1] What kinds of characteristics prompt emotion explanation versus action/situation explanation?

\*Information limited to event

1. Julie just pushed Bryan away from her.

2. Mary and Collin are hugging.

3. Kim is running fast.

4. Jessica is crying.

\*Information on interpersonal relationship Added

1. Julie is Bryan’s girlfriend. Julie just pushed Bryan away from her.

2. Mary is Collin’s wife. Mary and Collin are hugging.

3. Kim is not an athlete. Kim is running fast.

4. Jessica is married with two children. She is crying.

\*Situational Information Added

1. Julie is Bryan’s girlfriend. It is their anniversary. Julie is pushing Bryan away.

2. It is Mary and Collin’s wedding day. Mary and Collin are hugging.

3. Kim is not an athlete. Kim got her final exam grades today. Kim is running fast.

4. Jessica is married with two children. She just woke up. She is crying.

Group A: Why did Julie push Bryan away from her? How sure are you?

Group B:

What is one possible explanation for why Julie pushed Bryan away from her?

How likely is this explanation? (How likely is it that \_\_\_\_\_\_, and that is why Julie is yelling at Bryan?) How sure are you?

What is another possible explanation?

How likely is this explanation? (How likely is it that \_\_\_\_\_\_, and that is why Julie is yelling at Bryan?) How sure are you?

Multiple Explanations

Slider – how sure are you?

-> Conditional Probability of actions and emotions

2] Explanation seeking link between emotion and action: Emotion and action contradictory

3] Event description more dramatic and emotion-focused

1. Julie, wearing a pink dress that flows ethereally, has tears in her eyes. She pushes Bryan away from her. She storms out in her glistening heels.

2. Mary’s eyes glisten as she looks up and sees Collin, who is smiling at her. They are hugging tightly.

3. Earlier when the sun was shining beautifully, Kim received her report card with trembling hands. Kim’s new sneakers suffer as she runs speedily with clasped hands.

4. It is early in the morning. Birds are chirping, and the neighborhood is quiet. Jessica’s two children and husband are still sound asleep. Her eyes are wet with tears as round as pearls.