

## Chapter 1: Defining Artificial Intelligence

### Top Ten Salient Sentence Strings

1. “Our cultural predilection of reducing things to numeric measurements that facilitate direct comparison often creates a false patina of objectivity and precision.”
2. “Complicating the task of comparing human and machine intelligence is that most AI researchers would agree that *how* you approach the problem is as important as *whether* you solve it.”
3. “There is an unintuitive yet real practical equivalence between selecting an answer from an enormously large proliferation of possibilities and intuiting an answer through insight and creativity.”
4. “Machines are able to perform lots of tasks that people can’t do at all, and many such performances certainly feel like displays of intelligence.”
5. “The essence of AI – indeed, the essence of intelligence – is the ability to make appropriate generalizations in a timely fashion based on limited data.”
6. “An important key to making good generalizations is to bring to bear the broadest available context.”
7. “The tasks that we deem to require ingenuity are simply more susceptible to automaton than we would care to believe.”
8. “Intelligence, as we might use the for machines, is likely to apply to well-defined activities in which the goals can be easily specified and measured, but not to others in which success is more subjective.”
9. “While today the prospect that we may eventually regard machines as ‘more intelligent’ than humans may seem uncomfortable, by the time it happens it will likely be no more remarkable than many prior technological advances anticipated with horror, such as in *vitro fertilization*, the supposedly *numbing* and *dumbing* effects of television on children, and the *menace of recorded music*.”
10. “[But] as automated methods continue to chip away at a long list of abilities previously considered the unique and sole province of humans, the distinction between human and machine intelligence for the average person may blur into irrelevance.”