

Introduction

Purpose of the Task:

The goal of this task is to find out when an **event** happens based on a news report.

What is an event?

An event is an expression that describes **something that happened, changed, or an action that someone took**, some examples are **accident, increased, walk...**

What do you need to do?

- You will see a short piece of news that has some words highlighted. The highlighted words are **events** and **times**.
- You will be asked when the highlighted event happens(ed) by selecting a highlighted time expression from the news report, or decide if the event happens before, around, or after the **publication time of the news report** when no time expression is appropriate.

The following are some examples with questions and answers.

- In some cases, we know the exact time when an event happens after reading the news report.

Example 1.

August 28, 2007 (Publication date)

Sen. Larry Craig **held** a news conference on **Tuesday** in Boise, Idaho to issue a public statement about his **arrest** in **June, 2007** and subsequent guilty **plea, August 8**, to a misdemeanor charge of disorderly conduct.

An additional **charge** against Sen. Craig, interference with privacy, had been thrown out.

Q1: When did the **held event happen?**

A1: It happened on **Tuesday**.

Q2: When did the **arrest event happen?**

A2: It happened in **June, 2007**.

Q3: When did the **plea event happen?**

A3: It happened on **August 8**.

- Other times, we don't know the exact time when an event happens, in which case you are asked to decide if the event happens before, around, or after the time the news report was published.

Q4: In Example 1, when did the **charge event happen?**

A4: **We don't know the exact time when the **charge** event happened**, but we know it happened before the news was published, which is before **August 28, 2007**.

Example 2.

August 26, 2007 (Publication date)

City work crews have been **working** above the slab in question.

Q5: When did the **working event happen?**

A5: **We don't know the exact time when the **working** event happened**, but we know it happened around the time the news was published, which is **August 26, 2007** in this case.

Example 3.

February 29, 2008 (Publication date)

They **say** that the bank "in attempting to shoot the messenger has only succeeded, spectacularly, in shooting itself."

Q6: When did the **say event happen?**

A6: **We don't know the exact time when the **say** event happened**, but we know it happened around **February 29, 2008**, when the news was published.

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