Blackout Poetry Tool

In the context of Human-Computer Dichotomy

Dichotomy

> A division or contrast between two things that are or are represented as being opposed.

A dichotomic lens on the Human-Computer relationship can look towards-

- Intuition vs Logic, Quality vs Quantity, Emotional vs Mechanical

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Whenever there's a conflict between two entities, Peter Elbow [1] mentions 5 ways of resolving it -

1. Choosing a better side.
2. Work out a synthesis (a middle ground).
3. Affirm both sides as true.
4. Add more than 2 sides.
5. Deny the presence of conflict.

This project borrows these methods and translates them into modes of interaction between the author and a bot -

1. Choosing a better side.
    - Thesis
        - Only the human performs.
    - Antithesis
        - Only the bot performs.
2. Work out a synthesis (a middle ground).
    - Synthesis
        - Human selects a word, then the bot selects a word.
3. Affirm both sides as true.
    - Symbiosis [2]
        - Human selects a word, then the bot suggests the next.
4. Add more than 2 sides.
    - Visual
        - A new bot draws a wave- following visual rules over grammatical rules.
5. Deny the presence of conflict.
    - `As this mode proposes a counter-argument to human-computer dichotomy, I felt this should be addressed separately in the future.`

How does the bot write poetry?

This work employs two ways of achieving bot poetry (using library RiTa.js [3]) -

1. By matching a pre-set grammar-sequence:
    - Grammar Maker [4], a mini-program was developed to identify a poet's most-frequently used grammar-sequence.
2. By detecting a selected word's grammar rule:
    - A markov-based n-gram model refers to Robert Frost's poetry corpus [5], and selects the next most-probable word.

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