NLP Applications (AIMLCZG519)

Assignment 2 - Sentiment Analysis Application

Main Assignment Report

Group #37

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Executive Summary

This document presents a comprehensive details related to the Assignment Part-A Task-A – “Simple application that can accurately analyze the sentiment (positive, negative, or neutral) of user-provided text.”, including:

1. Instructions for running the application locally.
2. Design choices and any challenges faced during implementation.
3. Screenshots that explain the entire flow of the application.

1 Local Execution Instructions

Follow below steps to set up and run the application on your local machine:

1. **Prerequisites**
   - Python 3.8 or higher installed.
   - Modern web browser (Chrome, Firefox, Edge).

2. **Step 1: Install Dependencies**
   Open your terminal in the project directory and run the below command:
   pip install -r requirements.txt

   ***Note**: This will install Flask, NLTK, TextBlob, and security extensions like JWT and Limiter.*

3. **Step 2: Start the Backend Server**
   Run the Flask application:
   python app.py

   Wait for the message: ** Running on http://127.0.0.1:5000*.
   ***Note**: On the first run, the app will automatically download necessary NLTK corpora (VADER, Tokenizers, WordNet).*

4. **Step 3: Launch the Frontend**
   You can launch the user interface in two ways:
   1. **Directly:** Right-click *index.html* and "Open with Browser".
   2. **Local Server (Recommended):** Visit the site *http://127.0.0.1:5000*.

2 Design Choices & Challenges

2.1 Design Choices

1. **Hybrid Sentiment Engine**

   Instead of relying on a single analyzer, we implemented a **Hybrid Decision Logic**:

   - **VADER:** Used for its strength in handling social media text, emojis, and intensity (e.g., "GREAT!!!" vs "great").
   - **TextBlob:** Used to validate results through polarity and subjectivity scoring.
   - **Custom Weighting:** We added a keyword-weighing layer (e.g., giving extra "Negative" weight to words like "disappointed" or "waste") to handle edge cases where statistical models often miss.

2. **UI Layout (Optimized 3-Column Dashboard)**

We chose a fixed-height, 3-column grid layout that is visible on a single screen:

- **Input (Left):** Context-switching between direct text and file uploads (using a tabbed layout)

- **Result Metrics (Middle):** Immediate visual feedback via color-coded badges and a **High-Contrast Bar Chart** for score distribution.
- **Detailed Analysis (Right):** Granular sentence-level breakdown and token visualization.
- **Visual Feedback:** Integrated CSS animations and an SVG loading timer to enhance user experience during heavy processing.

3. **Batch Processing Logic**

The application automatically detects paragraph breaks in uploaded files. This allows the UI to provide a "Topic Navigator," where users can see the sentiment of the entire file summary or drill down into specific sections.

2.2 Challenges Faced

1. **Fixed Threshold Bias**
   - **Problem:** Default VADER thresholds often labeled mixed reviews (e.g., "It was a good attempt but ultimately a waste of time") as Positive because of the word "good."
   - **Solution:** We fine-tuned the thresholds (shifting the "Neutral" zone from ±0.05 to ±0.1) and added a "negation-checker" that penalizes positive words when follow-up disappointment keywords are detected.
2. **UI Alignment & Column Synchronization**
   - **Problem:** With varying text lengths, the three columns often had uneven heights.
   - **Solution:** Matched the height of all columns to ensure that the dashboard always looks like a professional desktop application, regardless of screen size.
3. **Processing Performance for Large Files**
   - **Problem:** Large .txt documents (up to 50,000 characters) caused the browser to hang while waiting for a response.
   - **Solution:** Optimized the backend with efficient regex cleaning and chunk-based processing, while adding a robust frontend loading state to prevent redundant API calls.

3 Screenshots

3.1 Proof of BITS OSHA Cloud Lab Usage

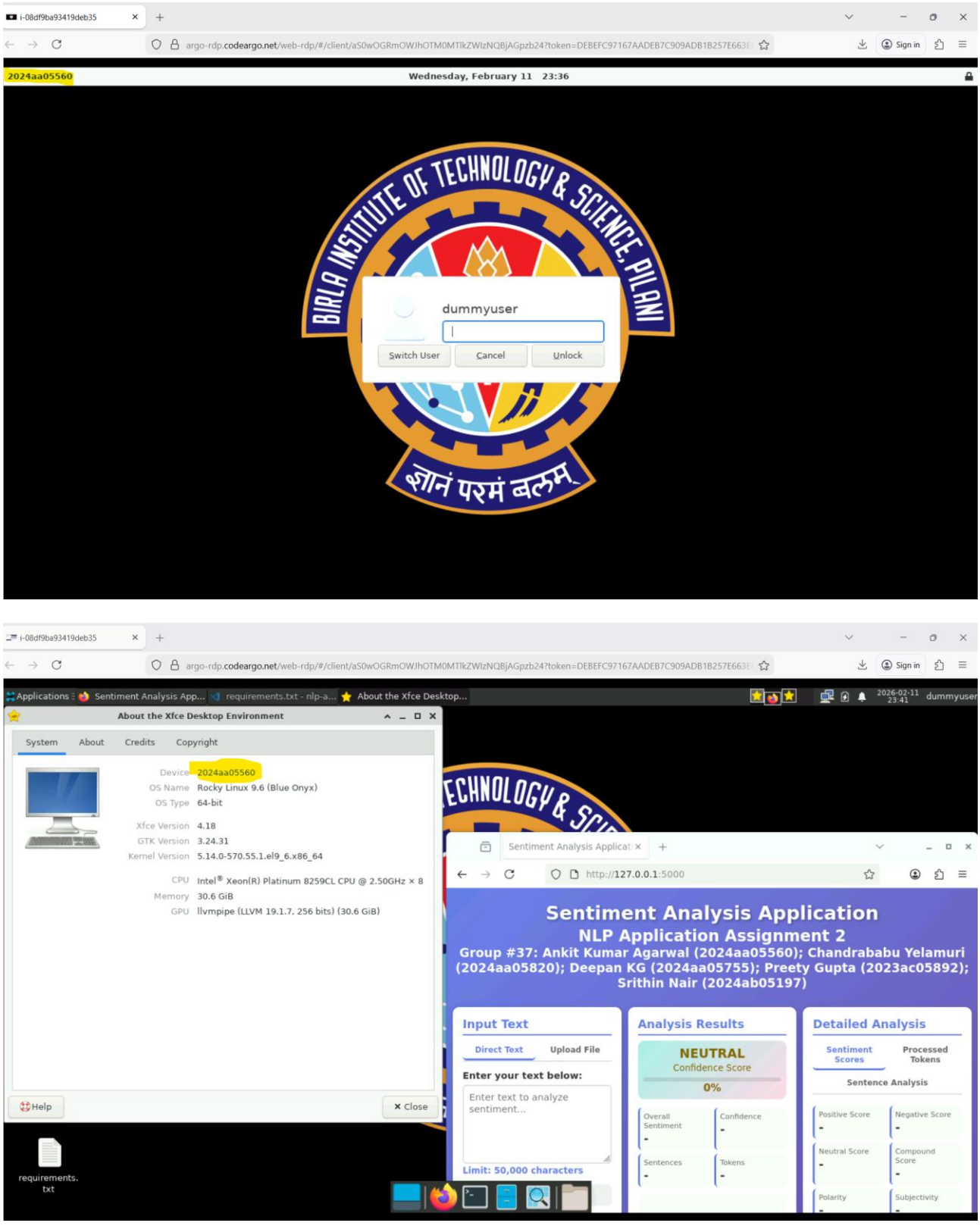

Figure 1: BITS OSHA Lab with BITS Logo on the RDP and Student ID highlighted

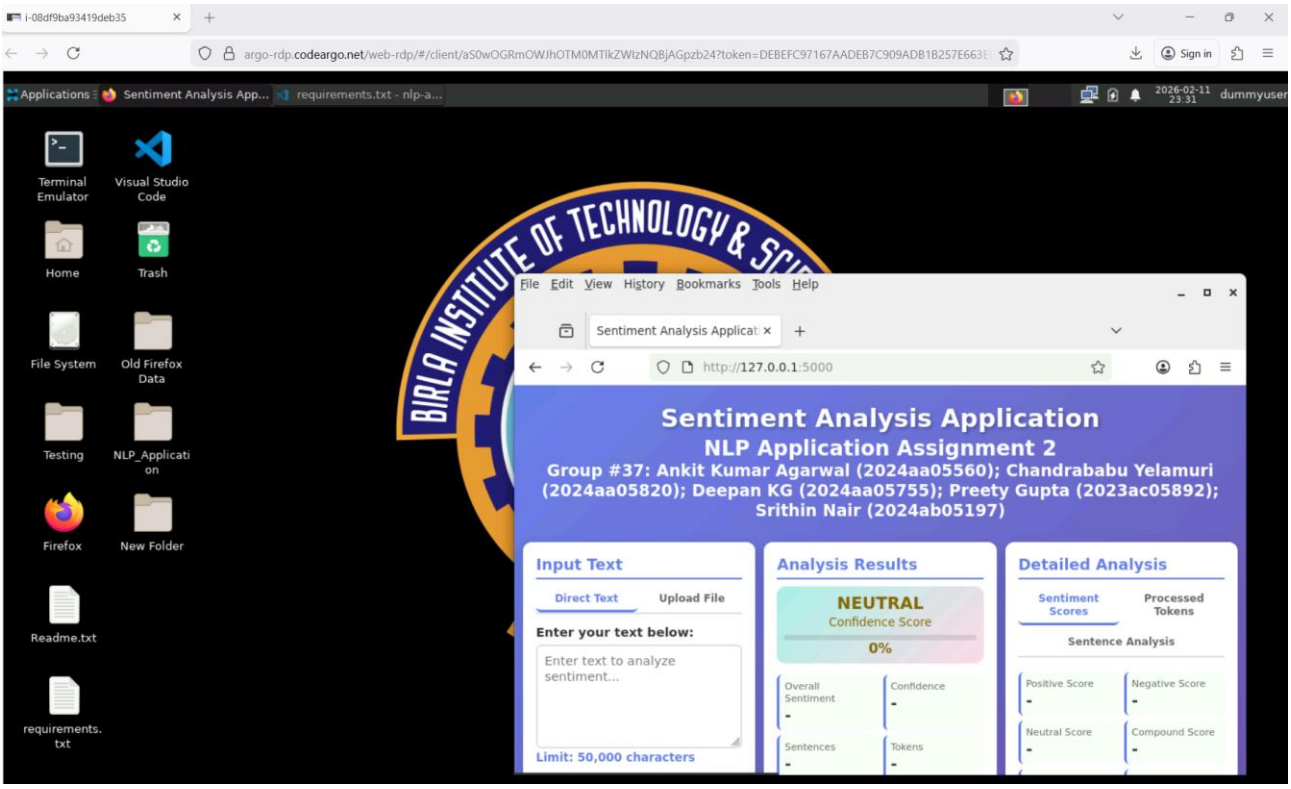

Figure 2: Application GUI running in the Browser on the BITS OSHA Cloud RDP

Note: The BITS logo on the Desktop shows that the application is running on the BITS OSHA Lab portal

3.2 Application Opening Screen

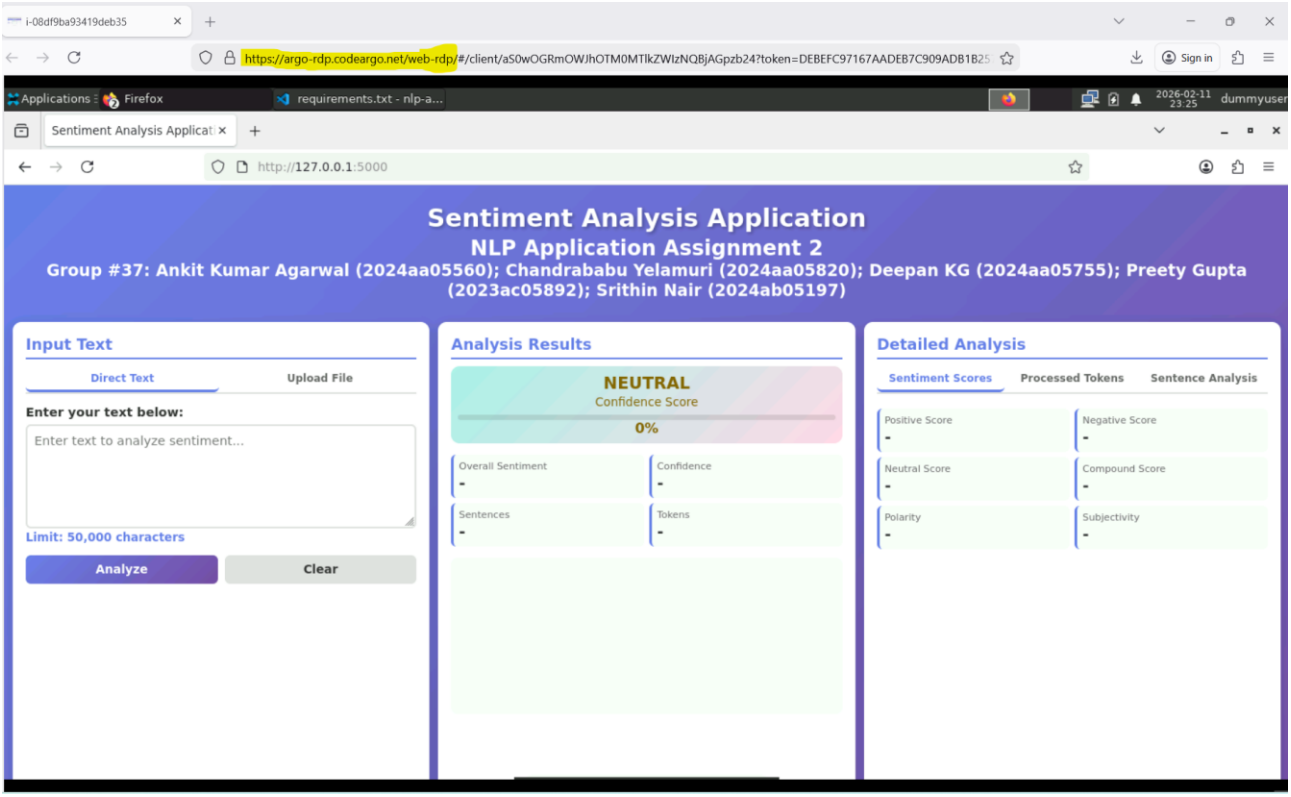

Figure 3: Application GUI opening screen on the browser

3.3 Sentiment Analysis – Single chunk

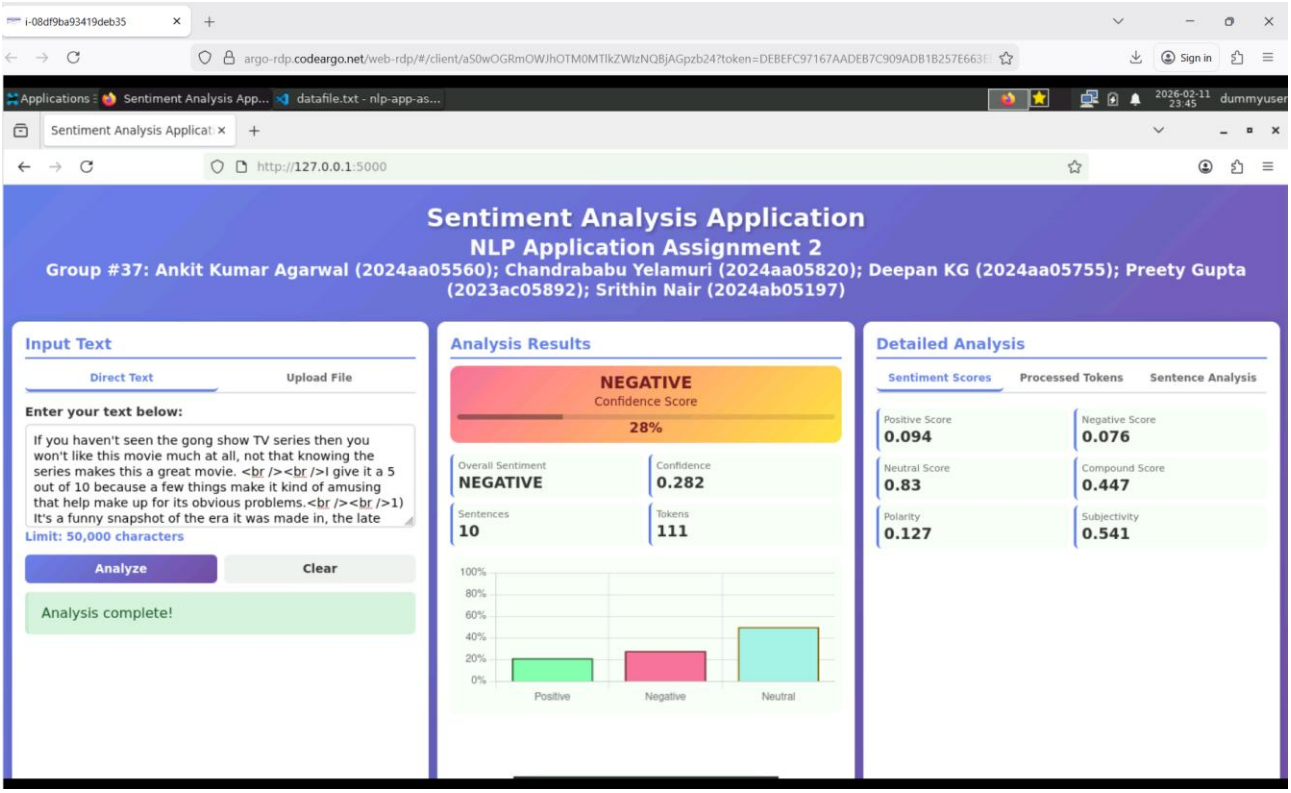

Figure 4: Example showing Sentiment Analysis of single chunk of text

3.4 Sentiment Analysis – Multiple chunks (File Upload option)

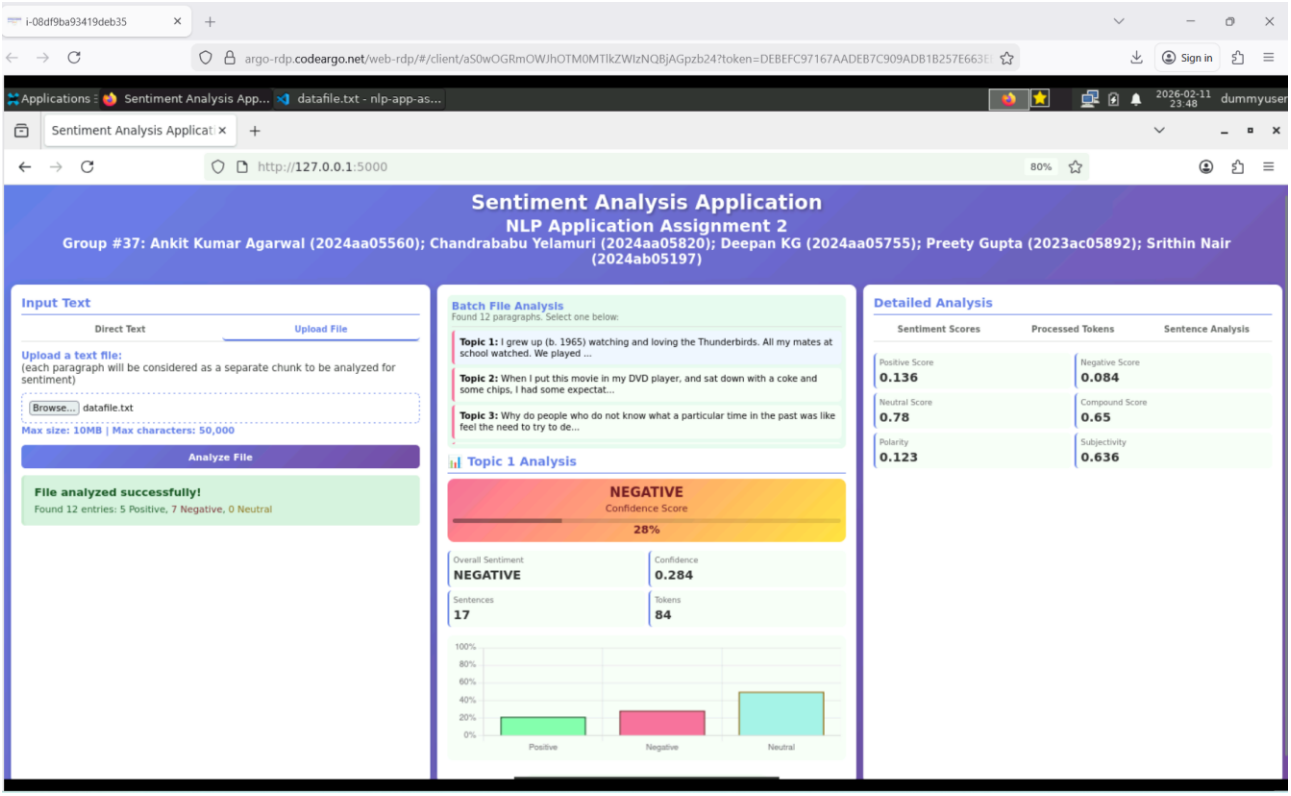

Figure 5: Example showing Sentiment Analysis of multiple chunks in an uploaded text file

3.5 Details of Multiple Chunks Analysis

Figure 5: After analysis, "Input Text" column shows a quick summary of the content shows total number of entries, with Positive/Negative/Neutral entries

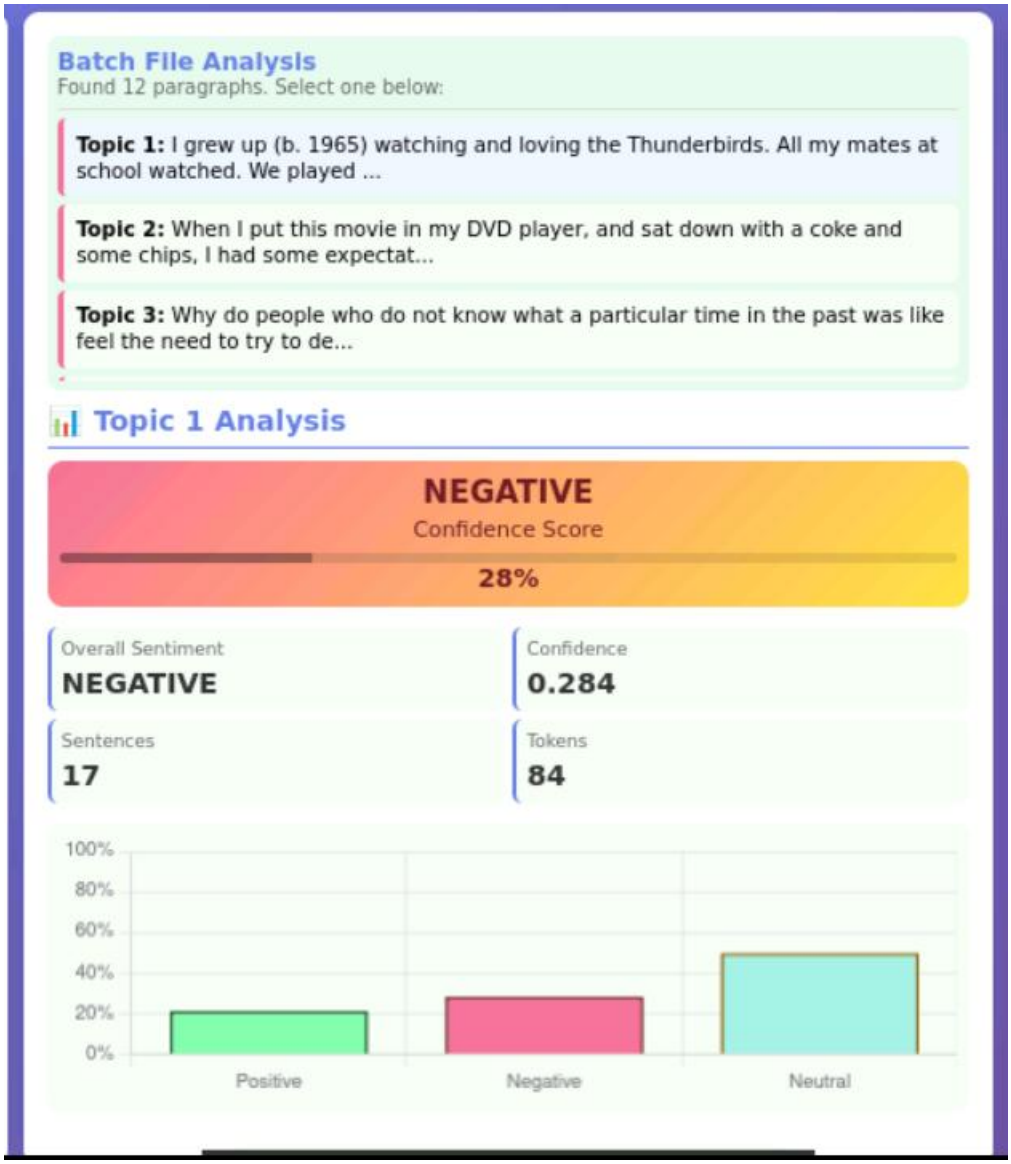

Figure 6: After analysis, "Batch File Analysis" column lists all the chunks at the top and shows the analysis of the selected chunk at the bottom

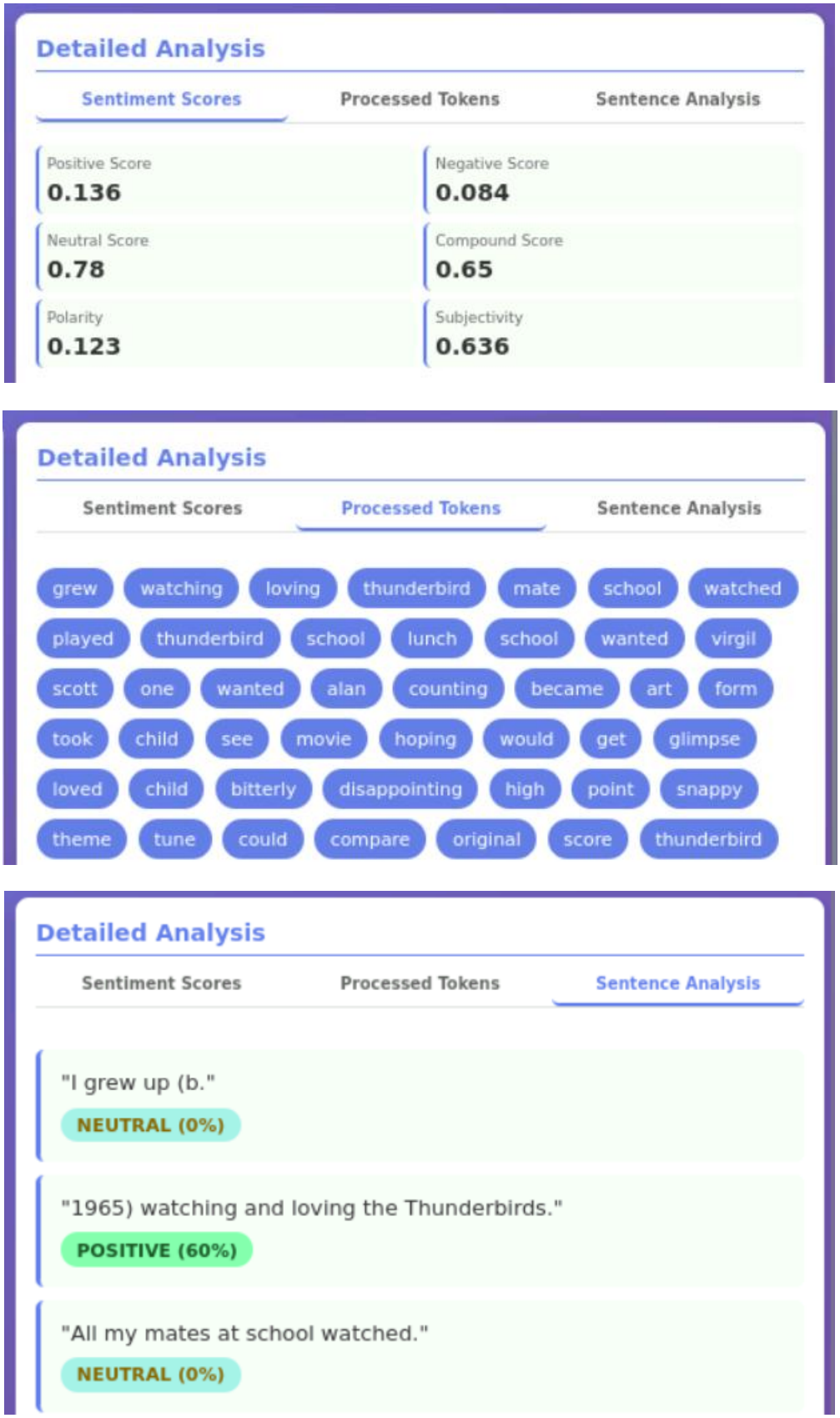

Figure 7: "Detailed Analysis" column shows the Sentiment Scores, list of Processed Tokens and individual Sentence Analysis for the selected chunk