MT-EQuAl:
a Toolkit for Human Assessment
of Machine Translation Output

ANNOTATION GUIDELINES

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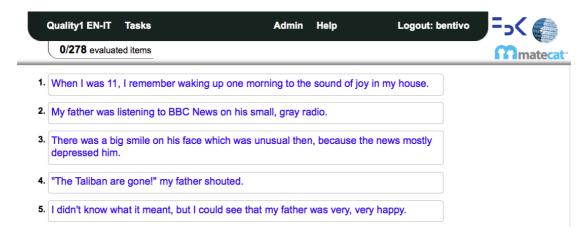{bentivo,cgirardi}@fbk.eu

Accessing the annotation interface

To work with the interface, you must use one of the supported browsers: *Chrome*, *Safari*, *Firefox, Internet Explorer*.

The annotation interface is created to carry out three annotation tasks, namely:
1. Translation quality rating (*e.g.* adequacy/fluency, relative ranking)
2. Identification of errors in the automatic translations.
3. Word alignment

To access it, you have to enter your Username and Password. Once you have logged in, on the top-left corner of the interface you can find the "Task" tab where you can select the task assigned to you.

Once you have chosen the task, you are presented with the list of evaluation items to be judged.

By clicking on a given evaluation item you are displayed with the annotation task.
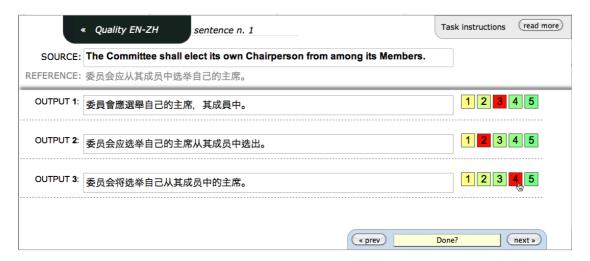
The evaluation items' index page can be accessed at the beginning of the task or during the annotation. Each time the page is accessed, the status of the evaluation items is shown: finished and confirmed annotations are marked with a green tick; incomplete annotations are marked with information about the number of annotations carried out; items which are still to be evaluated have no marks.

All the evaluation items can be accessed more than once in order to change or finish the annotation (following the procedure described in the next sections).

1. Translation quality rating interface

This layout is suitable for adequacy/fluency evaluation, ranking outputs relatively to each other, and in general all those assessment tasks that require rating MT outputs.

As shown in the figure above, in the top-right corner of the interface you can find the task instructions. The quality rating interface displays the source sentence, a reference translation (optional) and the MT output(s) to be rated.

To the right of each automatic translation you can find a graded scale and you can assign your rating to the sentence by clicking on a button of the scale. Each
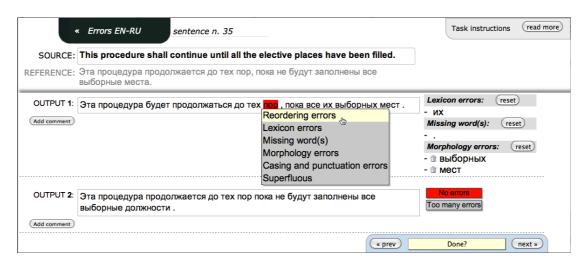
time you click on a point in the graded scale, the annotation is automatically saved and the point is highlighted in red. You can cancel the annotation by clicking again on the point button or change it by clicking on another point button.

Once you have judged all the sentences, the button "Done?" is activated, and by clicking on it you confirm that the evaluation item has been completed.

You can move to the previous or next evaluation items by clicking the corresponding buttons near to the "Done" button, or you can go back to the complete list of evaluation items by clicking on the task name at the top-left corner of the interface.

2. Error annotation interface

The error annotation interface requires you to identify the type of errors present in the MT output, according to the adopted error typology, and to mark their position in the text.

As shown in the figure above, in the top-right corner of the interface you can find the task instructions.

You are presented with the source sentence, a reference translation (optional) and the MT output(s) to be analyzed.

To the right of each translation you can find two buttons, which allow you to mark the MT output as containing "no errors" or "too many errors".

To the left of each translation you can find the "Add comment" button. By clicking on it, a text box is opened and you can type in your comments.

In order to annotate the errors, you have to select with the mouse the word(s) to be annotated. The selected word(s) are highlighted and, by right-clicking, the

error typology menu is displayed and the suitable error type can be chosen. You can do this action as many times as needed and for all the error categories.

NOTE: if you are using a Microsoft Windows platform, you must ensure that your mouse is not over the selected words when you right-click to activate the error typology menu, otherwise the selected words will be deselected. To display the error menu, you just have to move your mouse away from the selected words before right-clicking.

It is possible to annotate single words (including punctuation), spaces (e.g. to indicate the correct place for missing words in the candidate translation), and sequences of words (very useful especially for reordering problems which can involve entire portions of the sentence). Note that it is possible to assign the same word(s) to more than one category.
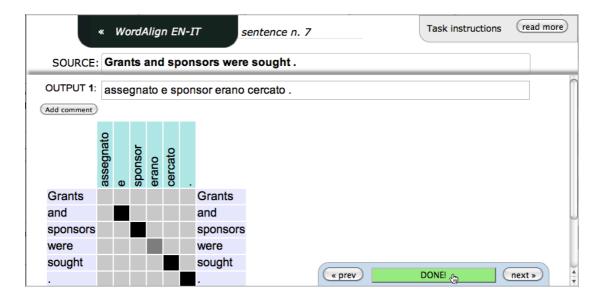
The annotated errors are listed at the right of the corresponding sentences, subdivided by error type. If you hover the mouse over a given error instance, the corresponding word(s) appear underlined in the text. It is possible to delete single error instances (by clicking on the bin icon) or all the errors of a give type (by clicking on the "reset" button).

Once you have done at least one annotation for each MT output, the button "Done?" is activated, and by clicking on it you confirm that the evaluation item has been completed.

You can move to the previous or next evaluation items by clicking the corresponding buttons near to the "Done" button, or you can go back to the complete list of evaluation items by clicking on the task name at the top-left corner of the interface.

3. Word Alignment interface

As can be seen in the figure below, in the top-right corner on the interface the task instructions are shown. Also, you are presented with the source sentence, a reference translation (optional) and the corresponding MT output that has been word-aligned to the source.

The interface displays a traditional alignment matrix, where the rows correspond to the words of the source sentence and the columns to the words of its translation.

Word alignments can be edited by clicking the respective matrix cells to add or remove links between words. Different types of links are activated by mouse click and are shown in a precise sequence decided by the task administrator. In the task setting shown in the figure, there are three different links, where "possible alignment" (displayed in dark grey), is followed by "sure alignment" (black), which in its turn is followed by "no alignment" (light grey).

You can align both continuous and discontinuous text segments.

Once you have clicked on at least one alignment cell, the button "Done?" is activated, and by clicking on it you confirm that the evaluation item has been completed. You are not forced to complete

You can move to the previous or next evaluation items by clicking the corresponding buttons near to the "Done" button, or you can go back to the complete list of evaluation items by clicking on the task name at the top-left corner of the interface.