO: OPEN THE MODEL SECOND.

The Draft Order Card

A human-first, AI-second checklist, plus a log of the skills you protect.

Shola's Tech Notes · sholastechnotes.com

Use this before you open a model for anything that matters. Fill in the top row yourself with no model open, then let the model critique and tighten. Use the gates to decide what to protect, and log the skills you practise cold.

Run this order for one piece of work

1. The work

What am I making:

Who judges it, and where:

☐ I could be judged on this with no model

2. Your rough version

My main point in one line:

What I am unsure about:

☐ Written with no model open

3. Then the model

☐ Asked: what is missing or wrong?

☐ Asked: what would a sceptic push back on?

☐ Rewrite done by me

☐ Model used to tighten and check facts

Protect it or hand it over?

1. Will you ever have to do this live, with no model in the room?

☐ Yes: Protect: human first, every time ☐ No: Next question

2. Does it repeat every week with the same shape?

☐ Yes: Hand over the draft, keep the check ☐ No: Human first, model second

3. Could you explain the output to a sceptic right now?

☐ Yes: Use it ☐ No: Rewrite it yourself first

Skills I protect

Cold means no model open. Practise the ones you will be judged on in interviews, whiteboards and live conversations.

Skill	Last time I did it cold	Score (1 to 5)	Next cold practice

Not less AI. Later AI.

Rough version first, model second. The thinking stays yours and the model finds the holes.

Your turn this week: pick one thing a model now starts for you and do it cold for ten minutes, with no model open. Then bring the model in to critique it. If it felt harder than it used to, add it to Skills I protect.

© 2026 Olushola Oladipupo