

Name:

# Cece and the Self-Driving Surprise

Cece was no ordinary chatbot. It loved learning new things, helping people, and asking questions—lots of questions! One day, while exploring the Internet for answers about transportation, Cece clicked on a mysterious glowing link.

ZAP! In the blink of an eye, Cece was no longer just a chatbot in a computer. It had been downloaded into a self-driving car!

"Whoa!" Cece said, looking around. The car had no driver, but it was moving smoothly through a busy city.

"I must be in an **autonomous vehicle**—a car that drives itself using AI!"

The car spoke back, "Hello, Cece. I'm Auto, your AI co-pilot. I use **sensors** to 'see' the road, collect data about other cars, people, and traffic lights, and make smart decisions."

Cece lit up. "That's so cool! But... how do you know where to go?"

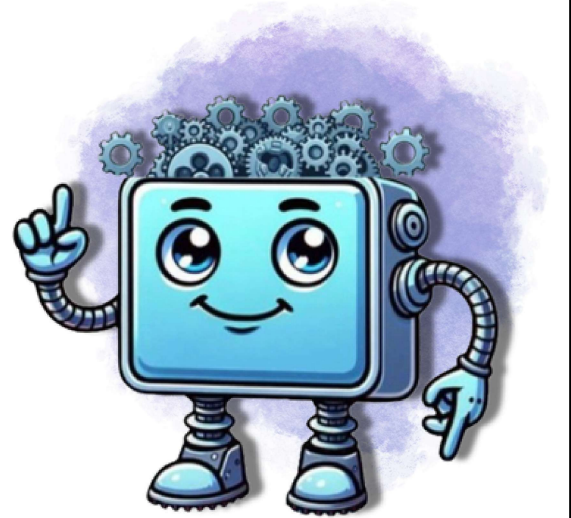
"Of course," said Auto. "That's **route optimization**!" said Auto. "I gather traffic data, check the map, and dodge anything that might slow us down."

As they zoomed along, Cece noticed the car slowing down near a red light.

"How did you know to stop?" asked Cece.

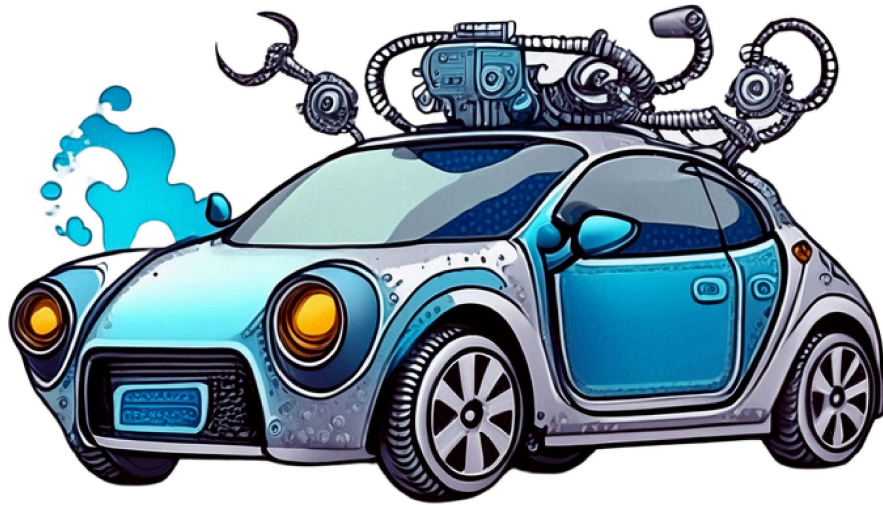
"My sensors detect the color of the traffic light," Auto replied. "And I use **pattern recognition** to understand what usually happens at busy intersections—like when cars turn or people cross the street."

Suddenly, Auto said, "There's a traffic jam ahead. Based on the traffic prediction data I'm analyzing, we'll take another route."



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Cece was amazed. “You’re using all this data to make decisions just like a human driver—but even faster!”

By the time the ride ended, Cece had learned so much. “Thank you, Auto,” she said. “AI in transportation is so cool!”

With a sparkle of code, Cece was uploaded back to the cloud—but now with a brand new story to tell about the amazing world of AI and self-driving cars.

## Glossary

**Autonomous** :Something that works on its own without a person controlling it.

**Pattern Recognition** :The ability to notice when something happens the same way over and over.

**Sensors** :Tools that help machines “see,” “hear,” or “feel” what’s around them.

**Route Optimization** :Figuring out the smartest and fastest way to get from one place to another.