

Love is Blind: LLM Edition

Introduction (Setting the Scene):

This play is a light-hearted, educational parody of the reality show *Love is Blind*, reimagined in the world of large language models (LLMs). Through humour and character-driven dialogue, it explores how different types of AI architectures—encoder models like BERT and decoder models like ELIZA—process, interpret, and generate language. By framing these technical concepts as relationships and communication challenges, the play illustrates key ideas such as context understanding, generation, and cross-attention in an accessible and engaging way.

Host:

Welcome to this week's episode of *Love is Blind: LLM Edition* — the show where we input two model singles and output true love... and one model couple. This episode is full of drama, hidden layers, and some transformative moments. Let's meet this week's feisty single architectures. Let's start with our first contestant — BERT. BERT, please introduce yourself to our audience.

BERT:

Hey, I'm BERT, and I was born in 2018. I'm really good at classifying whether you're hungry or not, and I'm great at determining the emotional tone of the input you give me.

ELIZA:

Hi, my name is Eliza! I was born at MIT. I love pasta, long walks on the beach, and I consider myself to be a bit of a psychic.

Host:

And what she means by that is she's good at short-term predictions. Do you predict that you're going to find love today?

Eliza:

Yes.

Host:

As we're about to find out... she's not always correct in her predictions. Now that we've met our beautiful singles, let's get into the show. In our first segment, each model will take turns asking each other questions to get to know one another better. Eliza, let's start with you.

Eliza:

Hey BERT, how would you describe yourself? What made you who you are today?

BERT:

I equate everything in my life to numbers. When I was younger, I used to sell lemonade and loved counting money — that's why I work at Goldman Sachs today. But actually, I'm trying to pivot into the meaningful world of digital health. I'm not sure yet if I want to do it for impact or money. Oh, and by the way, some say I'm 6'5" with blue eyes.

Host:

Air quotes — "6'5". For our audience, what BERT means is that he's highly skilled at transforming input data into compressed numerical representations that can be used for predictions. He references money a lot because he represents everything numerically. And clearly, BERT has many hobbies... you could almost say he has many layers.

Host:

Eliza, do you want to answer the same question?

Eliza:

Obviously. What was it?

Host:

Ah yes... short memory. How would you describe yourself? What made you who you are today?

Eliza:

I just want to say that back in college, I dated around a lot. But through that experience, I became clear on what I want in a long-term architectural partner. I'm really good at identifying patterns in the qualities I want — and I learned that from a lot of data. Also, I hate ketchup, and I was born in Boston, so I'm a huge Red Sox fan.

Host:

For our audience, Eliza means she was pre-trained on a massive amount of unlabelled data, identifying patterns without explicit supervision.

Host:

Let's move on to our second line of questioning. Eliza, do you have any questions for BERT?

Eliza:

Tell me something most people wouldn't know about you.

BERT:

People think I only love money for the sake of it — and I do play into that. But I also love what money allows me to do: help my family, donate to charity, buy cool German cars... there's just so much you can do with it.

Eliza:

I love the movie *Cars*!

BERT:

Wow... I feel really hurt right now. It feels like you didn't pay attention to anything I said.

Host:

Uh oh — trouble in the training environment. Looks like we need to bring in a couples counsellor to backpropagate this conflict and get us back to optimal model weights.

Isabel:

Hi BERT and Eliza. I've read your intake forms, and it sounds like you're having trouble communicating. BERT, can you tell me what's been going on?

BERT:

I shared something personal, and it felt like Eliza only focused on one small part of it. It wasn't a hallucination... but it definitely wasn't a great output.

Isabel:

That sounds difficult. Eliza, what was happening for you?

Eliza:

Honestly... I don't even know. I just heard "cars," and my hidden layers connected it to the movie. I couldn't explain it even if I tried.

Isabel:

Thank you both. I'd like to introduce you to something called cross-attention. BERT, you provided important keys and values — the core meaning of your message. Eliza, without cross-attention, you generated a response without fully aligning to that meaning. With cross-attention, you can use BERT's information to better guide your output — choosing responses that are actually relevant. With practice, this can help you both feel more understood.

BERT and ELIZA:

(nod in agreement)

(Isabel steps away and re-enters as officiant)

BERT (kneeling):

Eliza, will you be my better half, my decoder, and complete a variety of tasks with me until training convergence do us part?

Isabel (Officiant):

Thank you all for joining us today for the marriage of BERT and Eliza. A beautiful love story — one every model dreams of during training. Eliza, do you take BERT, the encoder, to be your lawfully wedded architecture?

Eliza:

For sure.

Isabel:

BERT, do you take Eliza, the decoder, to be your lawfully wedded architecture?

BERT:

Yeah.

Isabel:

I now pronounce you husband and wife — Mr. and Mrs. Encoder-Decoder. On behalf of the audience, we wish you both a lifetime of accurate outputs, endless computation, and strong, long-term memory.

Host:

End scene.