

# Instructions for Annotators in the Post-Hoc Evaluation of the English Lexical Substitution Task for SemEval

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## 1 An Introduction to the Task

Please note that there is no right or wrong answer. We just want your opinion for each item on this task.

For each test word, we would like you to decide which of the possible candidate substitutes for the test word (if any) preserves the meaning of the sentence as much as possible. The test word is shown in bold in each case. We want you to indicate as many candidates from those available that are "good" and also please indicate any that are reasonable (but not "good"). Those marked good should all be equally as good. i.e. equally the best substitutes from those available. If none of the candidates are good or reasonable then please select "none of the above".

Please don't spend ages on each sentence. You are free to consult a dictionary or thesaurus if it helps, but not another person. If you do consult a dictionary for any of the sentences for a word please tick the dictionary box.

We will now provide some examples and instructions. You can see these instructions again at any point during the task by clicking on the instructions button.

For example:

**Sentence #1:**

Greer Garson was a world-famous **star** of stage, screen and television

**candidate substitutes:**

celebrity	<input type="text" value="good"/>
actor	<input type="text" value="reasonable"/>
actress	<input type="text" value="good"/>
planet	<input type="text" value="good"/>
tower	<input type="text" value="good"/>

None of the above  Used a dictionary

## 2 Using base forms of words

The substitutes are provided in "base form" so it doesn't matter that they might need to be changed to have plural form (for nouns):

**Sentence #2:**

They were world-famous **stars** of stage, screen and television

**candidate substitutes:**

actor	<input type="text" value="good"/>
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or tense (for verbs):

**Sentence #3:**

They **pranced** around the room

**candidate substitutes:**

strut	<input type="text" value="good"/>
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or comparative/superlative form (for adjectives):

**Sentence #4:**

Indian food is **spicier** than Italian.

**candidate substitutes:**

piquant	<input type="text" value="good"/>
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It also doesn't matter if a very minor change would be needed for the sentence

in order to make the new sentence grammatical:

**Sentence #5:**  
Greer Garson was a **star** of stage, screen and television  
**candidate substitutes:**  
actress

(even though "a" would need to be changed to "an").

### 3 Phrases

The candidate substitutes may be a phrase, rather than a single word:

**Sentence #6:**  
The bomb **exploded** without warning  
**candidate substitutes:**  
blow up

### 4 "Reasonable" substitutes

You can use "reasonable" for substitutes that are close in meaning but somewhat more general than the target word.

**Sentence #7:**  
The teacher drew **stars** on the board.  
**candidate substitutes:**  
shape

### 5 Final comments

These "sentences" are automatically collected from the world wide web and some of them won't be well formed in some way or may involve non British dialects. Just mark items with what would best fit the meaning of that sentence. In case you want to highlight a problem, or if you really don't understand how the word in bold

is being used in the sentence, please enter any kind of note in the "comments" box:

Comments:

You can repeat these instructions at any point by clicking on the instructions button. You can see a list of sentences you have completed by clicking on the Summaries button and for any of these sentences, clicking the item number will take you to that item. Please note that the item numbers are not in a given sequence and for reference purposes only.