Prototype:

Rating Implicate Statements in Jokes

Goal:

We want you to read jokes and read somebody’s analysis of it, and tell us how much you agree. There are three parts of the analysis:

1. Reading a real news headline and rating the specific entities that were identified in it
2. Reading a joke and rating the entities that were identified in it.
3. Reading a joke and rating the implicit statements identified in it.

An “entity” is people, places, things, events, organizations (or anything else important) mentioned in the article.

Instructions:

**1. For Entities identified in Headline, we want the specifics included:**

Headline:

“Man in Santa Suit arrested at Mall”

Entities: “Man in Santa Suit” (not just “man”), “Mall”

Also, list any associated people – the more basic the better.

Associated entities: arresting officers, mall cops, witnesses at the mall, children waiting to see santa?, parents of children waiting to see santa,

Please cover the most basic and obvious cases first. There is no need to be “creative.”

**2. For Entities in the joke, we want to match them to the list of entities in the headline**

Joke: “So I sat on his knee for nothing?”

Entities: Man in Santa suit (that’s what “his” is referring to), someone who sat on his lap (the Speaker)

**3. Implicit statements in a joke are things that they probably mean, but aren’t quite saying.** They are all part of what there is to “get” in a joke.

Headline: “Jewish Orthodox Newspaper Edits Women out of Unity March”

Joke: “That’s horrible. Photoshop should only be used to plump the breasts and trim the thighs.”

Implicit statements:

**#sarcastic**. She is saying the opposite of what she means.

She things this is bad, but she thinks it’s bad for the wrong reason.

Most people assume photoshop should not be used to objectify women.

She thinks it should be.

She thinks photoshop only should be used for objectifying women **#reversal**

“That’s horrible.” Makes you assume she disagrees with using photoshop, so it sets up an **#assumption** and **#violates** it.

Notice the **#hashtags** – there are certain types of statements that are typical in jokes, and we try to tag them when we see them. Once you see the tag, you know why the joke is funny, and you’re done analyzing that aspect of the joke.

* #assumption
  + #violation
* #tension
  + #insults
  + #conflict
* #2nd story
  + #reversal
    - sarcasm (saying the opposite of what you think)
    - good -> bad
    - bad -> worse
    - serious -> not serious
  + #ignoring obvious facts, and seeing a different view of the story
  + #missing the point, and seeing a different view of the story

Study Links Binge-Watching TV To Depression

A new study has found that people who binge-watch three or more TV shows at a time are more likely to be lonely and depressed, leading researchers to conclude that the practice “should no longer be viewed as a ‘harmless’ addictive behavior.” What do *you* think?

Entities:

* Binge-watchers
* TV
* Depressed people
* Researchers
* TV shows
* Lonely people
* People addicted to TV

“Were those people already lonely? We should be careful before we point the finger at TV.”

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| --- | --- |
| * Binge-watchers * Lonely people * Lonely binge-watchers * TV * Researchers | * Assumes the story blames the TV * Speaker doesn’t necessarily blame the TV #conflict * Speculates people were already lonely * Doubting the research #conflict * Speculating correlation rather than causation * Alternative story for why people are lonely (#2nd story) |

“Sorry, but I don’t really see the correlation between having 12 to 18 hours of free time on a weekend and loneliness.”

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| * Binge-watchers * Lonely people | * Speaker is #missingThePoint * Doubting the research #conflict * Speaker missing the point possibly because he is a lonely binge-watcher * Speaker missing the obvious conclusion that people who have friends would never have 12-18 hours free to binge watch TV |

“If this is some kind of ploy to get me to read, it’s not going to work.”

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| * Researchers * TV watchers | * Speaker doesn’t like to read * Hostile against this research #conflict * Things it’s not real, it’s just a ploy #2nd story * Speaker is #cynical or paranoid * There is usually a #conflict between TV and reading (particular between parents and children #lens) |

# California May Raise Smoking Age From 18 To 21

In an effort to keep cigarettes out of the hands of teenagers, California legislators have proposed a bill that would raise the state’s minimum smoking age from 18 to 21. What do *you* think?

Entities

* State of California
* Law-makers
* Politicians
* Smokers
* Teens
* 18-21 year olds
* under 18’s
* over 21’s
* bill
* cigarettes
* minimum age

“Teenagers are just going to have to find a new way to fit in with people standing around in a circle.”

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| * Teenagers * Smokers (people standing in a circle) | * #insulting smokers by saying they stand around in a circle. * Smoking is usually considered cool by teens, but this assumes they are boring idiots #reversal |

“Hopefully California’s 18-year-old smokers will vote these clowns out of office.”

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| * California’s 18 year old smokers (18-21) * Law makers (clowns) | * 18 year olds can vote * They can use that power to stop this bill * There is a #conflict between 18 year olds (who want to smoke) and the law makers (who want to stop them from smoking) * Most people assumes the proposed law is a good thing, this Speaker assumes it’s a bad thing #reversal #good-> #bad |

“Hey, I’m 31, and I’m worth caring for too.”

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| * People older than 21 | * 31 year olds aren’t targeted by this law. * It’s not relevant to him, but he thinks it should be #reversal #ignoring the fact that 18 year old are more at risk, not more worth caring for. * The speaker is jealous that he’s not being cared for #tension * The speaker supports the bill – he thinks it’s ‘caring’ |

# Study Links Negative Tweets To More Heart Disease

According to a new study, tweets that convey negative emotions such as hate, hostility, or boredom correlate to higher rates of heart disease-related deaths in the surrounding community. What do *you* think?

Entities:

* Tweets
* Twitter
* People who write negative tweets
* The communities they affect
* People who suffer from heart disease
* People who negative emotions

“Well, then it’s a good thing that the vast majority of tweets are so positive and uplifting.”

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| * Tweets * Twitter | * #sarcastic The speaker really thinks that a lot of tweets are negative * #reversal badToWorse with the assumption that a vast majority of tweets are negative, it means that many people are going to die |

“But how else am I supposed to deal with my emotions other than throwing them carelessly into a void?”

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| * Speaker writes negative tweets | * People say mean things carelessly online #lens online bullying * Implies people use tweets to dump their emotions * The article is assumed to be a bad thing * This speaker thinks dumping your emotions is a good thing, or at least saying that he does it and doesn’t have a problem with it #reversal * #sarcastic – obviously there are better ways to deal with your negative emotions |

“Even if they do slowly kill everyone around you, it’s still kind of nice knowing that what you say on Twitter actually affects stuff.”

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| * Negative tweeters * Twitter * tweets | * #reversal – sees the good in a bad situation * #ignores the fact that people are dying and just thinks of it as ‘has an affect’ |

# Americans Expected To Spend $703 Million On Pets For Valentine’s Day

According to the National Retail Federation, Americans are expected to spend a collective $703 million on gifts for their pets this Valentine’s Day such as treats, heart-shaped toys, and more. What do *you* think?

Entities:

Americans

Money

Pets

Valentine’s Day

National Retail Federation

Pet owners

“The problem is that every year my tropical fish and I say we’re not doing the whole gift-giving thing.”

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| * Pet owner * Pet * Valentine’s day * gift | * this person is a pet owner * Valentine’s Day is supposed to be good, but the speaker has a problem with it #reversal #goodToBad * The problem is the coordination problem couple’s have trying to figure out whether to do gifts or not * #ignoring the fact that fish don’t talk * #lens – treating this relationship as a real relationship |

“I’ll probably put it off until the 14th and just grab flowers and a smoked pig ear on my way home from work.”

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| * Buying presents * Valentine’s day * Pet owner | * #lens a real relationship * flowers are for humans (usually women), pets don’t wan’t them #assumption #violation * Speaker finds Valentine’s Day a hassle, not romantic #reversal #goodToBad |

“They can tell if you skimp.”

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| * Pets * Pet owner | * #reversal Valentine’s day is supposed to be good, but for the speaker it’s a stressful #goodToBad * It’s stressful because there is pressure to do it right * #lens to a real relationship * pet’s can’t really tell if you skimp. |

# Study: Dog Movies Spur Adoption For Up To 10 Years

A study has found that popular dog movies can boost adoption of featured breeds for up to 10 years after their release, though in previous cases, many families have quickly returned dogs they were not prepared to own. What do *you* think?

Entities:

* Dogs
* Dogs in movies
* Movies
* Adoptions
* Families who adopt dogs
* Researchers
* Families who return dogs
* Kids who want the dogs
* Parents who give in
* Ill prepared families
* Shelters

“It’s surprising that the kinds of people impulsively adopting dogs because of movies sometimes turn out to be irresponsible pet owners.”

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| * People who impulsively adopt dogs * Movies * Irresponsible pet owners | * #sarcastic obviously impulsive adopters are done by irresponsible people. It’s not surprising * #insult people who return dogs are irresponsible |

“If only the film industry had portrayed both the joys and the sorrows of owning a shaggy dog.”

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| * Film industry * dog | * #Assumption: people should blame the people who adopt for being irresponsible. #violation we should blame the film industry #2 scripts * Implies movies don’t show the bad parts of owning a dog. |

“I’m kind of tired of hearing about what suckers we all are.”

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| * ? | * We are suckers because we do whatever movie suggest we do without thinking #insult * #conflict the speaker thinks the researchers are calling us suckers. |