

Annotation Guideline:

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE:

- What is the annotation about and what should be annotated?

The project will delve into the annotation of twenty Shakespearean drama plays from which it will be extracted the linguistic patterns used by William Shakespeare to uncover hidden political messages. Based on various Shakespearean texts, this research would examine the language, themes, and characters' interactions concerning political power, governance, societal structures, and the use of rhetoric.

- What are the guidelines based on?

The project's guidelines to annotate the corpus are based on the guidelines for annotation provided by Anleitung zur Erstellung von Annotationsrichtlinien (Reiter, 2020).

- What knowledge is required on the part of the annotators?
 - The annotators should have background knowledge about key political systems in each of the plays, events, issues, and choice of diction prevalent in the Shakespearean era.
 - They also need to have the skills to interpret jargon used in political statements.

2. ANNOTATION UNITS:

- What are the units to be annotated?

The annotation units are only limited to words, phrases, or sentences since we are working on drama plays presented in dialogue format.

- Are all units to be annotated or only certain one?

According to the research questions, the annotation will be only on the units related to political discourse.

3. ANNOTATION CATEGORIES: The tag-sets to annotate will be:

I. Political Discourse Categories:

Power Dynamics: focusing on tag instances where characters express or manipulate power relationships.

Political Allegiances: identifying expressions of loyalty or opposition to political entities.

Propaganda: marking instances where characters use persuasive language for political purposes.

Manipulative Language: annotating scenes where the characters use gaslighting and misdirection diction.

- **Linguistic Patterns:**

Rhetorical Devices: annotating the use of rhetorical devices such as metaphors, similes, or allegories that convey political meaning.

Figures of Speech: highlighting specific figures of speech contributing to political discourse.

Word Choice: annotating significant words or phrases with political connotations.

III. Sentiment Categories:

Annotating phrases conveying sentiment marks: Negative, Positive, or Neutral

4. Problematic Cases:

The first challenge that can be faced is related to semi-automatic annotation.

- Subjectivity Annotation is often a subjective task, annotators (members of the group) interpret units\data differently. This subjectivity can introduce inconsistencies in the annotated dataset, affecting the performance of machine learning models.

- **Historical Context:**

Challenge: The play was written in the early 17th century and understanding the political context of that time is crucial.

- **Archaic language**

Shakespeare's plays are written in Early Modern English. Annotators are unfamiliar with archaic language. Particularly, the main target of our annotation is to analyze linguistic patterns related to political discourse.

- **Ambiguity and Wordplay**

Shakespeare played with words, leading to ambiguity in the meaning of expressions. Annotators face challenges in capturing the multiple layers of meaning within a single line. Moreover, some aspects of the play were open to multiple interpretations and found it challenging to determine the intended political message.

- **Volume and Time Consumption:**

The manual annotation of an extensive amount of text presents a practical challenge for annotators, as it is time-consuming.

5. Documentation of Changes:

During the manual annotation process, it is explored that annotators need to add tag-sets related to specific units.

- Atmospheric Symbolism: related to the power of nature. Nature has power over human beings which affects their political emotions and stability.
- Time and Setting Tags: adding tag-set to the original collection of tag-sets to identify temporal or spatial elements that contribute to the political discourse.
- Understanding the Different Power Dynamics in Shakespeare: while annotating the play, there were dynamics of authority though slightly different but cannot be entirely excluded. State authorities sometimes also relate to the use of magic and authority over nature. This must be taken into consideration when creating our targets.

THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA):

Research question: "What are the linguistic choices Shakespeare used as vehicles in uncovering hidden political messages?"

This project will employ Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) as our framework. CDA is well-suited for analyzing the linguistic choices used to convey political messages. It allows exploring how language is employed to construct power relationships, ideologies, and hidden political meanings in the text.



