MinCHAT Errors

A. Errors that Middy missed (simple fix in MinCHAT tutorial under pronounced letters):

1. @l (L) shows as @1 (One) in the tutorial.\*

-Some coders wrote pronounced letters as @1 instead of @l because of how it looked in the tutorial

* RECOMMENDED ACTION: Change font (to Calibri or equivalent) in tutorial to clear up the mix up. Times New Roman (among other fonts) do not distinguish well between the letter el and the number one (i.e. ‘l vs 1’ Calibri (CLEAR); ‘l vs. 1’ Times New Roman (NOT CLEAR).

\*note: in our example file, when including *both* @1 and @l in one annotation, this was not found as an error by the MinCHAT checker on one computer. It was, however, found as an error by another computer. This is perhaps a separate issue to be addressed.

**All of these come up as errors but we do not think that they are errors:**

2. a) Hyphen as a terminal marker.

-Does not count as terminal marker.

* RECOMMENDED ACTION: Count hyphen as a terminal marker.

2. b) Hyphen after @c.

-Comes up as “incorrect use of @ sign in transcription.”

-Should not come up as an error.

* RECOMMENDED ACTION: Allow hyphen to come after @c.

3. Two sentences in an utterance come up as an error because there are two terminal markers.

* RECOMMENDED ACTION: Count two terminal markers in a row as an error.
* RECOMMENDED ACTION: Do not count two terminal markers in an utterance as an error.

-Another instance was Mr. Name. (Mr. could be spelled out as **mister**).

-Another example was Ph.D. (Ph.D could be spelled **p@l h@l d@l**).

4. <bababa@c> [=! sings].

-Symbols not allowed in triangle brackets.

* RECOMMENDED ACTION: Allow symbols in triangle brackets.

B. Errors that Middy did not think were worth catching but we did:

5.Correct: color. Error: colour.

-UK spelling instead of US spelling.

* RECOMMENDED ACTION: Consider checking for spelling\*.

\*Is it worth considering connecting MinCHAT to a particular/specific online dictionary corpus/data set? Is it possible? From our discussion, it is tedious to look up correct spellings in dictionary while transcribing, in addition to limited access to an unabridged dictionary (total English word count).

\*\*Alternatively, all of the labs could use the same online dictionary, and perhaps one account could be made to check all transcriptions across labs: (a paid subscriptions at Merriam-Webster Online dictionary gives access to an additional 200,000 words i.e. most complete word list on-line).

C. Errors that Middy thought she got, but are not completely taken care of:

**This error was not caught by the checker:**

6. Correct: <d’you> [: do you].

-Does not show up as error if value is not enclosed in triangle brackets.

-The checker looks for this pattern [: do you].

-The checker should look for this pattern <d’you> [: do you].

* RECOMMENDED ACTION: Add triangle brackets including contraction to pattern.

Additional feedback on the MinCHAT tutorials (separate issue from what you assigned)

There is a transcription convention that is used in this lab, that wasn’t addressed directly in your tutorials, but is coming up as an error in the MinCHAT Checker.

e.g. current practice <mwa@c> [=! kisses], COULD BE REWRITEN AS &=kisses (@c not included).

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Add this example to the section entitled, Non-linguistic communicative notes (p.10 in tutorial #8 English version).