**Task 0. Read**

Read the headline, and byline of real news articles.

Read the joke response to that headline.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Headline | **Mattel To Remake Barbie With More Diversity, Voice Box** |
| Byline | Following years of declining sales, Mattel has announced it is releasing new Barbie dolls that feature more racial diversity, in addition to a “Hello Barbie” doll with the ability to talk. What do you think? |
| Joke Response | *Good, girls need to know that conventionally attractive women of all races are beautiful.* |

**Task 1. List all the nouns (people, places, things) in the headline and byline**

|  |
| --- |
| **Mattel** |
| **Barbie** |
| **Diversity** |
| **Voice Box** |
| years |
| declining sales |
| racial diversity |
| “Hello Barbie” doll |
| ability to talk |

**Task 2. For each of the phrases in the joke, find a corresponding phrase in the headline or byline.** Look for matching phrases in the headline first, then the byline. If there are multiple matching phrases, list the first one you find.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Good, | (none) |
| girls need to know that | **(none)** |
| conventionally attractive women | **Barbie** |
| of all races | racial diversity |
| beautiful | **Barbie** |

**Task 3. Which of the nouns in Task 1 is being criticized in the joke?**

|  |
| --- |
| **Mattel** |

**What phrase in the joke indicates a criticism?**

|  |
| --- |
| *conventionally attractive women* |

**What are they being criticized for?**

|  |
| --- |
| Even though they are adding diversity, all the dolls are still attractive, giving girls body image complexes. |

**Restate the criticism as a simple relationship between the criticism target and another noun named or referenced in the joke.**

For example, here is a joke: “I married Miss Right. I just didn’t know her first name was Always.”

The criticism target is “*the woman*.”

The simple relationship is that “*the woman nags the man (the speaker).*”

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**Restate the criticism reason in terms of the indicating phrase in the joke**

For example, The reason is because she thinks she’s “Always Right”

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**Task 4**. In the joke, there are two opposite attitudes portrayed towards the target of criticism.

One attitude toward the target is negative. The criticism from Task 3 is the reason for the negative attitude towards the target.

The other attitude is that the target is positive. And there is a reason why somebody might think that target is positive.

Re-read the headline and the by-line.

**Identify the simple positive relationship between the criticism target and other noun in the relationship.**

The simple positive relationship is that “*the woman is perfect for the man (the speaker).*”

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| --- |
|  |

**Restate the criticism reason in terms of the indicating phrase in the joke**

For example, The reason is because she thinks she is “Miss Right”

|  |
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| Byline | Following years of declining sales, Mattel has announced it is releasing new Barbie dolls that feature more racial diversity, in addition to a “Hello Barbie” doll with the ability to talk. What do you think? |
| Joke Response | *It's about time Barbie started representing girls who can talk.* |

**Task 1. List all the nouns (people, places, things) in the headline and byline**

|  |
| --- |
| **Mattel** |
| **Barbie** |
| **Diversity** |
| **Voice Box** |
| years |
| declining sales |
| racial diversity |
| “Hello Barbie” doll |
| ability to talk |

**Task 2. For each of the phrases in the joke, find a corresponding phrase in the headline or byline.** Look for matching phrases in the headline first, then the byline. If there are multiple matching phrases, list the first one you find.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *It’s about time* | years |
| *Barbie* | **Barbie** |
| *Started representing* | racial diversity |
| *Girls who can talk* | **Voice Box** |

**Task 3. Which of the nouns in Task 1 is being criticized in the joke?**

|  |
| --- |
| **Mattel** |

**What phrase in the joke indicates a criticism?**

|  |
| --- |
| *representing girls who can talk* |

**What are they being criticized for?**

|  |
| --- |
| Not truly embracing diversity. |

**Restate the criticism as a simple relationship between the criticism target and another noun named or referenced in the joke.**

For example, here is a joke: “I married Miss Right. I just didn’t know her first name was Always.”

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|  |
| --- |
|  |

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|  |

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|  |
| --- |
|  |

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| Joke Response | *It's nice when a company decides to be inclusive as a last resort* |

**Task 1. List all the nouns (people, places, things) in the headline and byline**

|  |
| --- |
| **Mattel** |
| **Barbie** |
| **Diversity** |
| **Voice Box** |
| years |
| declining sales |
| racial diversity |
| “Hello Barbie” doll |
| ability to talk |

**Task 2. For each of the phrases in the joke, find a corresponding phrase in the headline or byline.** Look for matching phrases in the headline first, then the byline. If there are multiple matching phrases, list the first one you find.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *It's nice when* | (none) |
| *a company* | **Mattel** |
| *decides to be* | (none) |
| *inclusive* | **Diversity** |
| *as a last resort* | Following years of declining sales |

**Task 3. Which of the nouns in Task 1 is being criticized in the joke?**

|  |
| --- |
| **Mattel** |

**What phrase in the joke indicates a criticism?**

|  |
| --- |
| *Inclusive as a last resort* |

**What are they being criticized for?**

|  |
| --- |
| Not truly embracing diversity, doing it for the money. |

**Restate the criticism as a simple relationship between the criticism target and another noun named or referenced in the joke.**

For example, here is a joke: “I married Miss Right. I just didn’t know her first name was Always.”

The criticism target is “*the woman*.”

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|  |
| --- |
|  |

**Restate the criticism reason in terms of the indicating phrase in the joke**

For example, The reason is because she thinks she’s “Always Right”

|  |
| --- |
|  |

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One attitude toward the target is negative. The criticism from Task 3 is the reason for the negative attitude towards the target.

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Re-read the headline and the by-line.

**Identify the simple positive relationship between the criticism target and other noun in the relationship.**

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| --- |
|  |

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| --- |
|  |

**Task 0. Read**

Read the headline, and byline of real news articles.

Read the joke response to that headline.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Headline | **Report: Uber Adding ‘Panic Button’ For Chicago Passengers** |
| Byline | According to a report in the Chicago Sun-Times, Uber is adding a “panic button” to its Chicago smartphone app that allows passengers to quickly alert police in the event they feel endangered by their driver. What do you think? |
| Joke Response | *It's nice knowing Uber is willing to do everything it can to protect it's customers short of properly screening it's drivers* |

**Task 1. List all the nouns (people, places, things) in the headline and byline**

|  |
| --- |
| **Report** |
| **Uber** |
| **‘Panic Button’** |
| **Chicago** |
| **Passengers** |
| Chicago Sun-Times |
| smartphone app |
| police |
| driver |

**Task 2. For each of the phrases in the joke, find a corresponding phrase in the headline or byline.** Look for matching phrases in the headline first, then the byline. If there are multiple matching phrases, list the first one you find.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *It's nice knowing* | (none) |
| *Uber* | **Uber** |
| *is willing to do everything it can* | **Panic Button** |
| *to protect it's customers* | allows passengers to quickly alert police |
| *short of properly screening it's drivers* | feel endangered by their driver |

**Task 3. Which of the nouns in Task 1 is being criticized in the joke?**

|  |
| --- |
| **Uber** |

**What phrase in the joke indicates a criticism?**

|  |
| --- |
| *short of properly screening it's drivers* |

**What are they being criticized for?**

|  |
| --- |
| Uber doesn’t really care about protecting it’s customers. |

**Restate the criticism as a simple relationship between the criticism target and another noun named or referenced in the joke.**

For example, here is a joke: “I married Miss Right. I just didn’t know her first name was Always.”

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|  |
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|  |

**Task 0. Read**

Read the headline, and byline of real news articles.

Read the joke response to that headline.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Headline | **Walmart Raising Wages** |
| Byline | Amid pressure from labor groups to provide its workforce with a better living wage, Walmart has announced that it will pay all workers at least $9 per hour beginning this April, a decision that will cost $1 billion and affect 500,000 employees, with the company additionally committing to a $10 hourly wage by 2016. What do you think? |
| Joke Response | *Who needs labor unions when all it takes is dozens of damning exposes and two decades to public protest to achieve the smallest possible step in the right direction.* |

**Task 1. List all the nouns (people, places, things) in the headline and byline**

|  |
| --- |
| **Walmart** |
| **Wages** |
| Pressure |
| labor groups |
| Workforce |
| better living wage |
| workers |
| $9 per hour |
| $1 billion |
| 500,000 employees |

**Task 2. For each of the phrases in the joke, find a corresponding phrase in the headline or byline.** Look for matching phrases in the headline first, then the byline. If there are multiple matching phrases, list the first one you find.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Who needs labor unions* | labor groups |
| *when all it takes is* | (none) |
| *dozens of damning exposes* | Pressure to provide its workforce with a better living wage |
| *and two decades to public protest* | Pressure to provide its workforce with a better living wage |
| *to achieve the smallest possible step in the right direction.* | **Raising Wages** |

**Task 3. Which of the nouns in Task 1 is being criticized in the joke?**

|  |
| --- |
| **Walmart** |

**What phrase in the joke indicates a criticism?**

|  |
| --- |
| *smallest possible step in the right direction.* |

**What are they being criticized for?**

|  |
| --- |
| Walmart isn’t doing enough for it’s workers, and they’re not doing it soon enough. |

**Restate the criticism as a simple relationship between the criticism target and another noun named or referenced in the joke.**

For example, here is a joke: “I married Miss Right. I just didn’t know her first name was Always.”

The criticism target is “*the woman*.”

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|  |
| --- |
|  |

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| --- |
|  |

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Re-read the headline and the by-line.

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For example, The reason is because she thinks she is “Miss Right”

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| --- |
|  |

**Task 0. Read**

Read the headline, and byline of real news articles.

Read the joke response to that headline.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Headline | **Facebook Lets Users Choose Who Controls Their Account After Death** |
| Byline | Facebook has announced that rather than “memorialize” the accounts of Facebook users who die, which doesn’t allow others to edit or manage the page, the social network will now permit users to designate a “legacy contact” who will have the ability to change aspects of the deceased’s profile. What do you think? |
| Joke Response | *I'm not sure who I can trust with the solemn task of rejecting Bubble Witch Saga game requests.* |

**Task 1. List all the nouns (people, places, things) in the headline and byline**

|  |
| --- |
| **Facebook** |
| **Users** |
| **Account** |
| **Death** |
| page |
| social network |
| “legacy contact” |
| the deceased’s profile |

**Task 2. For each of the phrases in the joke, find a corresponding phrase in the headline or byline.** Look for matching phrases in the headline first, then the byline. If there are multiple matching phrases, list the first one you find.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *I'm not sure* | **Users** |
| *who I can trust* | “legacy contact” |
| *with the solemn task of* | ability to change aspects of the deceased’s profile |
| *rejecting Bubble Witch Saga game requests.* | **Facebook** |

**Task 3. Which of the nouns in Task 1 is being criticized in the joke?**

|  |
| --- |
| **Facebook** |

**What phrase in the joke indicates a criticism?**

|  |
| --- |
| *rejecting Bubble Witch Saga game requests.* |

**What are they being criticized for?**

|  |
| --- |
| Facebook is stupid and frivolous. |

**Restate the criticism as a simple relationship between the criticism target and another noun named or referenced in the joke.**

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| --- |
|  |