

Group Annotation Guideline

Goal

The given dataset includes some questions and answers in social media. And our goal is to annotate the helpfulness of answers corresponding to the questions.

Scale

The ratings are from 1 to 5 corresponding to the tags **not related**, **related but not helpful**, **a little helpful**, **helpful**, **extremely helpful**, respectively. The specific rules are described below.

Classification of Questions and Answers

1. Questions

Question types are mainly divided into yes/no questions and wh-questions.

A yes/no question is expressed in a true or false proposition and its answer is expected to confirm or deny the proposition. The wh-questions asks about the missing information of a proposition and expects the answer to provide this information.

2. Answers

The types of answers are broadly classified here into five categories: positive answers, negative answers, feature answers, uncertain answers, and unrelated answers.

Positive answers will support the proposition presented in the question, while negative answers will oppose the proposition presented in the question. Feature answers supplement the missing information in the question. Uncertain answers do not explicitly support or oppose the proposition presented in the question, or simply suggest possibilities for the missing information in the question. The content of the unrelated answer is not relevant to the topic of the question.

Rules

Point 1 (not related)

- The answer is blank.
- The answer is unreadable, or it is hard to understand.
- The type of answer does not correspond to the type of question. For example, for those yes/no questions, the answers should include positive, negative, or uncertain standpoints to support the attitude.
- The answer is completely irrelevant to the topic of the question. The author of the answer may misunderstand the subject matter of the question.
- Strong discrimination exists in the answer.

Example.

The answer with id “gyw7pth” is completely unreadable.

The answer with id “gx1a1wqv” makes no sense.

Point 2 (related but not helpful)

- The answer has a little relationship with the question.
- The responder understands what the question means and the answer is at least kind of reasonable.
- The answer contains one / few keywords in the question, but the content does not correspond to the question itself.
- Some sentences in the reply are hard to understand.
- The answer is too abstract with only several words.
- The answer itself is weird and it is unreliable.
- The answer is too ambiguous.
- The answer sticks to the question itself, instead of answering the question.
- The author is off-topic by focusing too much on one point.
- The answer is obviously perfunctory or fabricated facts.
- Strong discrimination exists in the answer.
- The answer generally gives no effective information about the question.

Example.

Although the answer with id “gwhzzl3” tells a story in detail, it has little correspondence with the question requirement.

The answer with id “gwk4nl0” has a point of 2 as it is too abstract and perfunctory without any further information.

Point 3 (a little helpful)

- The answer replies to part of the question. For example, there are two questions, and the reply only answers one question.
- There is a lack of important explanation or description.
- The responder understands the question and gives some helpful information or brings some inspiring views, but is still far from fully solving the question or lacks practicality.
- The answer does not clearly express a consistent and non-contradictory view.
- Weak discrimination exists in the answer.

Example.

The answer with id “gwnhj5q” replies to the question, but lacks any examples to support its argument.

The answer with id “gwjjojn” is partly related to the question.

Point 4

- The answer generally replies to the question correctly, but it is not perfect.
- The answer has some explanation, but the explanation is not detailed enough.
- One or two sentences in the answer is ambiguous or it is hard to understand.
- The answer does not meet the specific requirements in the question,

such as the need for the author to use his or her own experience as a reference.

- The responder understands the question well and is able to handle the question and express the necessary information.
- The answer is generally helpful enough for the questioner to solve the question.
- No discrimination exists in the answer.

Example.

The answer with the id “gwl4eq3” correctly answers the question, but it only broadly explains the first point and lacks in-depth analysis overall.

The answer with id “gwl4eq3” correctly answers the question, but the story it tells is too broad.

Point 5

- The answer completely matches the question.
- The answer is detailed enough to explain the question. It contains enough evidence and explanation for people to understand.
- The answer meets all the specific requirements in the question.
- The responder understands the question well and is able to handle the question professionally.
- The responder is good at expressing information. The answer is clear and thorough to help solve the question.
- The answer even brings some outputs more than what the questioner expected.
- No discrimination exists in the answer.

Example.

The answer with id “gwmmutg” completely matches the question and discusses views and explanations in detail.

The answer with id “gwivq55” not only explains the question directly, it also gives some detailed explanation.