

## Group Annotation Guidelines

These guidelines have been created so that annotators can rate their agreement with the statement  
"This answer is helpful."  
using a 5-point Likert scale:

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>

Ratings should be given as follows:

Guidelines for assigning a 1 (strongly disagree/not helpful)		
<p>A response might receive a <b>1</b> if it has any of the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Does not answer the question at all; one may wonder why the responder bothered to post it</li><li>• The answer has nothing to do with the question</li><li>• The answer provides the asker with no information</li><li>• Part or all of the answers is in a different language than the question</li><li>• Mocks or belittles the asker</li><li>• The answer is incorrect by standards of generic, well-known facts</li><li>• Is relevant to the question but more of a comment on the question itself rather than an answer</li></ul> <p>Responses like "I don't know" or "Google it" may fall into this category.</p>		
Examples of responses that would receive a 1		
Question	Response	Justification
What is your favorite book?	Do podcasts count?"	Answer shows a lack of understanding of the question Answer is neither helpful nor attempting to be of utility
What is the difference between Congruence and Similarity of triangles?"	This is easily found on the Internet. Please make an effort to find before posting here	Answer provides no new information Answer mocks the asker
What is a leap year?	The one with 30 days in March	Answer get a commonly known fact wrong
What is the safest route to Mars?	I think just getting it at a gas station is fine. Maybe getting	Answers is completely irrelevant to the question

	it from like a delivery service is fine too. In the end it's only like \$2.00. Nobody's gonna rob you for \$2.00	Answer shows a lack of understanding of the question
What is the best recycling center in the downtown area?	Why even bother? Nothing is 100% recyclable. We should be focusing on resuing	Answer is not useful to the poser

### Guidelines for assigning a 2 (disagree)

A response might receive a **2** if it has any of the following characteristics:

- It is a follow-up question
- It shows evidence of bias that discredits the responder (for example, a political bias)
- The answer is sarcastic or a joke
- It may relate slightly to the question but ultimately answers a question different from the one that was asked; it may seem like the responder did not understand the question

### Examples of responses that would receive a 2

Question	Response	Justification
Homeowners: what unexpected thing now occupies your thoughts?	Home reno in any way, shape or form. Also, I look at other houses differently now (what addition did they do? Is that original? I like that deck/porch/patio, etc.)	Only a part of the answer pertains to the question. The answer asks another question
If you could do one thing all day long, what would it be?	I would sit at my computer all day long	While the response does answer the question, it is vague and the asker will wonder as to why the responder prefers to sit at computer all day long
What is something you regret and why?	Throwing that Banana peel on the marble floor.	The answer is meant as a joke to a seemingly serious question.

### Guidelines for assigning a 3 (neutral)

A response might receive a **3** if it has any of the following characteristics:

- It is general knowledge or cliché
- It may reflect a personal opinion or vignette

- It is subjective rather than objective
- It is difficult to determine whether it is helpful or unhelpful
- It directs the asker to consult a different source (for example, a doctor or other professional)
- The answer has some context and relation to what is asked
- The question requires a yes/no answer
- The answer is vague

Examples of responses that would receive a 3

Question	Response	Justification
White people who prefer to date exclusively within your own community and why?	I don't think it is inherently wrong to date within your own community. A lot of people all over the world do it. Especially in Asia and Africa. I think a lot of it comes down to that "marry someone like your mom" psychology. That being said, I am mixed and dated married someone from outside my community.	Response is a personal opinion based on a question that is not very clear. Response is within the context but does not answer the why very clearly. Response is subjective.
Which sport in high school attracts the most assholes?	Sports are usually an out-of-school activity here, so the assholes are very well distributed and for the most part, you don't even know what sport they're playing, just that they're an asshole.	The answer is generic, based on personal experience and kind of biased too. Looks like responder inherently doesn't like sports and is speaking of it in a condescending manner.
What small thing ticks you off?	Youtube recommendations. How do they manage to recommend me this much trash I wouldn't watch in a million years and why do the feedback options seemingly do absolutely nothing?	It has some context and is based on a personal experience. It has a follow up question that does leave room for more explanation.
What topics make you say "Keep talking"?	Anything interesting and informative, particularly scientific, philosophy, and social/economic development facts (build-up through history until now)	Very generic, relates to the context but not exactly a specific answer.

### Guidelines for assigning a 4 (agree)

A response might receive a **4** if it has any of the following characteristics:

- Clearly answers the question that was asked
- Is close to a desirable answer, but not perfect; it may contain some unnecessary information, or, on the other hand, may leave the user wanting just a little bit more information
- It may provide some kind of advice
- It may be based on personal experience but should provide the asker with useful information; elaborates, provides additional detail beyond a response that would be given a **3**
- For how-to questions, whereas a **3** response might direct the asker to a different source, a **4** response answers the question or tells the user how they might do it themselves

### Examples of responses that would receive a 4

Question	Response	Justification
How do you tell if a guy actually does love you?	I don't think you can tell he has to show you. Probably consistency in their actions is a good indicator one way or the other.	It has context, the answer is based on personal opinion but it leaves a feeling of wanting more explanation and information of why that activity would help. Also responder is not certain of he/she is saying so and it reads like responder is doubtful of their own answer.
What you'll never tell your partner, but confess to a total stranger?	My partners have always been those with whom I share the most because, among my friends and my family, they have always been the ones with whom we would be the most able to sever the ties. And it's this fragility that makes their judgments the most important ones to me. Because it will be sincere. And this is exactly what I would never tell her. I don't want her to feel it this way or I don't want to know she actually does too.	It is a response within context, clearly answers what is asked based on personal experience with details about why the responder thinks that way.
What is the best way to get	Compliment strangers. You're	It has context, the answer is

rid of shyness?	building self-confidence in interacting with people AND making people smile (hopefully).	based on personal opinion but it leaves a feeling of wanting more explanation and information of why that activity would help.
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### Guidelines for assigning a 5 (strongly agree/very helpful)

A response might receive a **5** if it has one or more of the characteristics of a **4** response, *plus* one or more of the following:

- Includes examples and/or information that is useful or advances knowledge of the subject; compared to a response of a **4**, it goes the “extra mile”
- The answer is easy to understand and though it may prompt further research, it answers the question to a degree that the asker need look no further for more information.
- The answer might include a delightfully unexpected element; for example, an interesting fact or new perspective, or humorous
- The answer may include some sort of citation, either an external reference or credential of the responder
- The answer gives something a bit different or more helpful than what you might expect from a quick Google search
- Being able to guess the question by looking at the answer is a way to identify a response of a **5**

### Examples of responses that would receive a 5

Question	Response	Justification
What brands of clothing are the best quality for price?	Levi's, 30 years and still going on 2 pairs ;-)	Gives a direct answer with a compelling justification.
What alarm sound do you use in the morning?	[This.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_ywSPWu3K8)	Points the user to a quick answer, which is different from what you might expect but would likely be extremely effective.

### MISCELLANEOUS DEDUCTIONS

If the response contains one or more of the following, **deduct one point** from the score it would have otherwise received:

- The answer does not address all parts of the question
- The answer is too long or contains way too much information
- The responder is not confident in their answer
- The response is much more complicated than what the asker wanted
  - As an example, posts that contain “ELI5” (“explain like I’m 5”) should be answered in a way that’s easy to understand.
- The responder is not who the asker requested

- As an example, the question asks for a response from a doctor and the responder states that they are not a doctor.
- The response is insulting, condescending, or rude