Annotation guidelines

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Task 1: Technology -Related

**Summary of task**

For this task look through each comment and then classify it as either **Technology-related** or **Not Technology-related**. You will be able to complete the classifications as long as you follow the criteria laid out below

**Criteria and categories:**

Technology-related: A comment classified as “tech” would refer to:

* Physical technology: Phones, infrastructure, iPad
* Software: Wi-Fi, internet, Apps
* Communication Technologies: broadband, telecommunication
* References to major tech companies: Meta, Google, Spectrum, Microsoft
* Transportation technology: Vehicles, traffic systems, navigation
* Manufacturing and industrial technology: Automation, robotics, production systems
* Energy technology: Power generation, storage, distribution
* Medical and healthcare technology: Equipment, telemedicine, health monitoring
* Internet of Things (IoT): Connected devices, sensors, smart home technology

Not Technology-related: A comment is not technology-related when it does not mention or imply the above. It would be mostly focused on general life and news, entertainment, and/or unrelated topics

**Class Labels**

Enter the following labels when referring to the two different classifications:

Technology-Related (Can labeled as “tech’”)

Not Technology-related (Can labeled as “NoneTech”)

Examples

**Technology-related examples:**

* “Smartphones have come so far since the early 2000s!”
* “I really need to update these files to the cloud before power goes out!”
* ” Yeah, I have Spectrum coming on Friday to get my internetworking”
* ” The food was great! Show me that QR code, I have to get your app!”

**Not Technology-related examples:**

* "I really appreciate how the new voting locations are closer to my neighborhood!"
* “I finally got my driver’s license”
* “The farmers are going to be here with the produce soon enough”
* “Well yes, It was my daughter’s first day in school”
* “Hope I get extra credit for all this community service I’m doing “

**Corner Cases and Criteria**

Ambiguous Mentions:

If a comment mentions technology only tangentially—for example, referring to “apps” or “online services” in a very general way—use the context provided in the entire comment. Good rule of thumb, only classify as technology-related if the context refers to technological systems as opposed to social or other systems. (e.g., "What is up with the response time in this place?" could be "Tech" if tied to a touch-screen kiosk when ordering take-out at KFC, but "NoTech" if there is no kiosk and you order directly from staff)

Mixed Content:

If a comment has both tech and non-tech focuses (e.g., "I have noticed that there is Fast Wi-Fi in the nicer Hotels"), classify it as "Tech" if technology is a significant focus.

Annotation guidelines

Task 2: Political vs. not political

**Summary of task**

For this task look through each comment and then classify it as either “**Political**” or **“Not Political”**. You will be able to complete the classifications as long as you follow the criteria laid out below

**Criteria and categories:**

A comment classified as "Political" would explicitly or implicitly refer to:

* Political parties: Democrat, Independent, Republican, etc.
* Government institutions: Congress, Senate, White House, Parliament, local government.
* Political ideologies or debates: Equity, Fascism, socialism, Libertarianism, Communism, Anarcho-capitalism, social justice, climate policies
* Political figures: Politicians, candidates, elected officials, political appointees
* Social movements with political goals: Protests, demonstrations, activism related to push to change policy.
* International relations: Foreign policy, diplomatic relations, international agreements.

Not Political: A comment is “Not Political” when it does not mention or imply the above political elements. It would be focused on

* Personal experiences unrelated to policy or governance
* Entertainment, hobbies, sports
* Work and Business topics and experience unrelated to policy or governance
* General social interactions and/or community events

**Class Labels**

Enter the following labels when referring to the two different classifications:

* Political (Can be labeled as “Pol”)
* Not Political (Can be labeled as “NoPol”)

Examples

Political examples:

* ” Voter turnout is expected to be low this year.”
* “Did you hear what Senator Shane said in the senate?”
* “Their foreign policy stance seems risky.”
* "I’m tired of voting for people who promise change but never deliver—time for new leadership."
* “The city council just passed a new zoning law! We need to go out and protest this”
* “The new tax policy is a clear attempt to favor big corporations over working families.”

“We need real healthcare reform, the current system isn't working.”

Not Political examples:

* "This pool is huge!"
* “The local football team won their game.”
* "Weather forecast says we'll have rain all weekend."
* “I need to mow the lawn.”
* “My daughter is graduating from college this spring.”

**Corner Cases and Criteria**

Ambiguous Mentions: If a comment mentions something that could be political in a non-political context, use the entire comment as context. For example, “The roads here are terrible! Why isn’t the city fixing this?” could be “Political” if homing in on the city council infrastructure spending, but “Not Political” if the focus is on just how bad the road is.

Social issue: If a comment discusses social issues (Education, Environment, Poverty) without explicitly or implicitly connecting it to political figures, policy, or government action.

Humorous or Sarcastic Remarks: If the comment uses humor or sarcasm but targets political issues, then the underlying political subject should be considered, and the comment could be Political.

Mixed Comment: If a comment contains both non-political content, classify it as “Political” if the political content is a significant focus of the comment. For example, “A campaign sign was slapped to the wall of my front yard!”