

ParancU Instructions

How to review the current local-first iOS app

1. What the app demonstrates

- Local corpus persistence, multilingual E5 embedding, scoring, ranking, and evidence inspection.
- Semantic plus lexical/anchor retrieval.
- Evidence-first result inspection.
- OCR-assisted ingestion from camera or photo library.

2. OpenAI API key

ParancU currently requires a user-supplied OpenAI API key during corpus preparation. The key is used only for the constrained metadata-generation step that creates a short summary and one guiding question for each source chunk.

- Open Manage corpus / Settings and enter your OpenAI API key before preparing a new corpus.
- The key is stored locally by the app.
- The key is not used for E5 embedding, semantic/lexical scoring, ranking, corpus persistence, or evidence inspection.
- Once a corpus has been prepared and saved, it can be queried again without repeating the metadata-generation step.

3. Recommended first run

1. Open ParancU.
2. Enter your OpenAI API key if one is not already stored.
3. Go to Upload and load or paste 06_question_answering_text.txt.
4. Prepare the corpus and wait for preparation to complete.
5. Open Ask and submit a focused question.
6. Inspect the retrieved passage, guiding question, summary, and scores.
7. Try a second query containing an exact or rare term.

4. Scan/OCR workflow

8. Open Scan.
9. Take a photo or select an image.
10. Run OCR after at least one page has been added.
11. Review and correct extracted text if necessary.
12. Prepare the extracted text as the active corpus.
13. Return to Ask and query it.

5. How to interpret results

Judge the app by the quality and inspectability of retrieved evidence, not by chatbot fluency.

- Strong: the passage contains direct answer-supporting evidence.
- Partial: the passage is related but incomplete or indirect.
- Weak: the passage is broadly related or off-target.

6. What remains local

After corpus preparation, corpus persistence, multilingual E5-small query embedding, exhaustive semantic/lexical scoring, ranking, and evidence inspection operate on-device. The external OpenAI step is confined to retrieval-metadata construction during preparation.

7. OCR limitations

Low resolution, skew, glare, handwriting, tables, and multi-column layouts may degrade extraction. Separate OCR/input-quality errors from retrieval/ranking errors when reviewing results.

8. Platform and access

ParancU 0.1.0 is available on the Apple App Store for iOS 17 or later.

[View ParancU on the Apple App Store](#)