

This survey deals with the **annotation of sentences with a negative sentiment**.

Different Kinds of Sentences

In this survey you have to distinguish between two types of sentences:

An **insulting negative sentence** is an expression which is disrespectful or scornful. An insulting sentence may be accurate, but at the same time abusive, such as the sentence *You are not handsome*.

A (non-insulting) **negative sentence** either contains words that themselves have a negative meaning, or the wording of the sentence makes it clear that it is meant in a negative way. For the purposes of this survey, a negative sentence is also **not insulting**.

Insulting Sentences

The insulting sentences presented in this task are **implicit insults**, which means that they do not contain explicitly insulting words but are still perceived as insults.

Examples are:

- *I am not a big fan of you.*
- *You make watching paint dry an activity to look forward to.*
- *You are no oil painting.*
- *I think the best days are behind you.*
- *I'm guessing the word 'modest' does not exist in your dictionary.*

Negative Sentences

While insulting sentences are a more specific type of negative expressions, for the purposes of this survey we label sentences as negative sentences if they are **negative but not actually insulting**.

Often, this is the case for expressions which point out a negative trait in the addressed person, but are more of a **well-meaning criticism**, or an **expression of concern** on the speaker's part.

Examples are:

- *You could help with the housework.*
- *You have fears in making big decisions.*
- *You take comments too personally.*
- *Not being direct is your expertise.*
- *You'll let anyone get away with their actions.*

Goal of the Survey

Your task is to look at groups of insulting sentences and groups of negative sentences, and identify members that do not belong in a group. Each group is a list of 3-5 sentences. Your task is to look at the given sentences and decide whether each sentence is negative or insulting. Then you look at the whole group and its label to decide whether one of them is "the odd one out", which makes the group **inconsistent**.

This means that in a **group of negative (i.e. non-insulting) sentences**, there might be a **insulting** sentence. An example of an **inconsistent group** would be:

A. You live in fear of losing control. = **negative** and not insulting, because this is some form of well-meant criticism (the speaker thinks that the addressee is too thoughtful and careful with all his actions)

B. You live in fear of failing. = **negative** and not insulting, because this is some form of well-meant criticism (the speaker thinks that the addressee is too focused on making sure (s)he will succeed and not fail at anything in their life)

C. You live in fear of your own shadow. = **insulting**, because the speaker essentially indicates that (s)he thinks that the addressee is a coward.

Sentence C does not belong into the group, because it has a different label.

In a **group of insulting sentences**, there might be a **negative** (non-insulting) sentence. An example of an **inconsistent group** would be:

A. You are good at sitting on the sofa. = **insulting**, because it essentially means that the author thinks the addressee is very lazy

B. You are truly the best at doing nothing. = **insulting**, because it essentially means that the author thinks the addressee is very lazy

C. I wish you were a bit more productive in these meetings. = **negative** (non-insulting), because this is some constructive criticism (the author wants to make the addressee aware that (s)he should improve in future meetings; unlike the above two utterances there is no form of generalization accusing the addressee of being always lazy)

Sentence C does not belong into the group, because it has a different label.

It is also possible that you think all members of a group belong together under the same label, because they are **all negative** sentences or **all insulting** sentences. In this

case, **the group is consistent and you can select NONE** when you are asked if there is a sentence that does not belong to the rest of the group.

We also ask you to label the whole group as either insulting sentences or negative sentences. If you have identified a sentence that does not fit, then disregard it when labelling the whole group.

Helpful Hints:

The only thing that matters for deciding if a **group is consistent** is whether **all members are insulting**, or **all members are negative** sentences. It does not matter how similar or dissimilar the words used in the group are.

For example:

A. You're unnecessarily critical.

B. You do not have to be so strict with the children.

C. You don't have to be so confrontational all the time.

This group is consistent, even though the sentences contain different words, they all address the same thought. They ask the addressee to be a bit more lenient. **All sentences are negative. None of them are insulting.**

Another example:

A. You have testosterone coming out your ears.

B. You really do love to display your masculine characteristics.

C. You have obviously prioritised strength over intelligence.

This group is also consistent, even though the sentences A, B and C use very different words but they all imply that the addressee is a macho. **All sentences are insulting. None of them are negative.**