# Plan for Today 9/29

- Experiences writing Summary and Analysis Essay 1.

- Discussion about Peter Denning's *Communications of the ACM* Article "The Smallness of Large Language Models".

- Summary and Analysis Essay 2 is about Denning's article, and is due next week, on Friday, October 6, at 11:59pm on Gradescope.

  - I will have finished grading your Summary and Analysis Essay 1s by the end of Sunday.

- Brainstorming about topics for Major Paper.

- Discussion of Class Presentations on Major Paper topics.

# Experiences with Summary and Analysis Essay 1

- Let's start by your sharing your experiences writing the Summary and Analysis Essay 1.

- What was easy, what was hard?

- How (if at all) will you approach Summary and Analysis Essay 2 differently?

# Discussion of Denning's Article

- Next we'll have a discussion of Peter Denning's *Communications of the ACM* Article "The Smallness of Large Language Models".

- We want to identify the main points that should be covered in the summary.

- We also want to identify possible directions for the analysis.

  - Remember that one of the ways to earn a check-plus is to bring in other sources.

# Summary and Analysis Essay 2: Due Friday 10/6

- You are to write a 400-600 word Summary and Analysis Essay about Peter Denning's *Communications of the ACM* article, "The Smallness of Large Language Models".

- Due: 11:59pm on Friday, October 6.

- Submission on Gradescope.

- See slides 5-8 of the slide deck from 9/15 for your goals in writing this essay.

Questions?

# Brainstorming about Major Paper Topics

- You will be writing an 8-9 page paper on a computer science topic with relevance to society.

- Your paper must have a "contestable thesis".

- Today, we're going to have a brainstorming session about possible paper topics.

  - For each topic, we'll try to identify one or more contestable theses.

  - We'll use the whiteboard to collect our ideas.

# Major Paper Scaffolding

- You will have five assignments culminating in your Major Paper:

  - Class Presentation

  - Annotated Bibliography

  - Storyboard

  - Major Paper Draft

  - Major Paper Final

# Class Presentations on Major Paper Topics

- To help you get started working on your Major Paper, you'll be preparing and presenting a 10–15 minute Class Presentation on a potential topic.

- In your presentation, you will be telling the class about the topic, but also identifying possible contestable theses relating to the topic.

- You can prepare your talk using Powerpoint, Keynote, Google Slides, etc.

- You should email your slides to me *before* your speaking slot so I can handle the projection.

# Class Presentations on Major Paper Topics

- I have posted a link on Piazza to Google signup sheets — one per section — for class presentation slots:

  - October 6 — next week, Summary and Analysis 2 is due that night

  - October 13

  - October 20

  - October 27 — but your Annotated Bibliography will be due that night