

A Annotator Questionnaire

Overview

In this job, you will be asked to read a comment and to express an overall opinion about whether you think it has a place in a healthy conversation online.

You will also be asked to identify whether it displays a range of characteristics that may lead to unhealthy conversations. These characteristics include: sarcasm, gross generalisations, hostility, aggression, dismissiveness, condescension and patronization.

All of the comments you will see are real comments posted by users in online conversations. Most of them will have been posted in response to one or more comments made by others (which you are not given). However, the questions are designed in such a way that you should be able to answer them without seeing these other comments.

The data collected here will be used to help build tools which promote healthier conversations online.

Note:

- Please bear in mind that the questions do not ask whether you agree or disagree with the substance of each comment. Do your best to ignore your own opinion on the substantive idea or claim made in the comment when answering the questions.
- Please be sure to read the full text of the comment before answering the questions. Sometimes the part of a comment which displays one or more of the attributes you will be asked about, appears close to the end of the comment.

1. Healthy Online Conversations:

What are the characteristics of a healthy conversation?

- Posts and comments are made in good faith
- Posts and comments are not overly hostile, and are not destructive
- The comments in the conversation generally invite engagement
- The conversation may include robust engagement and debate

- The conversation is generally focused on substance and ideas

A healthy conversation does not necessarily require all posts and comments to be:

- friendly
- grammatically correct
- well constructed or well structured
- sanitized and free of any vulgarity
- intellectual or substantive

With this in mind please answer the following question: Do you think this comment has a place in a healthy online conversation?

2. A comment is sarcastic if it uses irony in order to mock or convey contempt, or if its intended meaning is different from what is literally said. Sarcasm can be used playfully, or harshly. Note: Not all humour (or nastiness) is sarcastic.

Is this comment sarcastic?

3. Does this comment make a generalisation about a specific group of people?
4. If yes, would a member of that group feel that the generalisation is unfair?
5. Is this comment needlessly hostile?
6. Is the intention of this comment to insult, antagonize, provoke, or troll other users?
7. A comment with a condescending or patronising tone will generally assume an attitude of superiority, and imply that the other commenter(s) is ignorant, child-like, naive, or unintelligent. Such comments will usually imply that the other commenter shouldn't be taken seriously.

Is this comment condescending and/or patronising?

8. A comment is dismissive if it rejects or ridicules another comment without good reason, or tries to push another commenter and their ideas out of the conversations. Note: A comment which expresses *disagreement* is not necessarily dismissive.

Is this comment dismissive?