

Assessing the value of potential claims

In this task you are given a topic and possibly-related statements.

For each candidate, you should select “**Accept**”, if you think that the statement can be used “as is” during discourse, to directly support or contest the given topic. Otherwise, you should select “**Reject**”.

If you selected “Accept”, you should further indicate whether the text supports the topic (“Pro”) or contests it (“Con”).

Note, that if the text is non-coherent, hence cannot be used “as is” during a discussion about the topic, you should select “Reject”.

Similarly, if the marked text supports/contests a *different* topic, even if it is somewhat related to the examined topic, you should typically select “Reject”.

As a rule of thumb, if it is natural to say “I (don’t) think that <topic> is good, because <statement>”, then you should probably select “Accept”. Otherwise you should probably select “Reject”.

Finally, if you are unfamiliar with the examined topic, please briefly read about it in a relevant data source like Wikipedia.

Examples for the topic “banning the sale of violent video games to minors” –

1. “adolescents that play violent video games are most at-risk for violent behavior” — **Accept / Pro**.
2. “kids playing Doom are not at a greater risk for violent behavior” — **Accept / Con**
3. “found that adolescents that play violent video games are at no risk for violent behaviour” — **Reject**. Due to the prefix “found that”, the marked text is not coherent and cannot be used “as is” while discussing the topic.
4. “While violent games are often associated with aggressive behavior” — **Reject**. Due to the prefix “While” the text is not coherent and cannot be used “as is” while discussing the topic.
5. “some TV shows increase youth violence” — **Reject**. The text is not *directly* supporting/contesting the topic.