**Instructions: CYOA Story Causal Rating**

Your task is to read a story and then rate the causal relationship between pairs of events from the story.

**Step1: Read the story**

Text, letter

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Please read through the story in the ‘\_story.docx’ file and have a general idea of what happened in the story.

Read only one story at a time and go to its causal rating. Then, start the next story. Try not to be affected by what you remember from the previous subject's story (this is to avoid rater bias from previous knowledge).

Once finished with reading, proceed to Step3.

**Step2: Rate causality between events**

Now that you have finished reading the story, your next task is to identify **causal relationships** between events in the story.

How can we decide whether two events are causally related or not? In an extremely broad sense, one might say that any event that happened before a target event could be at least partially responsible for the event to happen (e.g., you were born because there was a Big Bang), but this wouldn’t give us very useful information.

So, we want to identify only those event pairs that are more strongly related, and you will need to use your own best judgment to decide whether the causal relationship is strong enough. For example, if we have a movie like below,

*Event 1: Jane orders a crab cake at a restaurant.*

*Event 2: Jane finds a dead fly in her crab cake.*

*Event 3: Jane complains to the manager of the restaurant.*

You may say that there is a causal relationship between Event 2 and Event 3, but not between Event 1 and Event 3. We don’t really have strict rules or criteria, so it is up to your subjective judgment. But please try to keep your criteria as consistent as possible.

In addition, although it is common that there are often stronger causal relations between neighboring events since plots are usually tightly connected (one event leading to the other), there are also times where distant events are causality connected—these long-distance causal relationships could be crucial to building the causal skeleton of the story.

For example, after experiencing dozens of events throughout the day, *Event N: Jane went home and saw a cake, but she felt gross remembering the fly*. Now there’s a long-range causal connection between Event 2 and Event N. Make sure that you **have identified such long-range causal events using the same standard.**

The **‘…\_events.xlsx’** has the story events:

Graphical user interface, text, application, email

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a.     The 2nd column shows the story texts

b.     The 1st column shows the event number for those story texts

The **‘…\_rate-causal.xlsx’** is the causal rating sheet where you need to identify the event pairs that are causally related (i.e. one event causes the other)

Graphical user interface, application, table, Excel

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a.     The 1st column is where you should put down the cause event number

b.     The 2nd column is where you should put down the effect event number

c.     The 3rd column is your reasoning for identifying these events as having a cause-effect relationship

d.     Below is an example to rate causal relations:

Text

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* One event may cause multiple events
  + e.g. see above that event-1 caused both event-2 and event-47.
  + Please do NOT put multiple event numbers in one cell.
  + Please do it the way circled out in the above picture
* One event may be caused BY multiple events
  + e.g. see above that event-9 is caused by both event-6 and 7
  + Please do NOT put multiple event numbers in one cell.
  + Please do it the way circled out in the above picture
* To further stress this: in any of the above cases, please only put an event pair per row as shown in the example.

**Step3: Completion**

Once finished with the ratings, please make sure to save and upload the files.