Multi-Doc Summarization COVID-19

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Overview

1. Extract sentences that contain the theme.
2. Remove redundant sentences. Before, I would check 2 sentences for redundancy at a time, but now I mark all sentences that are very similar to each other and then select the most quality sentence out of all of them.
3. Organize sentences by location.
4. Order sentences by time.
5. Include previous and/or subsequent sentences from the original article that may not contain a time or location, but have the same theme. Will help make the summary more coherent and complete.

Initial Summary of 'Symptom'

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 1  CHINA:
 2  2020-01-22 00:00:00 " Health officials stress precautions for travellers to  prevent infection while in China, such as staying away from animal markets,
    washing hands, observing cough hygiene, not coming into contact with sick people and telling health-care providers about their travel if flu-like symptoms
    occur.
 3  2020-02-03 00:00:00 Dr. Barbara Yaffe says most cases under investigation meet the case definition, which says that the person would have been in Hubei
    province within the past 14 days and have a fever or a cough.
 4
 5  CANADA:
 6  2020-04-06 00:00:00 " A government of New Brunswick infographic lists only three symptoms of COVID-19: cough, difficulty breathing and fever.
 7  2020-04-21 00:00:00 Alberta, on the other hand, makes testing available to anyone showing symptoms of the virus — cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny
    noses and sore throats.
 8
 9  ITALY:
10  2020-02-26 00:00:00 The health ministry had determined that people with fever and flu symptoms returning from Italy and six other countries should be
    considered suspected cases.
11
12  BRAZIL:
13  2020-02-26 00:00:00 According to Brazil's health ministry, the man began to show symptoms compatible with the illness, such as a dry cough, throat pain and
    flu symptoms.
14
15  BAHRAIN:
16  2020-04-20 00:00:00 A South Korean businessman returned then from a trip to Bahrain and quickly developed a cough and fever.
17
18  UNITED STATES:
19  2020-03-13 00:00:00 0:51 \"We didn't want to stay in New York [and] be unable to come back and maybe get sick.\" Still, just days after returning from the
    U.S. on March 13, Levesque began to feel unwell, having developed a mild fever, as well as nausea, a cough and muscle pain.
20
21  GERMANY:
22  2020-02-04 00:00:00 The woman had \"mild, unspecific symptoms\" while in Germany and took medication to reduce a fever, said Marieke Degen, a spokesperson
    for Germany's public health agency, the Robert Koch Institute (RKI), in an email to CBC News.
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'Symptom' Summary after Including Surrounding Sentences

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1   CANADA:
2   2020-04-06 00:00:00  " \"I didn't have the fever, I didn't have shortness of breath, I didn't have the coughing,\" she said. " A
    government of New Brunswick infographic lists only three symptoms of COVID-19: cough, difficulty breathing and fever.
3   2020-04-21 00:00:00  Alberta, on the other hand, makes testing available to anyone showing symptoms of the virus — cough, fever,
    shortness of breath, runny noses and sore throats.
4
5   CHINA:
6   2020-01-22 00:00:00  " Additional signs at airports in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver will remind passengers to speak to border
    officials if they have flu-like symptoms such as fever and cough.   the man in his 30s did not have symptoms when he arrived and was in
    good condition, so he wouldn't be picked up in a check for fever. Rather, when the man started feeling ill, he went to a doctor, with a
    fever and cough. " Health officials stress precautions for travellers to  prevent infection while in China, such as staying away from
    animal markets, washing hands, observing cough hygiene, not coming into contact with sick people and telling health-care providers
    about their travel if flu-like symptoms occur.
7
8   ITALY:
9   2020-02-26 00:00:00  The health ministry had determined that people with fever and flu symptoms returning from Italy and six other
    countries should be considered suspected cases. According to Brazil's health ministry, the man began to show symptoms compatible with
    the illness, such as a dry cough, throat pain and flu symptoms.
10
11  BRAZIL:
12  2020-02-26 00:00:00  According to Brazil's health ministry, the man began to show symptoms compatible with the illness, such as a dry
    cough, throat pain and flu symptoms. The health ministry had determined that people with fever and flu symptoms returning from Italy
    and six other countries should be considered suspected cases.
13
14  BAHRAIN:
15  2020-04-20 00:00:00  A South Korean businessman returned then from a trip to Bahrain and quickly developed a cough and fever.
16
17  UNITED STATES:
18  2020-03-13 00:00:00  0:51 \"We didn't want to stay in New York [and] be unable to come back and maybe get sick.\" Still, just days
    after returning from the U.S. on March 13, Levesque began to feel unwell, having developed a mild fever, as well as nausea, a cough and
    muscle pain. Still, one symptom stands out in his mind: COVID-19 took away both Levesque's and his wife's sense of smell and taste.
    \"And my wife, even [after] she tested negative practically two months from the beginning of her symptoms, she can't smell or taste food
19
20  GERMANY:
21  2020-02-04 00:00:00  The woman had \"mild, unspecific symptoms\" while in Germany and took medication to reduce a fever, said Marieke
    Degen, a spokesperson for Germany's public health agency, the Robert Koch Institute (RKI), in an email to CBC News.
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Initial Summary of 'Economy'

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 1  GERMANY:
 2  2020-04-14 00:00:00 1:08 Gopinath said the cumulative loss to the global gross domestic product, the broadest gauge of economic output, could amount to $9
    trillion — more than the economies of Germany and Japan combined.
 3  2020-04-20 00:00:00 Some shops are reopening in much of Germany as Europe's biggest economy takes its first tentative step toward restarting public life
    after a four-week shutdown.
 4  2020-04-29 00:00:00 Altmaier told reporters in Berlin, presenting the government's updated growth forecast for Europe's largest economy.
 5
 6  ITALY:
 7  2020-04-10 00:00:00 In Italy, the industrial lobbies in regions representing 45 per cent of its economic output urged the government to ease its two-week
    lockdown on all non-essential manufacturing, saying the country \"risks definitively shutting down its own motor, and every day that passes the risk grows
    not to be able to restart it.\" The head of the World Health Organization, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, warned that a premature lifting of restrictions
    could \"lead to a deadly resurgence.\
 8  2020-04-30 00:00:00 Italy has registered 27,967 coronavirus deaths, the highest tally in Europe, and has introduced some of the world's toughest lockdown
    measures, which look certain to tip the fragile economy into a deep recession.
 9
10  UNITED STATES:
11  2018-09-10 00:00:00 Tensions between Washington and Tehran have been high since 2018, when President Donald Trump withdrew the U.S. from Iran's nuclear
    agreement with world powers, and imposed sanctions that have forced Iran's economy into recession.
12  2020-04-16 00:00:00 " said Elise Gould, a senior economist at the Economic Policy Institute in Washington,
13
14  GEORGIA:
15  2020-04-30 00:00:00 Many states, including Georgia, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Ohio, have already moved to restart parts of their economies following
    weeks of mandatory lockdowns that have thrown nearly one in six American workers out of their jobs.
16
17  JAPAN:
18  2020-04-06 00:00:00 The economic package — which amounts to about 20 per cent of the GDP of Japan, the world's third-largest economy — will pay out 300,000
    yen ($3,890 Cdn) to each household with severe income loss due to the outbreak, and will include 26 trillion yen ($337 billion Cdn) to address delays in
    taxes and social welfare payments, Abe said.
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'Economy' Summary after Including Surrounding Sentences

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1   GERMANY:
2   2020-04-14 00:00:00  1:08 Gopinath said the cumulative loss to the global gross domestic product, the broadest gauge of economic output, could amount to $9
    trillion — more than the economies of Germany and Japan combined. In its previous forecast in January, before COVID-19 emerged as a grave threat to public
    health and economic growth worldwide, the international lending organization had forecast moderate global growth of 3.3 per cent this year. The outlook for
    Canada calls for a contraction of 6.2 per cent this year followed by growth of 4.2 per cent in 2021. — before rebounding in 2021 with 5.8 per cent growth.
    The IMF's twice-yearly World Economic Outlook was prepared for this week's spring meetings of the 189-nation IMF and its sister lending organization, the
    World Bank. In its latest outlook, the IMF expects economic contractions this year of:  5.9 per cent in the United States.
3   2020-04-20 00:00:00  Some shops are reopening in much of Germany as Europe's biggest economy takes its first tentative step toward restarting public life
    after a four-week shutdown. The German economy is in a severe recession and recovery is unlikely to be quick, as many coronavirus-related restrictions
    could stay in place for an extended period, the Bundesbank said in a regular monthly economic report on Monday. 3:24 Japan boosted its new economic
    stimulus package on Monday to a record $1.1 trillion US to expand cash payouts to its citizens, as the fallout from the coronavirus pandemic threatens to
    push the world's third-largest economy deeper into recession.
4
5   ITALY:
6   2020-04-10 00:00:00  In Italy, the industrial lobbies in regions representing 45 per cent of its economic output urged the government to ease its two-week
    lockdown on all non-essential manufacturing, saying the country \"risks definitively shutting down its own motor, and every day that passes the risk grows
    not to be able to restart it.\" The head of the World Health Organization, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, warned that a premature lifting of restrictions
    could \"lead to a deadly resurgence.\ War-torn Yemen confirms 1st coronavirus case; braces for outbreak South Korea reports recovered coronavirus patients
    testing positive again  China's Wuhan city, where the pandemic began, is still testing residents regularly despite relaxing its tough two-month lockdown,
    with the country wary of a rebound as it sets its sights on normalizing the economy.
7   2020-04-30 00:00:00  Italy has registered 27,967 coronavirus deaths, the highest tally in Europe, and has introduced some of the world's toughest lockdown
    measures, which look certain to tip the fragile economy into a deep recession. Conte said a new stimulus package to support the economy, due to be
    presented in a few days, would include 15 billion euros ($22.8 billion Cdn) for companies and 25 billion ($38 billion Cdn) directly for payroll workers and
    the self-employed.
8
9   UNITED STATES:
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    agreement with world powers, and imposed sanctions that have forced Iran's economy into recession.
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16  JAPAN:
17  2020-04-06 00:00:00  The economic package — which amounts to about 20 per cent of the GDP of Japan, the world's third-largest economy — will pay out
    300,000 yen ($3,890 Cdn) to each household with severe income loss due to the outbreak, and will include 26 trillion yen ($337 billion Cdn) to address
    delays in taxes and social welfare payments, Abe said. Abe also told reporters Monday that his government will launch a 108 trillion yen ($1.4 trillion
    Cdn) stimulus package — Japan's largest ever — to help counter the economic impact of the pandemic, including cash payouts to households in need and
    financial support to protect businesses and jobs.
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Question about Redundancies

Right now, I am removing redundant sentences before organizing the summary by location and time and also before including relevant previous and subsequent sentences. Should I instead remove redundant sentences after the step of extending to surrounding sentences, as then I can select the sentence that provides the most additional information (the greatest amount of surrounding sentences)?