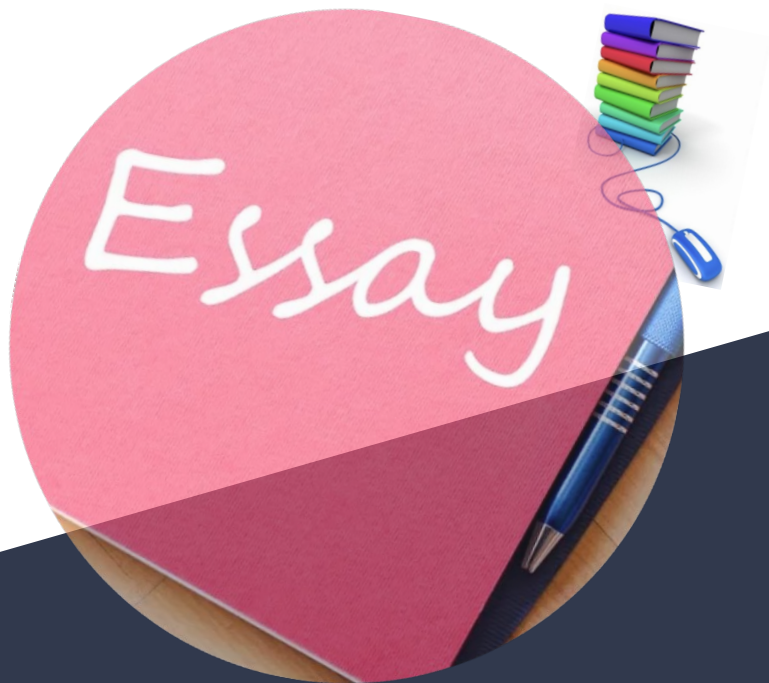




# Improve Your English Essay with AI



**W266 NLP with DL**

University of California, Berkeley

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# Agenda



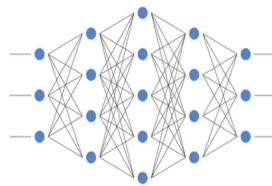
Motivation



Dataset



Approaches



Results

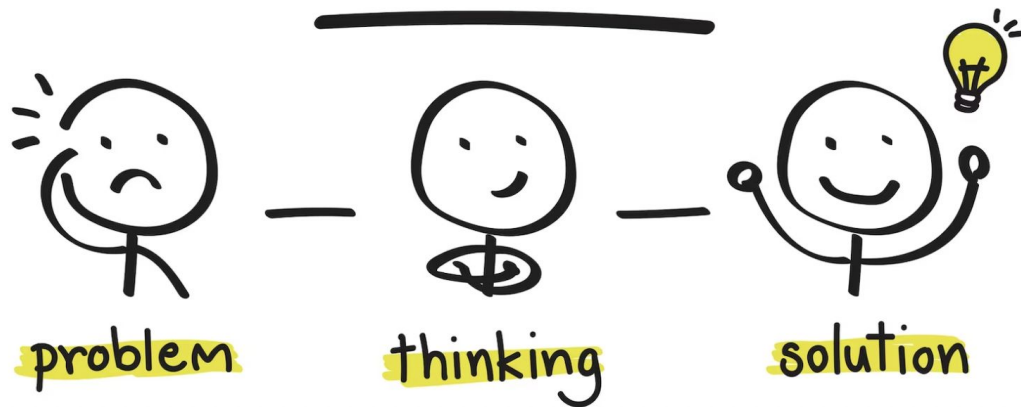


Conclusion &  
Future Work



# Motivation

## IDEAS





# Dataset



The dataset presented here (the **ELLIPSE corpus**) comprises argumentative **essays written by 8th-12th grade English Language Learners (ELLs)**. We have 3911 essays which have been scored according to six analytic measures: **cohesion, syntax, vocabulary, phraseology, grammar, and conventions**.

Each measure represents a component of proficiency in essay writing, with greater scores corresponding to greater proficiency in that measure. The scores **range from 1.0 to 5.0 in increments of 0.5**.



# Approaches

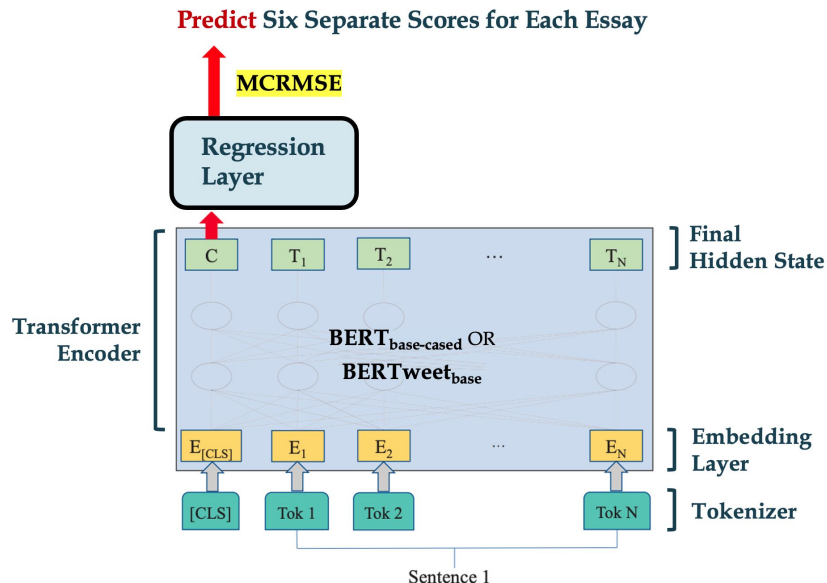


- Transformer based language models (BERT base-cased and BERTweet base)
- Number of frozen and unfrozen layers
- Clustering
- Stratified Sampling

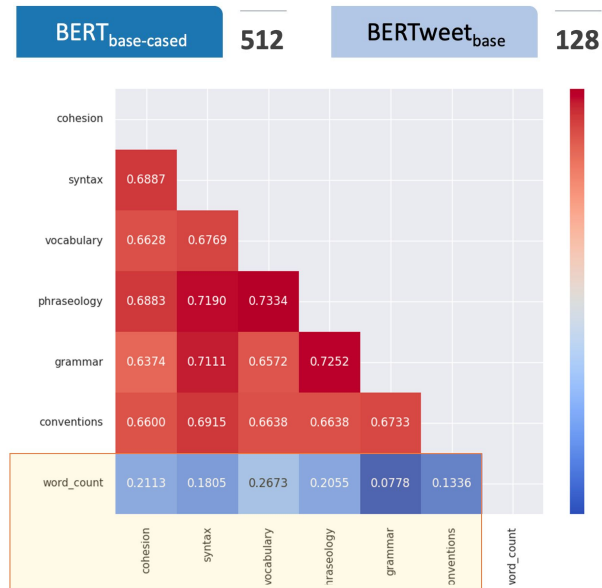


# Model - Architecture & Token Length

## Model Architecture

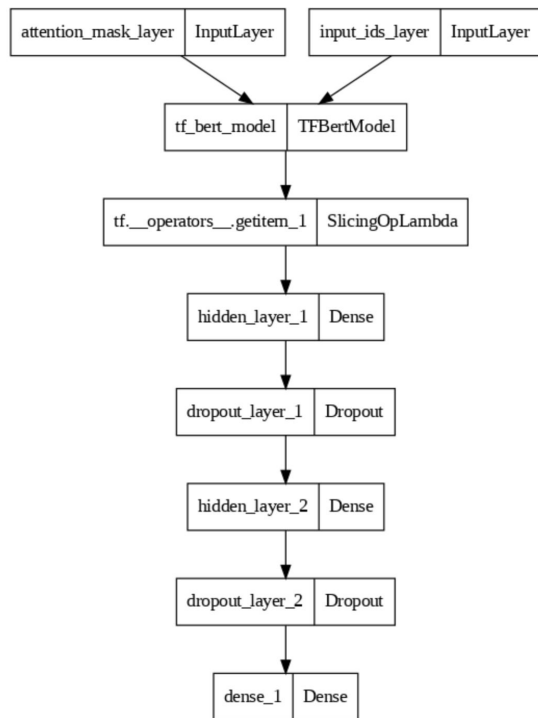


## Input Token Length at Max





# Model - Best Model



## Best Set of Parameters from Training BERT<sub>base-cased</sub>

Test MCRMSE	Trainable Layers	Learning Rate	Hidden Layers	Hidden Units	Batch Size	Dropout	Epochs
0.4590	12	0.00001	2	64	8	0.1	10

## Hyper Parameter Tuning

01	Learning Rate [5e-4, 1e-4, 5e-5, 1e-5]	04	Dropout Rate [0.1, 0.2, 0.3]
02	Hidden Layer [1, 2]	05	Batch Size [8, 16]
03	Hidden Units [64, 128, 256]	06	Trainable Layers [min=0, max=12, step=2]



# Results - BERT<sub>base-cased</sub> VS. BERT<sub>weetbase</sub>



## Adjusted MCRMSE Scores

	BERT <sub>base-cased</sub>	BERT <sub>weetbase</sub>
0 trainable layers	0.6350 <small>Baseline</small>	0.6549
6 trainable layers	0.6271	0.6224
12 trainable layers	0.5254	0.5536

## BERT<sub>base-cased</sub>

% of Test Dataset Records that were *Correctly*  
Predicted Per Analytic Measure (Score within 0.5)

	0 trainable layers	6 trainable layers	12 trainable layers
Cohesion	29.8% (75.9%) <small>Baseline</small>	30.0% (75.7%)	33.8% (83.7%)
Syntax	34.1% (76.8%) <small>Baseline</small>	33.2% (77.4%)	37.8% (84.7%)
Vocabulary	37.5% (82.1%) <small>Baseline</small>	39.0% (83.3%)	44.2% (89.8%)
Phraseology	31.3% (78.2%) <small>Baseline</small>	32.7% (79.6%)	44.1% (88.8%)
Grammar	27.7% (74.2%) <small>Baseline</small>	27.8% (72.0%)	33.5% (81.2%)
Conventions	31.7% (72.8%) <small>Baseline</small>	29.9% (74.5%)	38.1% (87.5%)

## BERT<sub>weetbase</sub>

% of Test Dataset Records that were *Correctly*  
Predicted Per Analytic Measure (Score within 0.5)

	0 trainable layers	6 trainable layers	12 trainable layers
Cohesion	27.3% (72.7%)	29.4% (75.6%)	35.6% (83.1%)
Syntax	33.5% (73.4%)	33.1% (75.1%)	35.6% (84.0%)
Vocabulary	33.8% (80.2%)	36.5% (85.4%)	39.2% (86.7%)
Phraseology	29.8% (76.5%)	30.4% (79.2%)	35.4% (83.8%)
Grammar	25.0% (70.5%)	27.5% (74.3%)	36.5% (80.3%)
Conventions	30.9% (74.6%)	29.4% (75.0%)	35.6% (87.0%)





# Results - BERT<sub>base-cased</sub> VS. BERT<sub>weetbase</sub>

*Clustering & Stratified Two-Fold Cross Validation*

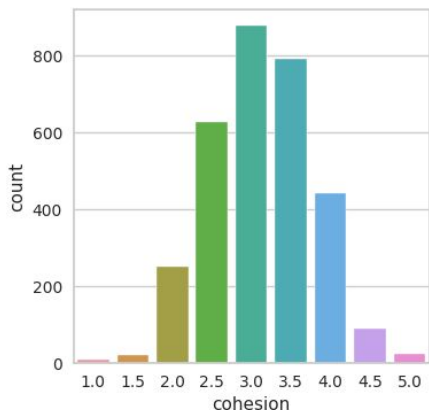
## Adjusted MCRMSE Scores

(6.0-17.0)

(17.5-21.5)

(21.5-30.0)

	BERT <sub>base-cased</sub>	BERT <sub>weetbase</sub>
0 trainable layers	0.6763	0.6907
6 trainable layers	0.6681	0.6688
12 trainable layers	0.6798	0.6652



	BERT <sub>base-cased</sub>			BERT <sub>weetbase</sub>		
	% of Test Dataset Records that were <b>Correctly</b> Predicted Per Analytic Measure (Score within 0.5)			% of Test Dataset Records that were <b>Correctly</b> Predicted Per Analytic Measure (Score within 0.5)		
	0 trainable layers	6 trainable layers	12 trainable layers	0 trainable layers	6 trainable layers	12 trainable layers
Cohesion	28.6% (71.9%)	28.2% (73.9%)	28.4% (73.8%)	28.0% (70.0%)	26.8% (72.7%)	25.4% (72.0%)
Syntax	32.7% (73.9%)	30.0% (73.4%)	30.5% (72.7%)	30.7% (72.4%)	33.1% (72.9%)	32.2% (73.9%)
Vocabulary	36.9% (78.5%)	37.2% (79.2%)	28.4% (80.3%)	31.2% (77.7%)	29.6% (79.6%)	29.6% (81.2%)
Phraseology	30.5% (73.4%)	30.5% (73.2%)	29.0% (73.1%)	27.2% (71.1%)	30.5% (73.3%)	29.6% (73.2%)
Grammar	27.8% (70.0%)	27.3% (71.3%)	24.5% (70.2%)	24.4% (70.8%)	25.8% (70.5%)	24.8% (71.1%)
Conventions	30.8% (71.8%)	30.7% (76.2%)	28.6% (70.4%)	29.1% (71.6%)	30.9% (73.9%)	30.7% (72.4%)



# Conclusion

- With more unfrozen layers, the models were able to learn the training data
- Models struggled to predict extreme scores.
- Clustering through K-Means and K-fold cross validation to account for the lower and higher ends of the scores did not improve model performance



# Future Work

01

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Increase size of the input dataset

02

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Introduce larger versions of BERT and BERT-derived models

03

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Evaluate essays together with key topical information

04

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Explore pre-transformer-based state-of-the-art models as well as models with BERT-based combinations



# References

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- 6.

