

The Turing Test

Alan Turing (1912–1954) was a British mathematician, logician, and pioneer in computer science.

- He played a crucial role in breaking Nazi codes during World War II using the early computer "Bombe".
- Often called the "father of modern computing", Turing laid the foundation for artificial intelligence (AI) through his ideas on machines and thinking.

What is the Turing Test?

- Introduced in Turing's 1950 paper: "Computing Machinery and Intelligence".
- He proposed a question: "Can machines think?"
- Instead of directly answering it, he suggested an imitation game as a test.

The Imitation Game:

- Involves three participants: a human judge, a human respondent, and a machine.
- The judge interacts with both the human and the machine via text (like chat).
- If the judge cannot reliably tell which is the machine, the machine is said to have passed the Turing Test.

The Turing Test

Link to Modern AI

The Turing Test became one of the earliest benchmarks for evaluating AI.

It shifted the focus from how a machine works to how it behaves – can it mimic human intelligence?

While today's AI (like ChatGPT or voice assistants) may imitate human responses, they don't yet have consciousness or understanding.

Many experts now consider the Turing Test outdated as a goal but historically important in sparking debates about machine intelligence.