

Detect Emotion in Tweets (Valence, Gun)

Full instruction

Qualification

If you finish this training module with a passing score, you will be qualified to complete HITs posted by the requester “zhlei” with the title, “Identify Positive/Negative Emotion in English Tweets”.

Task

You will be presented with a group of four randomly selected tweets that are relevant to significant social issues in the US (e.g., gun, immigration, abortion, climate change, or same-sex marriage). Your task is to select two tweets out of the four; one tweet is associated with the most positive emotion, and the other is associated with the least positive (most negative) emotion. And, you will rate how confident you are for the decisions you made.

Emotion in Text

To give you some background knowledge, a written or spoken text message (e.g., a tweet, an argumentative statement, a public speech) is often associated with certain emotions, and the associated emotions can range from the most to the least positive. At one end, it is happiness, pleasure, satisfaction, contentedness, hopefulness, positiveness, or other positive feelings. At the other end, it is unhappiness, annoyance, dissatisfaction, melancholy, despair, negativity, or other negative feelings.

Examples:

- A tweet associated with positive emotion (referred to as a **positive tweet** hereafter):

“I am proud to join my colleagues & local leaders in solidarity and against hate. And to put an end to gun violence. [PHOTO]”

This tweet expresses the feeling of being “proud”, which is a positive emotion.

- A tweet associated with negative emotion (referred to as a **negative tweet** hereafter):

“It's like you have to be stupid to be a politician. They think gun control is going to stop these killings. Killers don't buy guns legally.”

This tweet expresses negativeness towards certain politicians.

The specific task in each HIT:

For each HIT, you will be presented with a group of four tweets and you will have to answer the following 4 questions:

Q1: Which of the four tweets is associated with the **MOST positiveness** / happiness/ pleasure / satisfaction / contentedness / hopefulness OR LEAST negativeness/unhappiness / annoyance / dissatisfaction/ melancholy / despair.

Q2: How confident are you in your answer to Q1? Rate your confidence level:
Low / Medium / High

Q3: Which of the four tweets is associated with the **LEAST positiveness** / happiness/ pleasure / satisfaction / contentedness / hopefulness OR MOST negativeness/unhappiness / annoyance / dissatisfaction/ melancholy / despair.

Q4: How confident are you in your answer to Q3? Rate your confidence level:
Low / Medium / High

- For Q1 & Q3, you select the tweet that is associated with the most positive and then the most negative emotion.

You may encounter these two types of tweets below, in which you do not detect an associated emotion or you detect mixed emotions. In such cases, please follow the instructions below:

- ☐ No emotion associated (neither positive nor negative)

Some tweet expressions may not be associated with either positive or negative emotion; the tweet could be a statement or an argument that reads neutral to you (referred to as a **neutral tweet** hereafter). In such a

case, neutral tweets will have lower positiveness than positive tweets *and* higher positiveness than negative tweets.

An example of a neutral tweet:

“Boston Globe editorial on gun control: Ban assault weapons. [LINK] via @BostonGlobe”

❑ Mixed emotions

In some tweets, you may find both positive and negative emotions. In such a case, please determine whether the dominant emotion is positive or negative, and rate only based on the dominant emotion. Also note that the emotions will NOT be neutral - positive and negative feelings do not cancel out each other. Therefore, the tweet should not be considered as neutral.

- For Q2 & Q4, your confidence level may vary depending on how explicit the tweet authors express their emotions. When the expression is direct and obvious, you may have higher confidence; when the emotion is less explicit and more suggestive, you may have lower confidence.

It is important that you read each tweet carefully, and that you determine your answers by the criteria outlined above.

Also, knowing some basics regarding how to read and interpret a tweet text is important. We highlight two principles here: Read all the information as a whole, and read from the Twitter user’s perspective.

Two principles to read tweets overall

1. Read all the information as a whole: Read all the sentences and expressions (e.g., hashtags, emojis, punctuations, other creative expressions of using words/characters/symbols) as a whole. Make sure you know how to interpret the following three types of information:

- #Hashtag

A tweet may have #Hashtag. You should take hashtags as a part of the tweet content. Usually, hashtags situate the tweet discussion in relevant contexts and may be used to express a particular idea, claim, or slogan that calls to action.

- @Username: mention or reply to another Twitter user

If you see a tweet that contains @Username, this means that this tweet is in conversation with another Twitter user with this Username. Some of the usernames belong to a public figure and can be recognized (e.g., @realDonaldTrump is the president Donald Trump; @repXXX refers to representatives; @senateXXX refers to senators). You have to pay attention to @Username, in order to know the tweet, in some cases, is in conversation with specific people. It may be critical for you to determine how the tweet is associated with emotions.

- Embedded contents

A tweet may include multimedia content (e.g., photos, videos, etc.) or a URL linking to external information (e.g., news articles, blogs, etc.). In this task, you will not see and do not need to see these multimedia contents. You will only focus on the text presented, and determine how a tweet is associated with emotions solely based on the present text. To help you focus on the text, we have replaced these multimedia contents with these symbols: “[PHOTO],” “[VIDEO],” or “[LINK].”

2. Read the text from the Tweet author's perspective

You decide how the tweet is associated with emotion from the Tweet author's perspective, not from the perspective of readers or yourself. It has nothing to do with whether you agree or disagree with the tweet content as well as how you respond to the content emotionally. For example, you may not agree with what a tweet said and feel unhappy about the tweet author's opinion; however, in the tweet itself, the tweet author expresses a happy emotion about something he enjoys or likes. In such a case, you should determine that this is a positive tweet.

Training module

Training Part 1

This part includes eight practice questions to help you better understand the nature of the task. Your answers will NOT be scored.

Please read the four tweets presented below, and answer the following questions.

Q1: Which of the four tweets is associated with the **MOST positiveness** / happiness/ pleasure / satisfaction / contentedness / hopefulness OR LEAST unhappiness / annoyance / negativeness / dissatisfaction/ melancholy / despair.

Q2: How confident are you in your answer to Q1? Rate your confidence level:
Low / Medium / High

Q3: Which of the four tweets is associated with the **LEAST positiveness** / happiness/ pleasure / satisfaction / contentedness / hopefulness OR MOST negativeness/unhappiness / annoyance / dissatisfaction/ melancholy / despair.

Q4: How confident are you in your answer to Q3? Rate your confidence level:
Low / Medium / High

Training Part 2

To receive the qualification for “Identify Positive/Negative Emotion in English Tweets”, you must answer at least seven out of eight tweets correctly. Only Q1 and Q3 will be scored. Q2 and Q4 that ask about your confidence level regarding your answers in Q1 and Q3 will not be scored. However, it is important for us to interpret your answers better, so please rate it carefully based on your confidence level for each answer.

Please read the four tweets presented below, and answer the following questions.

Q1: Which of the four tweets is associated with the **MOST positiveness** / happiness/ pleasure / satisfaction / contentedness / hopefulness OR LEAST unhappiness / annoyance / negativeness / dissatisfaction/ melancholy / despair.

Q2: How confident are you in your answer to Q1? Rate your confidence level:
Low / Medium / High

Q3: Which of the four tweets is associated with the **LEAST positiveness** / happiness/ pleasure / satisfaction / contentedness / hopefulness OR MOST negativeness/unhappiness / annoyance / dissatisfaction/ melancholy / despair.

Q4: How confident are you in your answer to Q3? Rate your confidence level:
Low / Medium / High