

Annotation guidelines for Word Meaning Negotiation

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This document is intended to serve as a reference for:

- Annotators, to ensure consistency in the annotation of multiple phenomena and unclear cases;
- Users of the corpus, to provide an understanding of what each label corresponds to.

The guidelines should be reviewed independently by each annotator. Annotators must refrain from discussing any instances or their annotation with each other during the process.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Definitions and terminology

Word Meaning Negotiation (WMN) occurs in interaction when participants engage in discussions about the meaning of a word or phrase. This typically happens when one participant's use of a word is questioned or challenged, shifting the conversation from the main topic to focus on the meaning of the word or phrase itself. WMNs involve various strategies such as explaining, questioning, problematizing, and exemplifying word meanings.

WMNs can be initiated in different ways, but often originate in either non-understanding of word meaning (this type of WMN is called a NON) or disagreement about what a word can or should mean in a specific situation (this type of WMN is called a DIN). Read more about types of WMN in [Section 4](#).

The minimal WMN sequence contains a three-turn exchange, where the first and second turn are produced by two different people:

1. **Trigger Turn:** This is the initial use of the word that later becomes the focus of negotiation. The word might be a single word form or an expression (e.g., "kick the bucket"). Henceforth we will use "word" to refer to both single word forms and (lexicalized) expressions.
2. **Indicator Turn:** Following the trigger, this turn signals the need to discuss or clarify the word's meaning. It may come in the form of a direct request for clarification of meaning (a *meta-linguistic clarification request*) or as a challenge to the appropriateness or meaning of the word in the given context (a *meta-linguistic objection*).
3. **Response Turn(s):** This turn is critical in deciding if the sequence evolves into a WMN. It should reflect a *meta-linguistic shift*, where the discussion moves from the initial topic to focus explicitly on the meaning of the word in question. The shift need not be completely separate from the original discussion topic but should clearly highlight the word's meaning as a central element of the exchange.

In order for a conversation to shift into a WMN sequence, there needs to be a meta-linguistic shift, where the focus temporarily moves from the topic of the conversation to the language itself. We can think of communication as happening on two parallel tracks: one dealing with the topic, and the other focused on managing the communication process. WMN falls into this second track, as it revolves around clarifying or questioning the meaning of words and phrases, which becomes important for continuing the conversation on the main topic.

Example of WMN caused by non-understanding of word meaning (NON)

- S1: I'm going to the doctor to get a full body scan tomorrow.
- S2: What do you mean by full body scan?
- S1: I mean a kind of X-ray where they can see all of the inflamed parts.

Example of WMN caused by disagreement about word meaning (DIN)

- **S1:** Telling children about Santa Claus is straight up lying to them.
- **S2:** That's not what lying means at all!
- **S1:** Of course it is, lying means not telling the truth and everyone knows Santa doesn't exist.

To confirm a WMN:

- Ensure there is a clear sequence of Trigger, Indicator, and Response as described.
- Verify that the Response turn contains a meta-linguistic shift, explicitly shifting the focus to the word's meaning, even if intertwined with the original topic. If so, we have identified a WMN and all Response turn(s) are part of the Negotiation. Note that there can be several response turns in a WMN, not just one. It's important to note that WMN sequences can vary in length. While the shortest negotiations may involve just three turns, there is no maximum limit, as some negotiations can continue over many turns. Most of the examples in the guidelines are simple and straightforward, containing only the minimum three turns for clarity. However, in practice, negotiations can be much longer and more complex.
- Make sure that the problem is of a semantic nature and not due to mishearing or mispronunciation.

Important terms

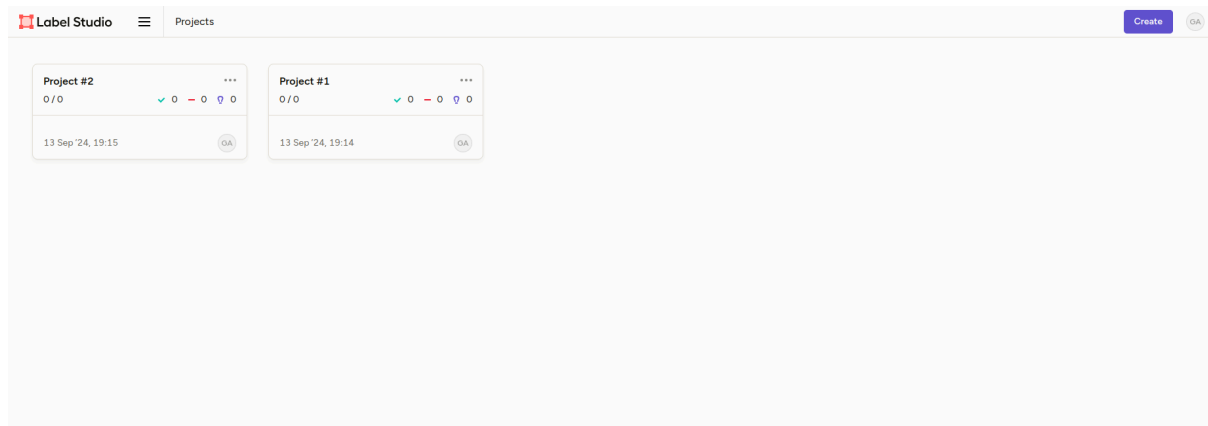
- **S1:** Speaker 1, the speaker who produces the problematic word usage (trigger).
- **S2:** Speaker 2, the speaker who produces the indicator.
- **NON:** WMN due to a non-understanding (will be explained in detail in [Section 4.1](#)).
- **DIN:** WMN due to a disagreement (will be explained in detail in [Section 4.2](#)).

1.2 Brief overview of the annotation process

- In Label Studio ([see Section 1.3](#)), conversations are sorted into projects that contain instances of interaction. Every instance has been identified through the use of regular expressions, which are patterns used to match sequences of characters in text which helps in detecting phrases that could indicate a WMN.
- Open an instance in Label Studio and find the sequence, matched by a regular expression, that could indicate a potential WMN.
- Read the dialogue surrounding the regular expression, examining several utterances both before and after.
- Use the Decision Tree detailed in [Section 2.2](#) to determine how to annotate the sequence and select the appropriate annotation label using the checkboxes located at the bottom of the page.
- If the sequence contains a WMN (or one of the other phenomena outlined in the Decision Tree), mark the spans for Trigger, Indicator, and Negotiation, as detailed in the [Span Selection section](#).
- Should the sequence involve a WMN, further classify the Type of meaning by selecting the relevant checkbox, as explained in detail in [Section 5](#).

1.3 Label Studio basic usage

Label Studio is a labeling tool often used for annotation of different phenomena in natural language processing. In this project, we use our own server for Label Studio. As an annotator, you log on to the system using the personalized link and credentials that will have been provided to you. The data in Label Studio is organized in **projects**.

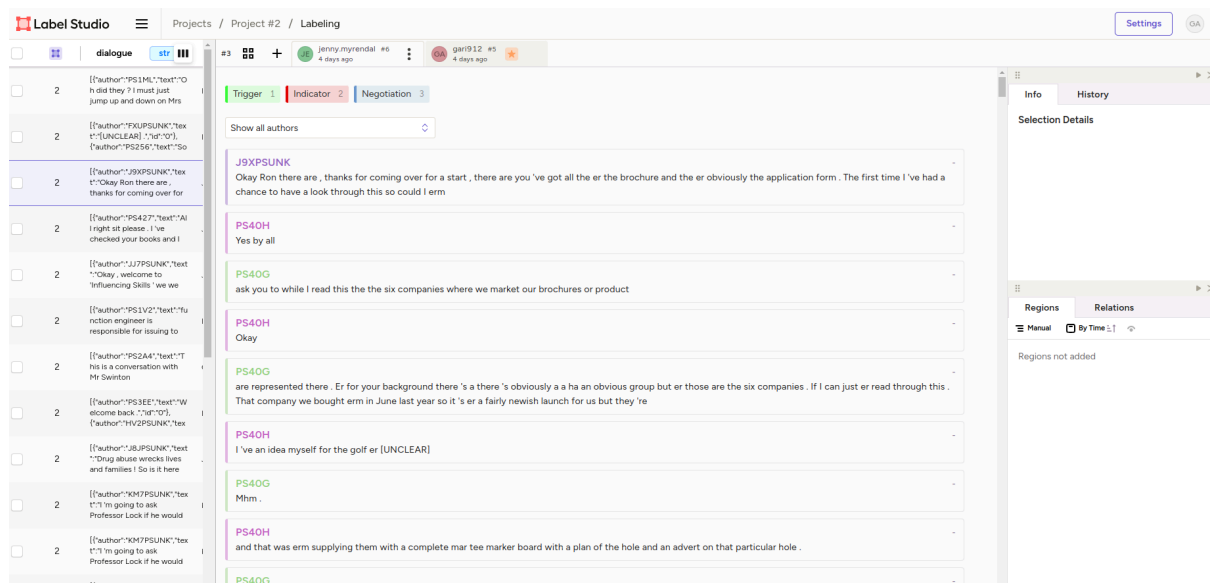


Inside a project, there is one **instance** per line. An instance is a potential WMN that has been detected automatically. Instances can be ordered or filtered with multiple criteria. Every instance corresponds to an utterance matched by a regular expression.

The screenshot shows the 'winning-args' project in Label Studio. The interface includes a top bar with 'Settings' and 'GA' buttons, and a sidebar with 'Default' and a '+' button. The main area displays a table of instances with columns for ID, Inner ID, Completed, Inner ID, Annotated by, dialogue, id, and potential_indicator. The table contains 7 rows of data, each representing an instance with its unique ID and associated text. The 'dialogue' column shows the text of the instance, and the 'potential_indicator' column shows a status icon. The table is sortable and filterable, with buttons for 'Label All Tasks', 'Import', 'Export', 'List', and 'Grid'.

ID	Inner ID	Completed	Inner ID	Annotated by	dialogue	id	potential_indicator
7676	1	Jan 24 2024, 16:53:21	1	1	[{"author": "TITLE", "text": "CM V: I think the Paris shooting makes a good case for	t3_2mr30_t1_cnhn56e	[STA-CITE]> Well we have many examples in history when it was common to
7677	2	Jan 24 2024, 16:53:21	1	1	[{"author": "TITLE", "text": "CM V: I think the Paris shooting makes a good case for	t3_2mr30_t1_cnhlmdo	[STA-CITE]>PS: I am not here to talk about USA and its gun problems. [END-
7678	3	Jan 24 2024, 16:53:21	1	1	[{"author": "TITLE", "text": "CM V: I think the Paris shooting makes a good case for	t3_2mr30_t1_cnhksq2	[STA-CITE]>No, but that it would detract people from these shootings and if they
7679	4	Jan 24 2024, 16:53:21	1	1	[{"author": "TITLE", "text": "CM V: I think the Paris shooting makes a good case for	t3_2mr30_t1_cnhbbh0	So you actually do agree with me that more guns = more fun deaths, same way
7680	5	Jan 24 2024, 16:53:21	1	1	[{"author": "TITLE", "text": "CM V: I think the Paris shooting makes a good case for	t3_2mr30_t1_cnhnmh7	[STA-CITE]>This will only increase the deaths in each mass shooting since more
7681	6	Jan 24 2024, 16:53:21	1	1	[{"author": "TITLE", "text": "CM V: Eugenics isn't all that bad... And we don't even	t3_2rkzen_t1_cnhb23j	Who gets to draw the line? Who defines what a suitable parent is? Would the
7682	7	Jan 24 2024, 16:53:21	1	1	[{"author": "TITLE", "text": "CM V: Eugenics isn't all that bad... And we don't even	t3_2rkzen_t1_cnh4xt7	What is intelligence? People throw this word like there is some truth in it? Can you

When clicking on one instance, the conversation opens. Every box with text corresponds to an utterance (or, in reddit corpora, to a post or the subreddit title).



The line of text at the top of each box gives information about the utterance. For spoken corpora, this corresponds simply to the ID of the speaker. For reddit corpora, it follows the format:

[SPEAKER ID]_##_[POST ID]_##_[UTTERANCE REPLIED TO]

For example, in the image below, the user with username “xraymango” writes a post with ID cnhl124 which is a direct reply to post 2rnr30 (which you can see in the image above). The post 2rnr30 itself does not have [UTTERANCE REPLIED TO] because it is the first post in that subreddit.

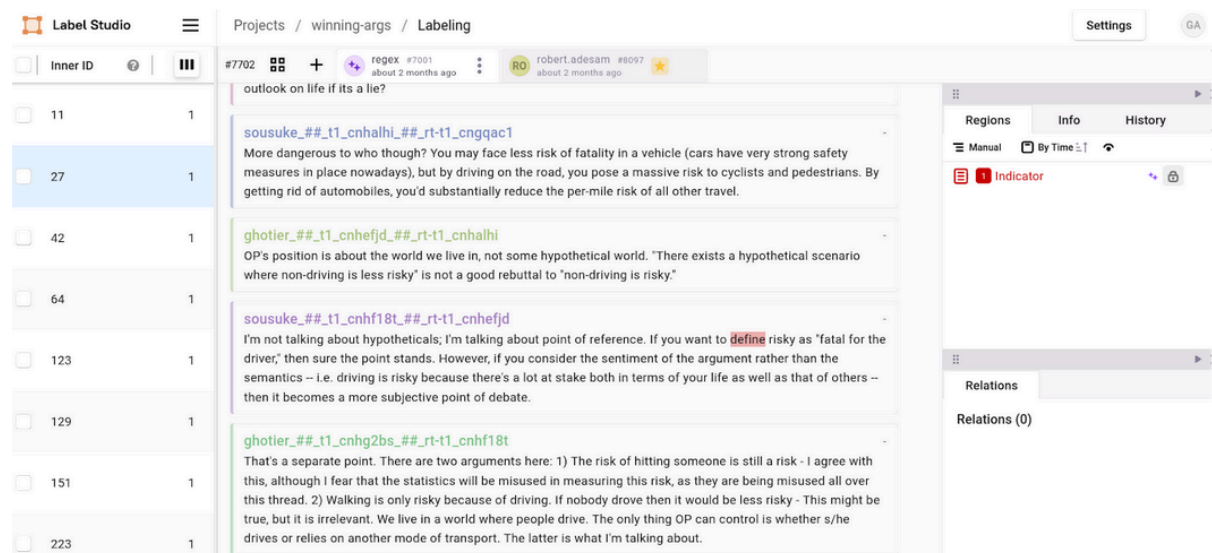
xraymango_##_t1_cnhl124_##_rt-t3_2rnr30

'Cause then maybe the death by gunfire rate in France would be able to match the low low rate of that of state of Texas!
0__0

Each corpus in our data has some format specificities. These are detailed in [Section 7](#).

1.4 Annotation units

Every instance in a Label Studio project contains a full conversation with a focus on one particular utterance which matched one or multiple regular expressions. The match made by the regular expression(s) can be found under the “regex” tab, highlighted in red, as a “model prediction”.



In most cases, when annotating an instance, you should consider whether the utterance matched by the regular expression is involved in, or is part of, a WMN; and proceed with the annotation accordingly. This process requires looking at the utterances surrounding the matched utterance, but not necessarily the whole conversation.

When reviewing the surrounding conversation, you may find that:

- The actual indicator is in an utterance other than the one identified by the regular expression.
- There are two phenomena to be annotated in the same instance.

You may annotate a phenomenon (complete WMN, incomplete WMN, or a distractor) that occurs within a few turns of the instance detected by the regular expression, even if you've already annotated a different phenomenon within that instance. For further guidance on handling multiple phenomena, please refer to Section [6. Annotation of multiple phenomena](#).

2. Identifying WMN sequences using the decision tree

As mentioned in the brief overview, begin by opening an instance in Label Studio and using the regular expression to identify a potential WMN. Once identified, read the surrounding dialogue, analyzing several utterances before and after the utterance containing that expression. Next, consult the Decision Tree provided below to guide your annotation, and select the appropriate labels by using the checkboxes located at the bottom of the page.

2.1 Overview of labels

Complete WMN (Word Meaning Negotiation):

- WMN: Non-understanding (NON)
- WMN: Disagreement (DIN)
- WMN: Other

Once it has been determined that an instance involves a WMN, we must determine its type. Here, we look at both the Indicator and Negotiation to see what type of negotiation is present.

No complete WMN, but parts of WMN present:

- Self-Initiated Meaning Negotiation (SIMN)
- Non-pursued
- Without Trigger

These labels are used for sequences that contain elements of WMN but do not meet all the criteria to be a complete WMN.

Distractors:

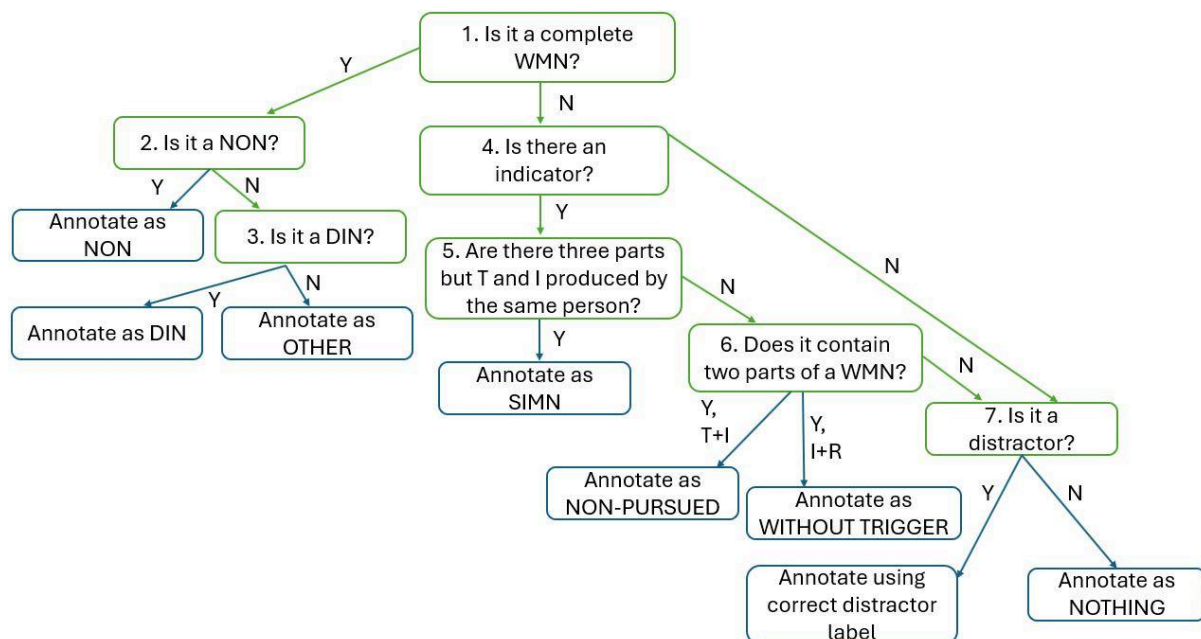
- Reference/NE (named entity)
- Other kinds of clarification requests

These labels are used for sequences that bear some resemblance to WMNs but do not meet all the criteria to be one.

Auxiliary Labels:

- Nothing
- Unsure

2.2 Decision Tree



1. Is there a complete WMN?

To answer yes, there must be a Trigger turn, an Indicator turn, and a Response turn (T-I-R sequence) where the meaning of the trigger word is negotiated, i.e., there is a clear meta-linguistic shift in the conversation attending to the meaning of the word. The Trigger and Indicator turns must be produced by different people.

- If YES, go to question 2.
- If NO, go to question 4.

2. Is it a NON?

To answer yes, the Indicator turn must request clarification of word meaning due to insufficient understanding, and the Response turn must address this need to provide more information about the word meaning.

- If YES, annotate using label **WMN: Non-understanding (NON)**.
- If NO, go to question 3.

3. Is it a DIN?

To answer yes, the Indicator turn must oppose the use/meaning of the Trigger, and the response must address this opposing statement, delving into the meaning of the trigger word. Sometimes, the opposition becomes explicit only in the negotiation: it is important to read both before deciding.

- If YES, annotate using label **WMN: Disagreement (DIN)**.
- If NO, annotate using label **WMN: Other**.

4. Is there an Indicator?

To answer yes, there must be an Indicator drawing attention to **the meaning of a word** in a preceding utterance either by questioning the meaning of the word or by opposing the meaning/use of the word. It is necessary to look at both the Indicator and potential response utterances.

- If YES, go to question 5.
- If NO, go to question 7.

5. Are the Trigger and Indicator produced by the same person?

To answer yes, all of the criteria in question 1 must be fulfilled, with the exception of the Trigger and Indicator being produced by the **same** person (even in the same utterance).

- If YES, annotate using label **Self-Initiated Meaning Negotiation (SIMN)**.
- If NO, go to question 6.

6. Does it contain two parts of a WMN?

To answer yes, one of two conditions needs to be met:

- A) Non-pursued case, where there needs to be a Trigger and an Indicator but no response containing a meta-linguistic shift, i.e., a WMN has been initiated but not completed. These sequences are labeled as **Non-pursued**.
- B) Case Without Trigger, where there is an indicator and a response, but no trigger present in the sequence, i.e., the word that drew attention in the indicator has not been used in the interaction leading up to the indicator. The trigger is used for the first time in the indicator itself. These sequences are labeled as **Without Trigger**.

- If YES, annotate using the appropriate label.

- If NO, go to question 7.

7. Is it a distractor?

To answer yes, it must be one of the following:

- A) **Reference or Named Entity (reference/NE)**: This label is used for sequences that resemble WMNs or non-pursued WMNs, but the clarification request or objection in the indicator is due to an unclear referent or referential description. For example: “By him, do you mean your coworker?”
- B) **Other kinds of clarification requests**: This label is used for cases where a person asks for some kind of semantic clarification that is not centered around a specific word or phrase.

- 3. If YES, annotate using the correct distractor label.
- 4. If NO, annotate using the label Nothing.

Based on the label chosen for the sequence, the next step is to annotate potential spans corresponding to each label, as outlined in the next section. After that, more information will be provided on each label in [Section 4](#), and [Section 5](#) will detail how “Type of meaning” is annotated.

3. Annotating WMN sequences and related labels

At this point, the Decision tree has guided the annotator to select a category label for the current instance. Depending on what type of sequence has been identified, spans are now to be annotated. If the label Nothing has been used, no spans are annotated. For complete WMNs (NONs, DINs, Other) spans are annotated as outlined in [Section 3.1](#), for incomplete WMNs (SIMN, Without Trigger and Non-pursued), spans are annotated as outlined in [Section 3.2](#), for distractors (Reference/NE and Other kinds of clarification requests) spans are outlined in [Section 3.3](#).

3.1 Annotating WMN spans

Once a WMN has been identified (using the Decision Tree presented in [Section 2.2](#)), there are three labels indicating WMN structure that are annotated for a specific span, corresponding to the three main parts of a WMN: **trigger**, **indicator**, and **negotiation**.

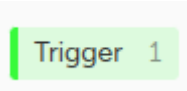
The first step in annotating WMN structure is to select a span.

General rules for selecting spans:

- Trigger: No punctuation marks (e.g. quotes) are included.
 - This “trigger” is marked correctly.
 - This “trigger” is marked **incorrectly**.
- Indicator and negotiation: Final punctuation marks are included.
 - Correct: What do you mean by X?
 - Incorrect: What do you mean by X?
- No span should have any lingering spaces at its ends:

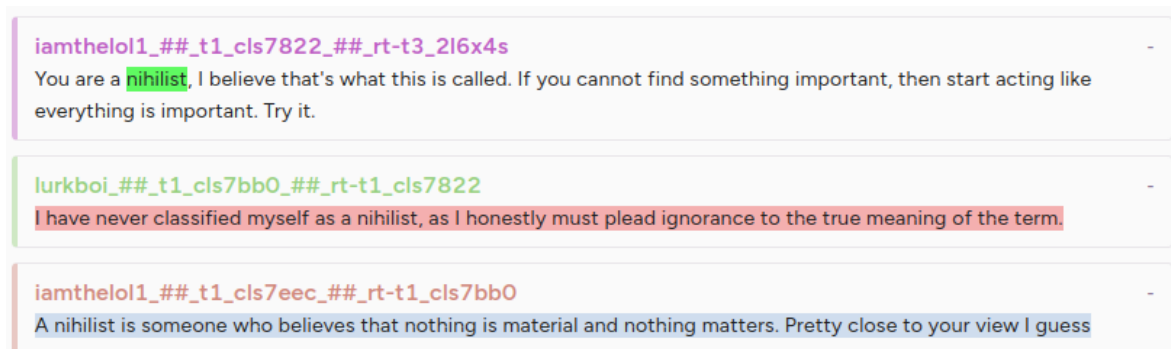
- This span is marked correctly.
- This span is marked **incorrectly**.

3.1.1 Annotating Trigger span



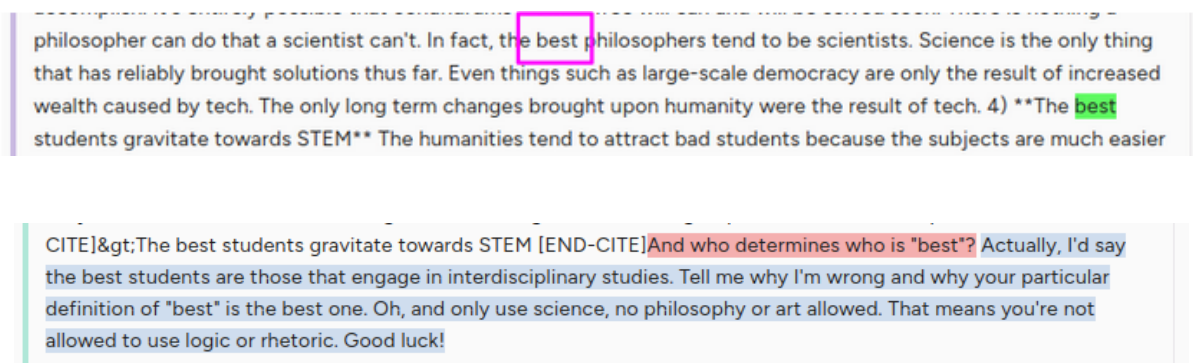
Annotate the Trigger span using the **Trigger** button located at the top of the screen. Trigger spans are marked in green in Label Studio.

The main use for this label is to **highlight the word (or phrase) usage, typically by S1, which gives rise to the WMN**:



winning-args, 266

If the WMN clearly concerns one specific usage of the word, only that usage is marked, even if the trigger word is used more than once. Similarly, if one of the usages of a word is clearly not problematic, it is not marked.



winning-args, 451

Here, although “best” was used twice in the post containing the trigger, only one usage was problematic, as we can deduce from the quoted passage in the post containing the indicator.

Otherwise, all usages of the trigger in the concerned utterance are marked:

LasalBoyagama_##_t1_cn12ck0_##_rt-t1_cn0zv87

I am not from the US so forgive me for my limited knowledge of the exact legal environment that this is playing out in. My argument is that even if two people are not recognised as having a civil union or a marriage by the Government, it does not mean that the two aren't married just that they are not given the same rights as marriage which is recognised by the government. The basic principle is that marriage isn't defined by the liberties and benefits that a government gives to couples but it is defined by the relationship between two people. Using that same principle I am saying that the gay marriage discussion should focus on the civil liberties that gay people aren't receiving rather than the fact that the state is not allowing them to be 'happy'.

winning-args, 123

Articles are generally not included in the trigger span.

In most cases, the trigger should only be highlighted in one utterance (even if it can be present in multiple sentences of that utterance). Two exceptions are:

- Title + original post in reddit corpora
- Cases where the indicator clearly suggests that the trigger is present in more than one utterance

Other word forms

The word discussed in the negotiation or indicated by the trigger and indicator may not always be identical. For example, they may share a root or lemma. For instance, S1 might use the adjective “successful,” while S2 signals an issue with the noun “success.” In such cases, both “successful” (and “success,” if used by S1) should be marked as triggers. Even if the words don’t share a root or lemma, they should be semantically similar enough for you to identify the trigger based on the indicator.

3.1.2 Annotating Indicator span

Indicator 2

Annotate the Indicator span using the **Indicator** button located at the top of the screen. Indicator spans are marked in red in Label Studio.

The purpose of this label is to **highlight the sentence(s) or utterance, typically by S2, that points out some issue (non-understanding, disagreement...) with the trigger’s meaning and attempts to initiate a meta-linguistic discussion about it.**

The indicator may immediately follow the utterance containing the trigger. However there can also be a few conversation turns in-between.

This label must also be used to mark the indicators of distractors (“reference/NE”, “other kinds of clarification requests”) as well as incomplete/non-canonical WMNs (“SIMN”, “non-pursued”, “without trigger”): see all the details in [Section 4](#).

The indicator sentence can be a full utterance:

lurkboi_##_t1_cls7bb0_##_rt-t1_cls7822

I have never classified myself as a nihilist, as I honestly must plead ignorance to the true meaning of the term.

winning-args, 266

However, if the utterance is long and contains a discussion of the word’s meaning, only the sentence signaling the problem with the word will be selected. The rest should be marked as negotiation (in blue):

elliptibang_##_t1_clzrk18_##_rt-t1_clzr3v9

You'll have to define "effective" for me and give me a specific example or two, but I suspect that your question misses the point. Many forms of abuse, manipulation, and deception might be described as "effective," depending on what your goal is and whether or not you're a psychopath.

winning-args, 253

Sometimes, a clear indicator sentence may come only after, or within, a discussion of the word’s meaning that is marked as a negotiation:

specific roles. [STA-CITE]>I think it's up to us to be aware of this and never use the law as a moral compass. Please, change my view. [END-CITE]Well, okay, but the dentist in your first example did believe he was acting morally (since otherwise he wouldn't have done it). His argument that it was legal is not an argument that he felt it immoral but did it because it was legal, but rather that it was legal and so no one else can force their morality on to him. Your argument doesn't seem to be "we shouldn't use law as a moral compass" (since the dentist probably *does* have a moral compass outside of law, but one which includes killing lions) but rather that anyone whose moral compass does not go above and beyond what the law requires is immoral purely by virtue of not being closer to your moral code. What if my moral compass says "I got this seat first, and I don't give a damn about that old lady"? That's not using law as a moral compass, that's having a moral compass which does not require me to give up my seat and there not being a legal requirement to do so. Which is really all a moral compass represents: what behaviors do I believe I should engage in, and what behaviors should I not engage in, within the bounds of the laws which I must abide by. Which means neither the moral compass of "let the old lady take my seat" nor the moral compass of "fuck her I don't want to stand" is using the law as that compass.

winning-args, 1114

The regular expressions used to find (potential) WMNs usually highlight part of the (potential) indicator. However, the annotator may decide that there is an indicator located in a different sentence or utterance than proposed by the regex:

best we can do is gain some core general knowledge, specialize, and then hope for the best. [STA-CITE]>The best students gravitate towards STEM [END-CITE] And who determines who is "best"? Actually, I'd say the best students are those that engage in interdisciplinary studies. Tell me why I'm wrong and why your particular definition of "best" is the best one. Oh, and only use science, no philosophy or art allowed. That means you're not allowed to use logic or rhetoric. Good luck!

(lighter red: original regex match; darker red: indicator finally selected)

winning-args, 451

3.1.3 Annotating Negotiation span

Negotiation 3

In the sequence Trigger-Indicator-Response(s), all response turns devoting attention to negotiation of word meaning are included in the Negotiation span. Annotate the Negotiation span using the **Negotiation** button located at the top of the screen. Negotiation spans are marked in blue in Label Studio.

This label is used to **mark the negotiation of the word's meaning**. It can be as short as a single utterance, and it can also span multiple utterances by multiple speakers, even speakers other than S1 and S2.

Start of the negotiation

In most cases, the negotiation starts after the indicator, in a different turn.

breed them, and get a dumbass. The opposite is also true. It's all very hard to predict, as is the nature of systems biology. [END-CITE] I covered all of this throughout the rest of the thread.

h76CH36_##_t1_cnhg15p_##_rt-t1_cnhfcl8 -

Not sure what that means. If you mean 'refuted', then I'm going to have to admit that I'm not going to go around compiling your argument.

Namemedickles_##_t1_cnhg6lb_##_rt-t1_cnhg15p -

No it does not mean refuted. It means I discussed everything you did throughout the rest of the thread already. I didn't talk about the polygenic inheritance of intelligence in the first post. I did mention it few times down the thread.

winning-args, 18

However, as mentioned in [Section 3.1.2 \(Annotating Indicator span\)](#), the negotiation can also start in the same turn where the indicator is located, if the speaker not only signals non-understanding or disagreement but also discusses the word's meaning at length.

Content of the negotiation

In Reddit, users sometimes quote other user's messages. If they are part of the discussion about the word's meaning, **quotations** of what other users have said and **links to external resources** are included in the negotiation. These can be found in Reddit data: see [Reddit](#)).

EyeRedditDaily_##_t1_cq46z0m_##_rt-t1_cq44j98
 You mention religion in your response on at least 4 different occasions. I'm not talking about religion whatsoever. I'm talking about "a higher power". [STA-CITE]> That's the thing. Just because we don't know the answer, that doesn't automatically make it ~religion~ **a higher power**. There is no legitimate evidence supporting it, so why would you believe in it? Arguing that ~God~ **a higher power** exists because there's nothing else that explains how the universe got here is entirely without evidence. [END-CITE]When you take the religion aspect out of it and simply retreat back to "a higher power", I would agree that there is no evidence identifying that a higher power created the universe. However, our knowledge of science says that the universe *can't* exist. Because our knowledge of science says that matter cannot be created out of nothingness. So it isn't just that "we don't know". It is that we think we *do* know; but what we *do* know

winning-args, 839

End of the negotiation

Acknowledgments or utterances signaling understanding or agreement (e.g. "Ok", "I see"...) at the end of a negotiation, if present, have to be included in the annotation.

J3VPSUNK
 Okay good . Erm a few **hard facts** just to confirm first of all

PS3PB
 Hard , what 's a hard fact ?

J3VPSUNK
 Your name and your address .

PS3PB
 Oh right . So why are they called hard facts ?

BNC, 871

"Interrupted" negotiation

It is possible that some sentences or turns take place "during" a negotiation but are not part of it (e.g. in the same reddit post, a user may be answering to multiple points raised by another speaker). If it is clear that these parts do not belong to the negotiation of the trigger word's meaning, they are not marked as negotiation.

However, when this is unclear (e.g. the topic discussed is very similar), they are included as part of the negotiation.

Annotating across multiple negotiation turns

When the negotiation goes on for multiple turns, you can select all relevant turns at once in LabelStudio by dragging the mouse across them. Alternatively, you can select each turn individually and mark it as part of the negotiation span. If you choose to select multiple turns at once, ensure that usernames and dashes (shown in the squares in the image below) are not included in the span. If LabelStudio includes these elements, it's best to annotate the turns individually.



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3.2 Annotating spans for incomplete WMNs

When it comes to incomplete WMNs such as **Self-Initiated Meaning Negotiation (SIMN)**, **Non-pursued** and **Without Trigger**, the following spans are annotated:

- Mark the **Trigger** when there is an identifiable problematic word/phrase (for **SIMN** and **Non-pursued**).
- For **Without Trigger** cases, mark the **Trigger** inside the indicator itself.
- Mark the **Indicator** in all cases.
- Mark the **Negotiation** when there is an identifiable negotiation **about word meaning** (for **SIMN** and **Without trigger**). (For **Non-pursued** cases, if the indicator turn is very long and includes an attempt to initiate negotiation (e.g., providing a definition), the negotiation span can be used for that part of the turn, even though there is no separate negotiation turn.)

3.3 Annotating spans for Distractors

When it comes to Distractors (**Reference/NE** and **Other kinds of clarification requests**), the following spans are annotated:

- For **Reference/NE**, mark the **Trigger** when there is an identifiable problematic word/phrase. No Trigger is marked for **Other kinds of clarification requests**.
- Mark the **Indicator** in all cases.
- **No Negotiation** is marked.

3.4 Overview of annotation of spans

The table illustrates which spans are applicable for each identified phenomenon.

Phenomenon	Trigger span	Indicator span	Negotiation span
WMN: Non	yes	yes	yes
WMN: Din	yes	yes	yes
WMN: Other	yes	yes	yes
SIMN	yes	yes	yes
Non-pursued	yes	yes	no
Without trigger	yes, inside indicator span	yes	yes
Reference/NE	yes	yes	no
Other kind of clarification request	no	yes	no
Nothing	no	no	no

3.5 Checklist for completing an annotation

This section provides a brief checklist, but it is essential to read the full guidelines, not just this part. After selecting the appropriate label using the Decision Tree, ensure the following steps are verified before completing an annotation and moving on to the next.

Complete WMNs (NONs, DINs, Others)

- Ensure that three spans are annotated: Trigger, Indicator, and Negotiation.
- Verify that a meta-linguistic shift occurs, where the discussion focuses on the meaning of the word rather than just the topic itself.
- For the type of meaning, determine whether "Situated" or "Potential" meaning is foregrounded in the negotiation, or choose "Both" if unclear.

Incomplete WMNs (SIMN, Non-pursued, Without trigger)

- Annotate the Trigger span for SIMN and Non-pursued instances. For Without trigger instances, annotate the Trigger within the Indicator span.
- Annotate the Indicator span for all incomplete WMNs.
- Annotate the Negotiation span for SIMN and Without trigger instances.

Distractors (Reference/NE, Other kind of clarification request)

- Annotate the Trigger span for Reference/NE cases.
- Annotate the Indicator span for all Distractors.
- No Negotiation span is needed for Distractors.

Nothings

- No spans are annotated for "Nothings," and "No WMN" is always selected.

At the end of your annotations, double-check the following

- The Trigger span does not include punctuation or extra spaces.
- The Indicator and Negotiation spans include final punctuation, when applicable; and no extra spaces.

4. More about WMN and related labels

This section will provide a more detailed explanation of the various labels used for annotation of WMN and related phenomena.

4.1 WMN: non-understanding (NON)

A Word Meaning Negotiation (WMN) caused by non-understanding (NON) occurs when Speaker 2 (S2) does not fully understand the meaning of the trigger word used by Speaker 1 (S1). This lack of understanding prompts S2 to request clarification. It is important to note that partial or insufficient understanding of the word is enough to qualify as a NON. Sometimes the indicator turn can be indirect or polite, such as "That depends on what you mean by X," which still qualifies as a NON if it leads to clarification of the word's meaning.

Characteristics, Indicator turn:

- S2 requests clarification of the word's meaning due to insufficient understanding.
- S2 might propose candidate understandings for the trigger word and ask S1 to clarify which sense of the word is intended.
 - Example indicator phrases:
 - A scan, do you mean an X-ray or an ultrasound?
 - What do you mean digital storage, do you mean cloud storage or a physical drive?

Characteristics, Response turn:

- S1 addresses the need to provide more information about the word's meaning.
- The response turn should clarify the intended meaning of the trigger word explicitly, focusing on resolving the insufficient understanding.
 - Examples

- S1: We need to adjust the trajectory.
- S2: What do you mean by trajectory?
- S1: I mean the path the object is following.

- S1: You need to calibrate the device.
- S2: Calibrate? You mean set it up?
- S1: Yes, adjust its settings to ensure accurate measurements.

- S1: Can I play a song of my own?
- S2: Own song like something you've written or something you choose?
- S1: I mean something I choose, from my own playlist.

4.2 WMN: disagreement (DIN)

A Word Meaning Negotiation (WMN) caused by disagreement (DIN) occurs when S2 disagrees with the meaning or use of the trigger word used by S1. This disagreement prompts S2 to challenge or object to the appropriateness or meaning of the word within the given context. The negotiation then focuses on resolving this disagreement about the word's meaning. There does not need to be a resolution that ends in agreement for it to count as a DIN.

Characteristics, Indicator turn:

- S2 opposes the use or meaning of the trigger word. It is also possible that the indicator seems to signal a non-understanding initially, but the negotiation reveals a disagreement between S1 and S2.
- S2 challenges or questions the appropriateness of the word used by S1.
 - Example of indicator phrases that may initiate a DIN:
 - That's not X!
 - That is not what X means!
 - You're using X incorrectly.
 - X?!

Characteristics, Response turn:

- S1 addresses the objection raised by S2 and delves into the meaning of the trigger word.
- S1 defends or explains their choice of word, providing justification or clarification to address the disagreement.
 - Examples of canonical responses in DINs:
 - S1: This design is pretty avant-garde.
 - S2: Are you kidding me? Avant-garde?.
 - S1: Yes, I think so. It has innovative elements that break from the norm.

- S2: This is not what avant-garde means.

DINs are often complex in nature and can take many shapes. They are more different from each other than NONs that are more similar in structure to each other.

The indicator in a DIN is often more confrontational or assertive than in a NON, directly opposing the meaning or use of the word. Note that the indicator is not enough to determine if a WMN is a NON or a DIN. This may become apparent from something said later in the negotiation.

Sometimes a DIN can start as a NON, with a genuine request for clarification. However, when the response is delivered, it may reveal that the parties are in disagreement about the word's meaning, thus turning into a DIN.

4.3 WMN: other

This category includes instances where the negotiation of meaning is not due to non-understanding (NON) or disagreement (DIN). Instead, these negotiations occur when the meaning of a word is discussed or clarified for reasons other than non-understanding or disagreement. Typically, this involves situations where S2 asks about a word and/or suggests an alternative word, and S1 confirms the suggestion as appropriate. Instances where S1 does not confirm the suggestion, indicating a possible misunderstanding, should be classified as NONs, as it reveals S2 had not initially understood the intended meaning correctly.

Characteristics, Indicator turn:

- S2 prompts further discussion or clarification of the trigger word, but it does not stem from a lack of understanding or disagreement.
- S2 might explicitly mention how they chose to interpret the trigger word or suggest that S1 meant to use a different word.
 - Examples of indicator phrases that may initiate WMN: Other
 - I assume you mean X.
 - When you say X, do you mean Y?
 - You (actually) mean X?

Characteristics, Response turn:

- S1 addresses the prompt or suggestion made by S2 and provides further clarification or confirmation of the word's meaning.
 - Examples of canonical response turns in WMN: Other
 - S1: This room feels very congested.
 - S2: Congested? You mean crowded.
 - S1: Yes, crowded.

- Note the difference between suggesting an alternative word as in this category and suggesting partial aspects of meaning as a candidate understanding in a NON (for example insurance sequence above).
- Note that if the negotiation reveals that S2 had not initially understood the intended meaning correctly, the WMN should be labeled as NON.

4.4 Self-Initiated Meaning Negotiation (SIMN)

This form of incomplete WMN, Self-initiated Meaning Negotiation (SIMN), occurs when the criteria for a complete WMN are fulfilled, **except** that the Trigger word and the Indicator turns are produced by the **same person** (even in the same utterance). The label is used for cases where S1 asks about the meaning of a word **previously mentioned** by S1 himself/herself. The mention of the trigger word can be in the same utterance as the indicator, but it needs to be outside the indicator phrase.

Note that if someone else rather than S2 alone has mentioned the Trigger prior to the indicator, it is not a SIMN - even if S2 was the first speaker to utter the word.

<p>PS4SL</p> <p>[UNCLEAR] Beareth .</p>	-
<p>PS4SJ</p> <p>Beareth , yeah .</p>	-
<p>PS4SL</p> <p>Ye prize .</p>	-
<p>PS4SJ</p> <p>Ye prize . Yes , so any words here that that look unpronounceable , turn out when you say them , to be modern , to be exactly the same as modern words , except that of course , you do n't have an f ending , as you know . Th What 's happened is that this spelling , th this reversal of spelling has occurred in English , as some of you obviously do n't seem to know and your modern English versions you speak [UNCLEAR] used it . Erm , and beareth , there , what does beareth mean ? Amelia ? To bear something , it beareth the prize . The rose beareth the prize . Who knows that to bear means ?</p>	-

BNC, 11

Characteristics, Indicator turn:

- S1 follows the trigger with an indicator, prompting S2 or the audience to engage with the meaning of the word. This could be in the form of a direct question about the word's meaning or a prompt for the listener to explain or interpret the word.
 - Example indicator phrases that may initiate SIMNs:
 - **Do you know what X means?**
 - **Can you explain the meaning of X?**

Characteristics, Response turn:

- S2 addresses the indicator, engaging in the negotiation of the word's meaning.
- This response could include an explanation, interpretation, or clarification of the word as prompted by S1 (meta-linguistic shift, as in traditional WMNs).
 - Example of SIMN:
 - S1: We need to **calibrate** the machine before we start using it. **Do you understand what calibrate means?**
 - S2: **It means to adjust it properly.**
 - S1: **Yes, to make sure it's set up correctly for accurate measurements.**

4.5 Non-pursued

Non-pursued WMNs are not WMN, but count as incomplete WMNs. They refer to interactions where there is a clear indication that word meaning needs to be negotiated (through a Trigger and an Indicator turn), but the negotiation does not fully materialize because the Response turn is absent or does not address the semantic issue raised in the Indicator turn.

In non-pursued WMNs, the trigger and indicator spans must be present. Typically, the negotiation span is not used in these cases. The only exception is when part of S2's indicator turn (outside of the indicator sentence) includes metalinguistic comments about the meaning of the trigger. These should be marked with the negotiation span.

Characteristics, Indicator turn:

- S2 signals the need to discuss or clarify the word's meaning.
- This can be in the form of a clarification request or an objection to the meaning or appropriateness of the word.
 - Example indicator phrases:
 - **What do you mean by X?**
 - **X? What does that mean?**
 - **That's not X!**

Characteristics of a non-pursued response

- The response turn by S1 is absent, or it does not address the semantic issue raised by S2.
- Instead of engaging in a meta-linguistic shift to discuss the word's meaning, the response might ignore the indicator, change the subject, or fail to clarify the meaning of the trigger word.

Examples:

- **Unaddressed Indicator:**
 - **S1:** He's very **brash**.
 - **S2:** **Brash? What do you mean by brash?**

- S1: Anyway, let's just move on.
- **Indicator Ignored:**
 - S1: We need to consider the ramifications.
 - S2: Ramifications? How do you mean?
 - S1: Yes, and we should also look at the benefits.

Non-pursued sequences highlight situations where there is an initial attempt to negotiate word meaning, but the negotiation is not carried through, hence there is no WMN present.

These instances can occur for various reasons, such as the speaker choosing not to address the indicator, a change in the conversation topic, or a lack of engagement from the participants. Also instances where there is no response at all following the indicator count as Non-pursued.

4.6 Without Trigger

This label is used for instances where there is an Indicator and a Response turn, but the Trigger word itself is not explicitly used in the preceding context. **The first use of the problematic word or phrase to be discussed is in the indicator itself.**

This type of negotiation can arise when the need to clarify a word's meaning emerges from external factors or prior knowledge (e.g., an external resource, a speaker's experience, the conversational situation...) rather than from the immediate dialogue. It can also happen when the trigger word is not actually used but the conversation covers a related topic (e.g. speaker A talks about feminism without using the word; B notices they have a different definition of "feminism" and indicates so).

It is important not to confuse this category with [Self-initiated Meaning Negotiation \(SIMN\)](#). In both cases, the indicator is, in a way, initiated by the same person who introduces the problematic word in the conversation. The difference is that in **SIMN**, the trigger word is used prior to the indicator phrase, whereas in **Without trigger**, the word to be discussed is introduced in the indicator phrase itself.

Returning to an example in [4.4 SIMN](#), highlighting the difference between SIMN and Without Trigger categories:

Example of Without Trigger:

- S1: Let's move on. Do you know what calibrate means?
- S2: It means to adjust the machine properly.
- S1: Yes, to make sure it's set up correctly for accurate measurements.

Note the similarities to the example in 3.4; however, the key difference here is that the trigger word "calibrate" was not used prior to the indicator phrase. Instead, it first appears as part of the indicator itself, making it an instance of **Without Trigger**.

As in SIMN, in Without Trigger, all span types are used: the problematic word is marked as a trigger inside the indicator itself¹, and the indicator and negotiation are marked normally.

4.7 Reference/Named Entity (NE)

This distractor label is for cases that resemble WMNs or non-pursued WMNs, but the clarification request or objection is due to an unclear referent of a referring expression (e.g., by “him”, you mean your coworker? / you mean the blue one or the red one?)

For this category, both the trigger and indicator spans have to be used to indicate the corresponding parts of the interaction. No negotiation span should be present.

- **Characteristics, Trigger:**
 - A referring expression (determiners, pronouns, proper nouns or other noun phrases: e.g. “that”, “her”, “Montenegro”, “that man”)
- **Characteristics, Indicator turn:**
 - Similar to the indicator of a NON.

Example:

- S1: We went to **Palermo** this summer.
- S2: **Palermo?**
- S1: It's a city in Sicily.

4.8 Other kinds of clarification requests

This distractor label is used for instances where a person asks for some kind of **semantic clarification that is not centered around a specific word or phrase**. Often, it is a whole utterance that is targeted in the phrase requesting clarification, and not an individual word's meaning. This category is reserved for semantic clarification requests that clearly are produced in anticipation of receiving an answer clarifying semantic content that is not targeting an individual word or phrase.

Example:

- S1: I think we need to approach this issue differently.
- S2: **What do you mean by that?**
- S1: We should try a more collaborative strategy instead of assigning tasks individually.

Note that the following cases **do not** qualify as “Other kinds of clarification requests” and should be tagged as **Nothing**:

- **Asking clarification on *misheard* or *mispronounced* (parts of) utterances.** As in WMNs and similar categories, there should be enough evidence that the non-understanding is of a semantic nature. The shape of the indicator may not be

¹ In Label Studio, this is done by first annotating the entire Indicator phrase with the correct span, and then annotating the Trigger span within the Indicator. As a result, the Trigger will have two overlapping spans, causing both colors to blend together.

enough to determine if there is a hearing problem or a semantic problem: it is necessary to look at the interaction that follows.

- **Asking for *additional* information or details about something that has been said.** The indicator should be targeted at clarifying something that has already been said, not at asking for more information (e.g., “Care to elaborate?” would not count as a clarification request

(winning-args, 710))

For **Other kinds of clarification requests**, the indicator should be marked, but the trigger and negotiation spans should not be applied.

4.10 Nothing

This label is used when none of the above labels apply.

4.11 Unsure

This label is used when the annotator is uncertain about their decision and intends to revisit or edit the annotation later. Once the annotation process is complete, no instances should remain labeled this way.

5. Annotating Type of meaning

If an instance contains a complete WMN (i.e., if it is annotated using the labels **WMN: non-understanding**, **WMN: disagreement**, or **WMN: other**), also specify the kind of meaning foregrounded in the negotiation: **potential meaning**, **situated meaning**, or **both**.

Note: In some sense, the negotiation always addresses both types of meaning (i.e., it is needed to deal with some kind of issue related to the situated discussion context, and it depends on the word meaning beyond the discussed situation). However, one kind of meaning may be discussed more prominently in the interaction. If this is the case, we use either the **potential** or **situated** label. If both types of meaning are clearly and explicitly discussed, we use the label **both**.

5.1 No WMN

If no complete WMN has been identified in the current interaction sequence, the option **no WMN** should be selected when annotating Type of meaning. This includes cases of incomplete WMNs (**SIMN**, **Non-pursued**, **Without trigger**) and Distractors (**Reference/NE**, **Other kinds of clarification requests**).

5.2 Potential meaning

Potential meaning: The negotiation primarily focuses on what the word can mean in a broader context, beyond the current situation, with less emphasis on its meaning in the specific situation being discussed.

- In NONs, these may be cases where:
 - S2 does not know the word at all;
 - S2 does not know that the word can have the sense in which it is being used (provided that it is a "well-established" sense);
 - S2 has misunderstood the sense in which a word is being used (e.g. because the utterance is ambiguous).
- In DINs, these may be cases where:
 - S2 points out that the meaning used by S1 is not compatible with any potential meaning of the word.

iamthelol1_##_t1_cls7822_##_rt-t3_2l6x4s -

You are a nihilist, I believe that's what this is called. If you cannot find something important, then start acting like everything is important. Try it.

lurkboi_##_t1_cls7bb0_##_rt-t1_cls7822 -

I have never classified myself as a nihilist, as I honestly must plead ignorance to the true meaning of the term.

iamthelol1_##_t1_cls7eec_##_rt-t1_cls7bb0 -

A nihilist is someone who believes that nothing is material and nothing matters. Pretty close to your view I guess

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5.3 Situated meaning

Situated meaning: The negotiation primarily focuses on what the word means in the current situation being discussed, with less emphasis on its potential meaning beyond this context.

- In NONs, these may be cases where:
 - S2 does not understand how a word applies to the specific situation/object being talked about).
- In DINs, these may be cases where:
 - S2 points out that the meaning used by S1 is not compatible with the situation/object being talked about.

Cyralea_##_t1_clzr3v9_##_rt-t1_clzdhss	-
Do you genuinely believe that the less palatable parts of TRP are less effective than the positive parts? Honest question.	
elliptibang_##_t1_clzuk18_##_rt-t1_clzr3v9	-
You'll have to define "effective" for me and give me a specific example or two, but I suspect that your question misses the point. Many forms of abuse, manipulation, and deception might be described as "effective," depending on what your goal is and whether or not you're a psychopath.	
Cyralea_##_t1_cm03l40_##_rt-t1_clzuk18	-
Effective, as in, conducive towards achieving a desired result. I'll use two examples just for clarity: "Be assertive" as the positive one, and "Treat women like children" as the negative. I'm not asking for any moral judgements, only if you consider them effective or not.	
elliptibang_##_t1_cm0bi43_##_rt-t1_cm03l40	-
That doesn't sound like a very effective way to form the basis of a healthy and fulfilling relationship with another human being. It might be an effective way to convince an impressionable, emotionally vulnerable person to sleep with you, but so's rohypnol. What's your point? In what fucked up universe can moral considerations be treated as irrelevant to the question of how best to interact with other people?	

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5.4 Both

Both: This label is used when the negotiation clearly focuses on both what the word means in the situation being discussed **and** on what the word can mean beyond the current situation.

Examples:

- S2 confronts S1 and refers to a general definition, such as one from a dictionary (**potential** meaning), while S1 explains what the word means to them or how they were using it in the specific context (**situated** meaning).
- S2 complains that S1 is using a word in a non-conventional way (**situated** meaning), but S1 argues that their use is in fact standard (**potential** meaning).

Clockworkfrog_##_t1_codhltn_##_rt-t1_codgopl

That smoker would not be a hypocrite.

mehatch_##_t1_codi74z_##_rt-t1_codhltn

I'd love to hear more on your thoughts about this. Do you mean there's no hypocrisy within the argument the smoker is making itself? Or that the smoker themselves aren't hypocritical?

Clockworkfrog_##_t1_codkyfu_##_rt-t1_codi74z

Both I guess, not practising a policy/behaviour/whatever that you claim is good/argue for is not hypocrisy. A hypocrite would be someone who smokes denouncing smoking saying "any health conscious person like myself knows the risks of smoking and so does not". Hypocrisy involves lying, not just a failure to "practice what one preaches". Although that is just a technical definition that does not really match how it is often used so I probably am just being pedantic.

mehatch_##_t1_codmhn5_##_rt-t1_codkyfu

hmm, ya so like 'liberal' or 'good' or 'life' words can apply to different definitions, essentially they might as well have totally different spellings but since that luxury isn't avail, I'll clarify that the 'hypocrisy' im applying here is like the examples in the post text, so my take wouldn't encompass the definition of hypocrisy to which lying is a necessary component. [STA-CITE]>"any health conscious person like myself knows the risks of smoking and so does not". [END-CITE]OK so this is a

winning-args, 936

6. Annotation of multiple phenomena (2in1s)

6.1 Unmatched indicators

When reading the parts of a conversation surrounding the utterance identified by the regular expression, you may find that:

- The actual indicator is in an utterance other than the one identified by the regular expression.
- There are two phenomena to annotate in the same instance.

As explained in Section [1.4 Annotation units](#), you can annotate a phenomenon (complete WMN or not) **in the vicinity (a few turns away) of** what has been detected by the regular expression, even if you have already annotated another phenomenon in the instance. See the explanation below for more details on how to do this.

6.2 How to annotate multiple phenomena at once: 2in1s

If, while annotating one phenomenon, you find another one, proceed as follows:

As a working example, let's say we have found the following sequence:

- S1: Have you ever used an X?
- S2: I'm surprised, what does X mean?
- S1: Surprised? You mean confused?

- S2: Yes, confused. I don't know this word.
- S1: Ok. X means...

Span annotation

Mark all relevant spans for each phenomenon separately, even if they overlap.

- **Phenomenon 1: WMN: non-understanding**

Trigger: "X" (by S1)

Indicator: "I'm surprised, what does X mean?"

Negotiation:

S1: Surprised? You mean confused?

S2: Yes, confused. I don't know this word.

S1: Ok. X means...

- **Phenomenon 2: WMN: other**

Trigger: "surprised" (by S2)

Indicator: "Surprised? You mean confused?"

Negotiation:

S2: Yes, confused. I don't know this word.

S1: Ok.

Label annotation

Mark all labels corresponding to the phenomena found. In this example, you should select both "WMN: non-understanding" and "WMN: other". If there are two NONs, simply mark "WMN: non-understanding". Do the same for the type of meaning, marking all options applicable.

In the comments section, include the word "2in1" and provide a detailed enough description that would allow to disentangle the two annotations. For example:

Comments

"2in1: there are two phenomena. (1): a NON (potential meaning) about the word "X". The negotiation starts at "Surprised?..." and ends with "means...". (2): a "WMN: other" (situated meaning) about the word "surprised". The negotiation starts with "Yes, confused..." and ends at "Ok.".

Proceed in the same way if there are more than two phenomena.

6.3 WMN-like sequences within a longer WMN

Sometimes, the negotiation of a WMN may contain sequences that look themselves like a WMN. Let's say that, in the following example, the regex matched the turn "This is not what X means."

- S1: ... X...
- S2: what do you mean by X?
- S1: By X, I mean....
- S2: This is not what X means.

- S1: ...

Although, on its own, this utterance could be starting a WMN, this is part of another WMN which starts earlier, with the indicator “what do you mean by X?”. In these cases, you should annotate the earliest indicator you find, in order to capture the full meta-linguistic interaction. In this case, the utterance highlighted by the regex would be part of the negotiation.

6.4 Multiple triggers

A single indicator may signal problems with multiple words at once (e.g. “what do you mean by X and Y?”). If the negotiation addresses all triggers and if the problem is similar for all of them, this can be annotated as a single WMN with multiple triggers. Otherwise, it should be annotated as a 2in1 case (e.g., if the negotiation only discusses one of the triggers and the discussion of the other one is non-pursued, or if one of the triggers was involved in a NON and the other one in a DIN).

7. Comments

This free-text section can be used by annotators to add their thoughts about the instance that is being annotated or to provide a description of a 2in1 case, where multiple phenomena are annotated in the same instance. Only comments containing “2in1” will be taken into account as part of the annotation.

8. Corpus specificities

BNC

Special signs: The signs [UNCLEAR] and [ANONYMIZATION] appear in the text when something was not transcribed. They can be included in an Indicator or Negotiation span.

Empty utterances: they usually correspond to things like laughing, clapping, sighing, etc.

Unknown speakers: At times, the speaker of a turn may be unidentified, and their name will end with “UNK.” Even without knowing the speaker's identity, you should still annotate these instances if a clear phenomenon is present.

Switchboard

Data from the Switchboard corpus contains multiple symbols and annotations for different kinds of phenomena such as hesitations, repetitions, etc. For example:

No, /[I don't, + I don't] have any kids. /[[I, + {F uh, } my sister has a,] + she just had a] baby, /he's about five months old /{C and } she was worrying about going back to work and what she was going to do with him and --

When annotating spans, follow the general rules with respect to punctuation: include it in the indicator and negotiation (also valid for utterances ending in “/”, “--”), but not in the trigger.

If a repeated phrase is part of the indicator or the negotiation, include it fully in the span:

[what's, + what's] X?

Reddit

Order of posts

The first box always contains the title of the thread. Note that the title could contain a trigger. Posts are ordered as they would be found on Reddit: following the answer hierarchy (direct answers first), then chronologically (older posts and answers first).

The titles of each box should guide the annotator in understanding what post is being replied to and where the trigger might be found. Remember that in Reddit, titles follow the format:

[SPEAKER ID]_##_[POST ID]_##_[UTTERANCE REPLIED TO].

There may be multiple posts between the trigger mention and the indicator sentence.

Quotations

Redditors may quote other users' posts or external information. These passages are delimited with the signs [STA-CITE] and [END-CITE]. To avoid redundancy, when preparing the data for Labelstudio, text between these two signs is ignored, so it never matches any regular expression.

The quoted passages can be useful to find the original trigger of a WMN.

Here is an example:

Azul788_##_t1_cngtgh7_##_rt-t3_2rk7my

[STA-CITE]>I have never been in an accident [END-CITE]I've been in a few, and somehow my fear of driving went down afterwards. There's *fatal* accidents then there's just getting in a wreck, and being pissed that your car is fucked.

Undetected quotations Due to formatting irregularities in the original corpus, sometimes quoted passages were not detected correctly and are therefore not clearly indicated. In such cases, “>” indicates the beginning of a quoted passage, but the end is not indicated anywhere and needs to be inferred by the annotator by finding the original message that is being quoted, if possible (and if necessary).

Highlighted

undetected

quoted

passage:

BenIncognito_##_t1_cme1jo8_##_rt-t1_cmdvo8p

[STA-CITE]>By your definition, isn't everything a work of art? [END-CITE]Well, not until someone calls it art. >If someone paints a bunch of splats, then it's just a bunch of splats. Then they call it art, and suddenly that makes it important, and the fact that it makes you question whether or not it actually is art becomes the art. But doesn't that mean I can do it with anything? I drink out of the same coffee cup every day. It has a stain in the bottom. It's not art, and I probably couldn't sell it because it's ruined. However, if I call it art, does that suddenly make it so? Is it suddenly worth lots of money? Can I do that with all my possessions and sell them off, proclaiming them to be art? Sure, call it "I Fucking Hate Modern Art" and sell your stuff on eBay. People sometimes do weird shit and call it art, give it a shot. They don't always make money, of course. I don't know why you think art makes something suddenly worth a lot of money, ask an artist how that is working out for them sometime.

Original message being quoted:

thegimboid_##_t1_cmdvo8p_##_rt-t1_cmdve03

By your definition, isn't everything a work of art? If someone paints a bunch of splats, then it's just a bunch of splats. Then they call it art, and suddenly that makes it important, and the fact that it makes you question whether or not it actually is art becomes the art. But doesn't that mean I can do it with anything? I drink out of the same coffee cup every day. It has a stain in the bottom. It's not art, and I probably couldn't sell it because it's ruined. However, if I call it art, does that suddenly make it so? Is it suddenly worth lots of money? Can I do that with all my possessions and sell them off, proclaiming them to be art?

Annotating quotations Nothing in a quoted passage should be annotated as a trigger or as an indicator - these annotations should be done in the original message.

However, quotations may be annotated as part of the negotiation, if they are relevant to the discussion.

Title and first post

Although the title and the first post of a thread are displayed in separate boxes in LabelStudio, you should treat the text in the title as being part of the first post. This means that, if you find a trigger in the first post, and it is also present in the title, you should mark it in both boxes.

Edited messages

Sometimes redditors edit their messages. They often add something about their edit at the end of the post: they may include the reason for their edit or additional text. It is left to the judgment of the annotator to decide whether an edit should be part of a WMN or not.

Here is an example:

IroniButterfly_##_t1_clfwu0o_##_rt-t1_clfw266

So as a recently converted minist(pronounced emminist), I would likely not be able to practice my religion in jail. How is that not unconstitutional? How can I ask god for guidance when the government forbids me from connecting with him? Without mnms the soul becomes unclean and is cast out of god's light, how is that not cruel and unusual punishment?
Edit: removed a word that didn't belong

Reddit / winning-args corpus terminology

- **OP:** Original Poster (the user who started the thread)
- **CMV:** abbreviation of the subreddit name "changemyview".
- **Deltas:** The winning-args corpus contains posts from the r/changemyview subreddit, where the OP presents their opinion on an issue and other users challenge it or give

different perspectives. When a user manages to change the OP's opinion in some respect, the OP "awards a delta" to that user and includes a delta symbol in their reply (Δ).