

SI 630 Homework 3 Group Annotation Guidelines

The goal of this project is to analyze the relies on questions to investigate what makes a helpful response. Therefore, the annotation work will be labeling all the replies of a large sample of questions from Reddit by their qualities, adopting a 5-point Likert scale from (1) Not Helpful to (5) Very helpful.

The detailed guidelines for each label are listed as follows:

(5) Very helpful

A reply is labeled as very helpful when it is closely related to the question and answers all aspects of the question. The answer must be reasonable and meaningful. The answer can be either very concise and short, that directly answers the questioner what to obtain with no ambiguity; or long, well-organized, and comprehensive, for example, using stories to convey the point.

Example 1:

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: My favorite food is salad because it is healthy and easy to make.

This example answer is very straightforward, and offers the reason to support the answer.

Example 2:

Q: Gamer girls, what are your experiences when gaming with males?

A: Most males have found it refreshing that I'm there to play and have fun, not to be that girl who flirts with everyone and begs/expects to be given items for having boobs. They're very welcoming and respectful usually. My only issue was some gender bias in WoW. I was a tank in competitive raiding guilds. I always wanted a new guild I applied to to parse my previous raids and see some video before joining the voice chat interview portion. Sadly, too many males thought I should heal and not tank simply because I have a vagina. /shrug. Showed them... Top 100 US isn't half bad, boobs or no boobs haha!

This example answer is of moderate length, and is closely related to the question. The respondent combined her own experience to explain her feelings, making the answer persuasive and relatable.

Example 3:

Q: People who have gotten to the front of theme park lines, then had to go back, what happened?

A: A few years ago me and a buddy went early to cedar point over in Sandusky Ohio. He had a season pass so we were able to go in the park at 8 am as opposed to 9. The first thing we did was get in the line for the biggest coaster there the top thrill dragster. The line was normally 3-4 hours but we thought we were getting a steal having to only wait 2. So time goes we are looking at the front of the line now and suddenly it stops moving. The last ride we saw go off had a loud pop to go with it. After hearing this technicians knew something was up and shut the ride off. Me and my friend were determined to get on the ride but after 30 more minutes we knew we had to make a decision. We had to cut our losses and had to leave the line only 3 spots away from riding. Hindsight this was a very good decision since we walked by hours later in the day with the ride still broken down. Moral of the story don't be afraid to cut your losses even if it means losing a lot of time.

The reply uses a story of his/her own to answer what happened when people who have gotten to the front of theme park lines then had to go back, which clearly explains one possible reason.

(4) Helpful

A reply is labeled as helpful when it is closely related to the question and it basically solves the question, but there is still room for improvement in terms of language organization or coordination. Might require some extra research to understand the answer.

Example 1:

Q: What's the biggest and baddest evil villain you ever could imagine?

A: It was a joke on SNL but probably evil scientist that made a Robot with the sole purpose to molest kids. Bruh that was evil

This example answer solves the question overall but might be a bit confusing to those who never watched SNL. It would be better if the respondent can further explain it.

Example 2:

Q: What was the dumbest thing someone got triggered by and reported you over?

A: Walmart cashier here. This happened last week. I was clocked out and decided to check in with AP because sometimes they need to vent. A lady comes up to us and says "Can you get more cashiers?" and my coworker said "Ma'am it's an hour before closing and a majority of the cashiers went home". The lady said "The lines are so long, you need to get more people and you two are just standing here". I still had my vest on but I let my coworker do the talking because she is better at dealing with these kinds of people. "We're AP and we need to stand here and check receipts" my coworker told her. She storms off and I head to the back to get my things. I look at the lines and there is hardly any buddy there. There's like 3 people per line with no much things. When I come back to the front to leave, the AP coworker updates me on the story. Apparently the lady came back to her and demanded our names so she can report us to corporate. My coworker gave her a false name and told her that she didn't know mine. I told my AP coworker how long the lines actually were and she just sighed and wished me a safe trip home.

In this example, the answer tells a story about the thing happened in Walmart cashier, although it is a bad thing, the woman didn't actually report the author since she didn't know his/her name.

(3) Moderately helpful

A reply is labeled as moderately helpful when it is closely related to the question, and answers part of the question while some part is misinterpreted or ignored, or is not easy to understand for everyone / requires a certain culture/academic background.

Example 1:

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: I like salad.

The example answer shows that the respondent likes salad, but is not necessarily "favorite". We can get the information that the respondent's favorite food is very likely salad, but still, the answer is a bit off-topic.

Example 2:

Q: What is the legal status of robots?

A: The professor refers to everyone at planet express as property and so does hermies. For instance, The prof only keeps amy around and is his intern because she has the same bloodtype as him and if shes harmed hes going to vacc up the blood and bring it back with him. Robots pledge their care and maintenance to any place they are employed by and everyone is employed on earth in the future. Ill bet mom had a hand in making sure each robot "has a job" Even if they dont want a job, "Ya gotta do what ya gotta do".

In the example, the reply contains something related to robots, but does not give answer to the legal status of robots.

(2) Somewhat helpful

A reply is labeled as somewhat helpful when it is somewhat related to the question but it fails to answer what the questioner wants to obtain. Or the answer is very ambiguous. That is to say, the reply is within the general topic of the question, but provides little helpful information about the question.

Example 1:

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: I like to go to Mexican restaurants on weekends!

This example answer is related to the question, and is indicating that the respondent likes Mexican food, but the answer is not technically answering the question.

Example 2:

Q: Are there any tips anyone can give to make a horror short story actually SCARY to read?

A: Books can be scary! Shirley Jackson's The Lottery scared the absolute crap out of me when I read it. The lead up to when you learn what the lottery is and then the ACTUAL lottery? It's just brilliant writing. Beloved by Toni Morrison is another good one. Ive never been "scared" by King but he does have a knack for making me feel unnerved and wondering wtf is going on. Also? Rebecca is an excellent read to get tone ideas. It's one of my fave books and I wish I could go back to the first time I read it because it was just an amazing read that first time. Edited: how could I have forgot about House of Leaves! Honestly I recommend reading some horror books if you haven't.

Although the question and the answer are both about scary books/stories, the respondent is not answering the question at all.

Example 3:

Q: What was once a fact is now not a fact?

A: He was a boy, she was a girl, can i make it anymore obvious.

Although the answer is related to the question in some way, the reply is quite ambiguous.

(1) Not very helpful

Tag 1 is referred to as "not helpful at all", which refers to the situation that the reply has nothing to do with the question. The answer might be junk messages or toxic texts.

Example 1:

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: How old are you?

This example answer is totally irrelevant to the question.

Example 2:

Q: What makes you uncomfortable, if at all, when reading a book with a bisexual, male protagonist?

A: I don't read shitter

This example answer does not answer the question at all, and is pretty offensive.