

# Genericity Annotation Corpus

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## Abstract

This annotation corpus contains 50 marked noun phrases for the annotation of genericity. Each phrase is shown in the context of a paragraph. There are 12 paragraphs in all, corresponding to different genres and domains. Unless otherwise stated, the text was taken from the British National Corpus.

**A7A. Imaginative** 1[The Youth Club of the Paris Commune] as it was officially known, or the "Paree" at its more irreverent members called it, was 2[a gimcrack affair], 3[cracked concrete] and cheap plastic panels, tucked beside 4[the inevitable block of flats], and a health centre, but it was well equipped: 5[table tennis], television, a library, a concert room, a rather more substantial annexe for weight lifting, the hall which doubled up for 6[meetings of the Free German Youth] and dancing, and a comfortable lounge where one could buy 7[coffee] and soft drinks.

**A0G. Natural Sciences** 8[Flowers] will look at their best if bulbs are placed close together in the bowl, but they must not touch each other. The fibre or compost should be well moistened before use. It should be damp enough to hold together when squeezed in 9[the hand], but not so wet that water still runs out through the fingers. Place the bulbs on the layer of fibre, then work in and gently firm more fibre around them. Large bulbs should be only half-buried; with smaller ones, the tips should be just below the compost surface.

**A0V. Leisure** "Make no mistake, 10[money] is now a cancer in 11[the game]. Our game really is in danger of dying from too much of it. You cannot blame 12[a brilliant young player] who takes, say, the \$200,000 he or she is offered, to play just for one night but it inevitably gives them a totally false impression of life and what their tennis priorities ought to be. But when you have a situation where youngsters of 12 or 13 – and in some cases even younger – who may only have won 13[a couple of matches], are being offered \$500,000 guarantees to sign up with 14[one of the management companies] before they are snapped up by one of the rival agents, the potential for long-term damage is enormous."

**A18. Arts** This is an important aspect of the process I have called his working his way backwards into the Nineteenth Century. 15[Crime and Punishment] takes its place in the perfectly obvious and open fashion among the international classics of naturalism (or realism), and it is the first of his novels to do so: the earlier and great book *The House of the Dead* walks so close beside 16[personal history] as to rule itself out in this connection; formerly it is a freak, so I argued, 17[a quasi-novel]; and as regards fact and fiction, since he's recounting not "prophesying events", 18[Dostoyevsky] cannot have found much in the *Dead House* to get excited about.

**A1F. World Affairs (editorials)** Neil Kinnock and the party he leads are looking better than they have done at any time since he took 19[office] in 1983. There will be 20[a ritual rebellion] in Brighton from the Transport and General Workers Union over Labour's belated renunciation of unilateral nuclear disarmament. But Ron Todd, the union's general secretary, is expected to concede defeat gracefully. Even if 21[other antinuclear fundamentalists] threaten to fight, fight and fight again, Mr Kinnock need have no fear. The more firmly he tells them and the country that, as Prime Minister, he and not they will rule, the more likely it is that he will eventually reach Downing Street.

**A1G. World Affairs (foreign news)** The Ethiopian army, the biggest in sub-Saharan Africa, consists largely of press-ganged young peasants or 22[unemployed urban teenagers] who have been drafted to the front after 23[a few weeks' training]. At the end of a spectacularly successful year, the TPLF drove the Ethiopian army out of Tigray province in February. 24[Few people] thought the Tigrayans could continue their success outside their own province, but on 26 August the TPLF began an advance which drove the government forces out of Korem and Kobo. Three weeks ago, the 102nd Airborne Division, Russian-trained and regarded as a crack unit, was rushed from its base at Asmara to the front line, but it too has been mauled by the rebels, who swept through the mountains flanking the main road, capturing 25[all the towns] as far as Woldiya.

**B1R. Applied Science** At this point there is a need to distinguish between two uses of the word disease (or illness). Commonly we consider a disease to be the symptoms that we experience when ill but if we are to take 26[the susceptibility] into account then we need a word to include it in this larger view of disease. Unfortunately, we have no such word in the English language. When the word disease is used in 27[the field of Homoeopathy] it often should be understood to include the susceptibility and it should be apparent from 28[the context] when this is so.

**B1U. Social Science** One way in which the changing State ideology has been felt in 29[the cities] since 1979 is the determination of central governments to reduce and even eradicate public-sector policies and organisations. The Housing Act 1988 is likely to reduce the stock of public-sector dwellings substantially.

This is likely to prove particularly significant in those cities with the most council accommodation. There may be a case for 30[greater flexibility in the housing market], but a reduced public sector and probable higher housing costs will do little to reduce the national homelessness figures of over 100,000.

**B1W. Commerce** This chapter deals firstly with 31[the origin and development of money]. It seeks to explain the important role played by money in the domestic (and international) economy. 32[Many of the concepts explained] may appear to be self-evident but their thorough understanding will assist 33[the reader] in 34[later chapters] which concentrate on international banks, markets and financial flows.

**BNL. Belief and Thought** Understandably 35[people] want to look forward to retirement, and for 36[many people] part of that dream is the rose-covered cottage or modern bungalow in the country or by 37[the sea]. Not only are they moving away, but often they also moving to a place totally unsuitable for elderly people. The south coast of England was revived by estate agents from a fading, genteel holiday coastline into 38[a supposed retirement paradise], and yet winter by the sea (whatever the summer attractions) can be savage.

**Wikipedia. Gray Whale article** The only predators of adult Gray Whales are humans and 39[orcas]. After the California Gray Whales' breeding grounds were discovered in 1857, 40[the animals] were hunted to near extinction there. After 41[harvesting] became inefficient because of dwindling numbers, 42[the population] recovered slowly, but with the advent of 43[factory ships] in the 20th century, 44[the numbers] declined again. Gray Whales have been granted protection from commercial hunting by the International Whaling Commission (IWC) since 1946, and are no longer hunted on a large scale.

**Wikipedia. History of Cryptography article** The earliest known use of 45[ cryptography] is found in non-standard hieroglyphs carved into 46[monuments from Egypt's Old Kingdom] (ca 4500+ years ago). These are not thought to be serious attempts at secret communications, however, but rather to have been attempts at 47[mystery], intrigue or even amusement for 48[literate onlookers]. These are examples of still other uses of cryptography, or something that looks (impressively if misleadingly) like it. Some clay tablets from Mesopotamia somewhat later are clearly meant to protect information – they encrypt 49[recipes], presumably commercially valuable. Later still, 50[Hebrew scholars] made use of simple monoalphabetic substitution ciphers (such as the Atbash cipher) beginning perhaps around 500 to 600 BCE.