

Judge Closeness In Meaning (Or Relatedness) Of Pairs Of Common English Words And Phrases

Instructions ^

I. General Instructions

- Attempt these questions only if you are fluent in English.
- Your responses are confidential. Any publications based on these responses will not include your specific responses, but rather aggregate information from many individuals. We will not ask any information that can be used to identify who you are.

II. The Task

Your task is to judge the degree of closeness in meaning (or amount of relatedness) of pairs of English terms (words or phrases). Since it is difficult to give numerical scores of closeness, we ask you to judge which pair of terms is considered closer in meaning by most people. For example, most people will agree that:

- doctor and physician are closer in meaning (or more related to each other) than fish and table
- student and tutor are closer in meaning than student and mother
- piano player and pianist are closer in meaning than piano player and piano
- piano player and pianist are closer in meaning than air show and system

In each instance, you will be given four pairs at a time. Think about the meanings of each of the pairs and answer these questions:

1. Which pair is most close in meaning (or most related)?
2. Which pair is least close in meaning (or least related)?

Notes:

- If in the given set of four pairs, two term pairs are equally close to each other and they are also the most close pairs, then select either one of them as the most related. Similarly, if two equally related pairs are also the least related pairs, then select either one of them as the least related.
- Synonyms (words with identical meanings) are maximally close to each other (or most related).
- Terms that are not synonymous may be close in meaning to different degrees. For example, bank and money are highly related to each other, whereas bank and peace are not very related. Non-synonymous terms that are close in meaning tend to be used together in sentences more often than random chance.
- If a term has more than one meaning, consider that meaning which is closest to the meaning of the other term in the pair. If both terms have multiple meanings, then consider those meanings that are closest to each other.
- The word order in phrases matters. Two phrases with the same words but in different order can be very close in meaning, somewhat related, or unrelated. Thus, judge the relatedness for such phrases after careful consideration of the meanings.
- If you do not know the meaning of a term, check the English Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page)), *Merriam-Webster Dictionary* (<https://www.merriam-webster.com/>) or Cambridge dictionary (<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/>)

III Examples

Example 1:

Q1 Which pair is most close in meaning (or most related)?

- (building block, unit)
- (traffic light, intersection)
- (water quality, health)
- (fantasy world, system)

Answer: (building block, unit)

Q2 Which pair is least close in meaning (or least related)?

- (building block, unit)
- (traffic light, intersection)
- (water quality, health)
- (fantasy world, system)

Answer: (fantasy world, system)

Example 2:

Q1 Which pair is most close in meaning (or most related)?

- (school council, student)
- (west coast, mountain)
- (relevant information, historical data)
- (blue light, light blue)

Answer: (school council, student)

Q2 Which pair is least close in meaning (or least related)?

- (school council, student)
- (west coast, mountain)
- (relevant information, historical data)
- (blue light, light blue)

Answer: (blue light, light blue)

Example 3:

Q1 Which pair is most close in meaning (or most related)?

- (house dog, animal)
- (data processing, execution)
- (jazz band, dance)
- (recording studio, art school)

Answer: (house dog, animal)

Q2 Which pair is least close in meaning (or least related)?

- (house dog, animal)
- (data processing, execution)
- (jazz band, dance)
- (recording studio, art school)

Answer: (recording studio, art school)

Purpose

Your responses will be used to study how people perceive closeness in meaning (or relatedness). Our eventual goal is to build computer systems that automatically predict the relatedness of words and phrases. The data is collected only for research purposes.

Q1 Which pair is MOST CLOSE in meaning (or most related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (inspector general, office)
- ☐ 2. (card game, game card)
- ☐ 3. (standard time, point)
- ☐ 4. (home town, urban centre)

Q2 Which pair is LEAST CLOSE in meaning (or least related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (inspector general, office)
- ☐ 2. (card game, game card)
- ☐ 3. (standard time, point)
- ☐ 4. (home town, urban centre)

Comment (optional):

Q1 Which pair is MOST CLOSE in meaning (or most related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (power reactor, plant)
- ☐ 2. (confidence building, trust relationship)
- ☐ 3. (access service, entry point)
- ☐ 4. (time delay, interval)

Q2 Which pair is LEAST CLOSE in meaning (or least related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (power reactor, plant)
- ☐ 2. (confidence building, trust relationship)
- ☐ 3. (access service, entry point)
- ☐ 4. (time delay, interval)

Comment (optional):

Q1 Which pair is MOST CLOSE in meaning (or most related)? (required)

Q1 Which pair is MOST CLOSE in meaning (or most related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (pilot project, standing committee)
- ☐ 2. (insurance business, guarantee)
- ☐ 3. (home run, solo homer)
- ☐ 4. (confidence building, mutual trust)

Q2 Which pair is LEAST CLOSE in meaning (or least related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (pilot project, standing committee)
- ☐ 2. (insurance business, guarantee)
- ☐ 3. (home run, solo homer)
- ☐ 4. (confidence building, mutual trust)

Comment (optional):

Q1 Which pair is MOST CLOSE in meaning (or most related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (research associate, associate research)
- ☐ 2. (time delay, delay time)
- ☐ 3. (hostage taking, kidnapping)
- ☐ 4. (government official, public employee)

Q2 Which pair is LEAST CLOSE in meaning (or least related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (research associate, associate research)
- ☐ 2. (time delay, delay time)
- ☐ 3. (hostage taking, kidnapping)
- ☐ 4. (government official, public employee)

Comment (optional):

Q1 Which pair is MOST CLOSE in meaning (or most related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (office staff, bureau)
- ☐ 2. (water body, waterway)
- ☐ 3. (information service, work unit)
- ☐ 4. (racing circuit, racetrack)

Q2 Which pair is LEAST CLOSE in meaning (or least related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (office staff, bureau)
- ☐ 2. (water body, waterway)
- ☐ 3. (information service, work unit)
- ☐ 4. (racing circuit, racetrack)

Comment (optional):

Q1 Which pair is MOST CLOSE in meaning (or most related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (sales volume, total revenue)
- ☐ 2. (community building, business development)
- ☐ 3. (vacant position, acting)
- ☐ 4. (personnel management, system)

Q2 Which pair is LEAST CLOSE in meaning (or least related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (sales volume, total revenue)
- ☐ 2. (community building, business development)
- ☐ 3. (vacant position, acting)
- ☐ 4. (personnel management, system)

Comment (optional):

Q1 Which pair is MOST CLOSE in meaning (or most related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (community college, centre)
- ☐ 2. (radio frequency, spectrum management)
- ☐ 3. (subject area, development)
- ☐ 4. (raising awareness, public understanding)

Q2 Which pair is LEAST CLOSE in meaning (or least related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (community college, centre)
- ☐ 2. (radio frequency, spectrum management)
- ☐ 3. (subject area, development)
- ☐ 4. (raising awareness, public understanding)

Comment (optional):

Q1 Which pair is MOST CLOSE in meaning (or most related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (board game, parlor game)
- ☐ 2. (data access, survey)
- ☐ 3. (team lead, lead team)
- ☐ 4. (gathering data, information)

Q2 Which pair is LEAST CLOSE in meaning (or least related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (board game, parlor game)
- ☐ 2. (data access, survey)
- ☐ 3. (team lead, lead team)
- ☐ 4. (gathering data, information)

Comment (optional):

Q1 Which pair is MOST CLOSE in meaning (or most related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (subject area, allometry)
- ☐ 2. (ground level, grass root)
- ☐ 3. (hard working, work force)
- ☐ 4. (glass fibre, fiber)

Q2 Which pair is LEAST CLOSE in meaning (or least related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (subject area, allometry)
- ☐ 2. (ground level, grass root)
- ☐ 3. (hard working, work force)
- ☐ 4. (glass fibre, fiber)

Comment (optional):

Q1 Which pair is MOST CLOSE in meaning (or most related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (trading company, commercial)
- ☐ 2. (soil surface, land)
- ☐ 3. (radio station, treatment plant)
- ☐ 4. (radio frequency, spectrum management)

☐ 4. (inspector general, deputy minister)

Q2 Which pair is LEAST CLOSE in meaning (or least related)? (required)

- ☐ 1. (trading company, commercial)
- ☐ 2. (soil surface, land)
- ☐ 3. (radio station, treatment plant)
- ☐ 4. (inspector general, deputy minister)

Comment (optional):

Test Validators