

Pre-Annotation Guidelines

September 20, 2019

Introduction. Your task is to compare the senses of a particular word in two sets of sentences. For each word, you are asked to decide whether you find clear differences between the two sets, or not.

Task structure. You are provided two ODS table documents per word. Each table provides one set of sentences. One row in each table corresponds to one sentence. The target word is marked in bold font in each sentence. Please read through the sentences in the first table and try to get an overview of the different senses the target word has. Then do the same with the sentences in the second table. Finally, decide whether there are clear sense differences between the two sets of sentences. If you find no such differences, assign the category '0' to the word in the column 'difference' in the targets.csv file (no difference). On the other hand, if you find such differences, assign the category '1'. Such differences may consist of

1. repeated occurrences of word senses in one of the two sets which you do not find in the other set ('occurrence'), or
2. particular word senses occurring in both sets, but with a very different frequency. ('frequency')

Please also indicate which of these two types of differences you find for each word in the respective column of the targets.csv file. Note that the two categories 'occurrence' and 'frequency' are not not exclusive, i.e., you may find both for a particular word.

Historical language data. The sentences were gathered from historical corpora. As language changes over time, words might be used differently from what you are familiar with. If you are unsure about the meaning of a word or construction in a sentence, try to infer it from the meaning of the context.

The sentences may be very short or very long and some may seem ungrammatical. Also, words may be spelled in a different way than you are used to or contain spelling errors stemming from the scanning of documents. Try to ignore these issues; focus only on the meaning of the target words in their contexts.