

Guidelines for the annotation of opposite statements

The opposite statement must yield the opposite answer in comparison with the original statement. The rule is to change the sentence minimally so that it turn into opposite idea. The negation can't be the same as the opposite. Do not use "not" or "no" in the opposite sentences.

In order of importance, first try to:

1) Modify the verb:

Examples:

- increase ↔ decrease
- promote ↔ limit
- stop ↔ continue
- be promoted ↔ be limited
- introduced ↔ disregarded (e.g. "An hourly minimum wage should be introduced." → "An hourly minimum wage should be disregarded.")
- be allowed ↔ be forbidden
- be granted ↔ be denied/refused
- When the verb doesn't have an opposite (that makes semantic sense in the sentence), we can normalize the verb and add another verb to the sentence such as:
 - construct ↔ cease construction (e.g. "Italy should build more incinerators/thermal power plants." → "Italy should cease to build incinerators/thermal power plants.")

If it's not possible, try to:

2) Modify the adjective:

Examples:

- tough ↔ soft
- necessary ↔ unnecessary
- priority ↔ irrelevant (e.g. "The construction of Major Works is a priority for Italy." → "The construction of Major Works is irrelevant for Italy.")
- benefit ↔ disadvantage
- easy ↔ difficult

If none of the above is possible, create the opposite by having in mind the "minimum modification" rule.

In **exceptional cases**, the supplement sentence must be changed so that the sentence makes semantically meaning. E.g.: The government must increase spending on public health care, even if this means increasing taxes. → The government must decrease spending on public health care so that taxes are not increased.