

Figurative or Literal?: Annotation Study

Thank you for participating in our small annotation study.
We appreciate your time and effort very much!

What do you have to do?

- **Info and Consent:** Please read the information on the purpose of this study and decide if you want to participate by declaring your consent.
- **Annotation:** The study consists of one task. We have a small introduction with examples. Then, we kindly ask you to annotate a set of sentences for each task in a separate online table. You will be guided through everything, so no worries :)

How long will the annotation study take?

Depending on your pace, the task should take 3 to 5 hours.

How much will you be paid?

We pay the (German) legal minimum wage of 12EUR an hour. Please keep track of your time spent on the task. Once you are done, we kindly ask you to provide us with 1) the number of hours you spent on the task, 2) your full name, 3) your full bank information. We will transfer the payment and ask you to sign a proof of payment once you have received the money.

You're somehow lost?

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us by email:
prisca.piccirilli@ims.uni-stuttgart.de

Thanks again and have fun!

Information on and Declaration of Consent

You will be asked to take part in a research study. Before you decide to take part in this study, it is important that you understand why the study is being done and what it involves. Please read the following information carefully. Please ask the researchers if you are unclear about anything or if you need more information.

Project title: Judging figurativeness/literalness in short phrases

Researchers: Prisca Piccirilli (Principal Investigators: Sabine Schulte im Walde and Alexander Fraser)

Institute: Institute for Natural Language Processing (IMS)

University: University of Stuttgart

Contact: prisca.piccirilli@ims.uni-stuttgart.de

Address: Pfaffenwaldring 5B, 70569 Stuttgart, Germany

Description of the research study: In this project, we are interested in annotating whether French phrases are figurative or literal.

Purpose of the research study: The gold standard annotations will be used as training data for modeling the detection of figurative language.

Time required: Your participation will take up to an estimated 3 to 5h, depending on your pace. The time required may vary on an individual basis.

Risks and benefits: There are no known risks associated with participation in this study. There are no benefits associated with participation. You may refuse to answer any or all of the questions and may terminate your participation at any time if you wish.

Paid participation: Your participation in this study is paid. It is your decision whether or not to participate in this study. If you decide to participate in this study, you will be asked to confirm this consent form ("I agree."). Even after signing the consent form, you can withdraw from participation at any time and without giving any reason. Withdrawing from this study will not affect the relationship you may have with the researcher(s). If you withdraw from the study before data collection is complete, your data will be returned to you or destroyed, but payment will not be proceeded.

Confidentiality: Your responses to this experiment will be anonymous. Please do not share any information that can be used to identify you. The researcher(s) will make every effort to maintain your confidentiality.

Contact: If at any time you have questions about this study or would like to report any adverse effects due to this study, please contact the researcher(s).

Annotation Guidelines

You will evaluate **whether phrases in French are figurative or literal**.

What is figurative language?

As opposed to **literal** language, whose interpretation does not deviate from the word's defined and most frequent senses, the meaning of a **figurative** phrase is not simply composed of the common meanings of its components: its surface form and its underlying semantics do not directly correspond to each other.

This is for example very clear when a phrase is an **idiom**: "*It's raining cats and dogs*".

This can be a bit more subtle when dealing with other forms of figurative language, such as **metaphors**, when one concept is viewed in terms of the properties of another: "*Let's kill the process*", where the computational process is viewed as a living being.

A **figurative** word/phrase can be recognized if it represents a **violation of selectional preference** in a given context: e.g., the verb "drink" normally requires a grammatical subject of type ANIMATE and a grammatical object of type LIQUID, as in (1a). As a result, "drink" taking a "car" as a subject in (1b) is an anomaly, indicative a figurative use of the verb.

(1) a. "She *drinks* tea".

b. "My car *drinks* gasoline" (Wilks, 1978)

Your task:

- You will be given a list of French phrases. For each phrase, you will judge whether it is figurative or literal. Note that there is no ambiguity, i.e., each phrase has **only one interpretation** (figurative or literal).
- The phrases might not be as clear-cut as in the example (1). Do your best to make a judgement, based on the intuition you get from the explanation given above. There is no "right" or "wrong" answer!
- You can make use of whatever external resource you think might be helpful, e.g., dictionaries, etc.
- The phrase context (minimum two words) should be enough to emit a judgement. However, for each phrase, we provide one sentence containing the phrase, in case it helps you make a final decision.
- Do not leave any blank: always provide a judgement, i.e., Figurative or Literal

We provide an example below (Note that this is a random annotation):

Phrases	Figurative or Literal?	Sentences
contracter maladie	Figurative	Si l' un des animaux contracte la maladie , pourquoi faut -il abattre tout le troupeau ?
poursuivre remarque	Figurative	Pouvez -vous répondre à ma question avant que je ne poursuive mes remarques ?
remédier à situation	Literal	Espérons que ce rapport , ainsi que la directive sur l' emploi , permettront de remédier à cette situation .