
News Editorials: Towards Summarizing Long Argumentative Texts (COLING 2020)



**Shahbaz
Syed**



**Roxanne
El Baff**



**Khalid
Al-Khatib**



**Johannes
Kiesel**



**Benno
Stein**



**Martin
Potthast**



UNIVERSITÄT
LEIPZIG



**Deutsches Zentrum
für Luft- und Raumfahrt**
German Aerospace Center

**Bauhaus-Universität
Weimar**





WE MUST STOP BULLYING. NOW.

Schoolyard talk is young life to a senseless, shameful tragedy. Lay to rest, by all accounts, Kenneth Whiteley was a kind-hearted, fun-loving teenage boy, always looking to make others smile. But when he got to O'Reilly High School in our old friend St. Louis he got the harshest and nastiest bulling. It didn't let up until he took his own life.

Sadly, Kenneth's story is far from unique. Boys and girls across Iowa and beyond are targeted every day in this case sexual orientation appears to have played a role, but we have learned a bully needs no reason to strike. No sense can be made of these actions.

Now our community and region must face this stark reality. We are all to blame. We have not done enough. Not only enough.

This is not a failure of one group or kids, one school, one town, one county or one geographic area. Rather, it exposes a fundamental flaw in our society, one that has deep-seated roots. Until now, it has been too difficult, inconvenient—maybe even painful—to address both the individual and the systemic.

In Kenneth's case, the warnings were everywhere. We saw it happen in other communities, now it hit here. Undoubtedly, it would first hit us if not bullying here, but we can strike to make it fail.

The documentary "Bully," which depicts the bullying of a 14th middle school student, opened in Sioux City on a Friday. We urge everyone to see it. As it comes to a heart-breaking tale of love for all, let us hope it is a well-timed, proactive flick, we see there is still much work to be done in Sioux City as well.

Superintendent Paul Giammusso is absolutely correct when he says "It takes all of us to solve the problem." But schools must be the forefront of our battle against bullying.

Sioux City must continue to fight this inside and out. Clearly, South O'Brien High needs to review its policies. We urge Superintendent John Moore to rethink it and to make sure we have all the things in place to deal with it. It's obvious that it is simply not the case.

It's O'Brien's need to be the only school that needs help. A Journal file obtained because reported last year demonstrated that too many schools don't talk bullying seriously. According to that report, low school districts, on average, reported less than 2 percent of their students had been

The Daily Ear Heel

Wednesday, April 13, 2011

RAPE

AT UNC AND COLLEGES ACROSS THE COUNTRY, IT IS TREATED AS AN INFRACTION.

Something so fundamentally wrong demands a principled solution.

This means undertaking a complete overhaul of the way the University deals with cases of rape. And it means forgetting for a moment the problematic requirements of federal guidelines, and instead creating a system that realizes the University's responsibility to protect its students. A culture of false justice lies at the heart of a broken system, and should be replaced with a focus on:

1. Support for survivors;
2. Education for all students on the consequences of rape;
3. Defense in the pursuit of justice to trained legal enforcement.

For years, universities have placed an emphasis on the victim in the aftermath of incidents of sexual violence. The U.S. Civil Rights Commission, a quasi-judicial body made up entirely of female, male and transgender survivors of sexual assault and last year. Similar models were used across the country. However, they would effectively make the victim a witness either on the stand or in the courtroom. In the U.S. Department of Education issued what is popularly referred to as the "Dear Colleague" letter. The letter included a set of guidelines for making the sexual violence complaint process more transparent and accessible to all students. During the last two years, UNC and the other 120+ member institutions of the Association for the Study of Collegiate Women's Health (ASCWH) have implemented the changes required by the letter. However, the absence of proper legal representation in cases of rape and the hiring of, in some instances, a prosecutor, mean that the victim is not being treated as a crime victim.

Under the "Dear Colleague," the University's disciplinary procedure remains controversial and distributing in the respective letters that give rise to both complaints and defenses. The University's disciplinary procedure is not designed to protect or defend either the victim or the perpetrator. The University's disciplinary procedure is not designed to protect or defend either the victim or the perpetrator. The University's disciplinary procedure is not designed to protect or defend either the victim or the perpetrator.

What drives a church to dismiss a gay man?

Jason Thomas says he had to quit Watermark's 12-step program to overcome homosexuality struggles for his own safety

I began attending Watermark Community Church around five years ago. It was a loving and caring place to go to worship and receive. The pastor, minister and staff were all very kind and welcoming. I found myself growing in my faith and becoming a member of the church. I began attending weekly prayer and volunteer sessions as well. I found myself growing in my faith and becoming a member of the church. I began attending weekly prayer and volunteer sessions as well. I found myself growing in my faith and becoming a member of the church.

Todd Wagner: The aim of "loving correction" is to restore a person's relationship with Christ

Recently, one of our former members here at Watermark Community Church, Todd Wagner, wrote me a letter. He told me that he had been dismissed from the church because of his sexual orientation. He said that he had been a member of the church for many years and had been very active in the church. He said that he had been a member of the church for many years and had been very active in the church.



Watermark's 12-step program to overcome homosexuality struggles for his own safety

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Banning books

BY A. G. NOORANI

world wherever Mughal history is taught.

In an interview with the author in the *Telegraph* (India), Upala Sen writes: "Trushchke states that the period of Aurangzeb's reign was very well documented. Aurangzeb and his expansionist thirst, Aurangzeb as a pious Muslim, Aurangzeb the able administrator whose reign the number of Hindus in the bureaucracy increased, Aurangzeb who protected temples and also destroyed them, Aurangzeb who loved music and dances..."

This new act of intolerance reflects the political and religious intolerance which the RSS has spread over the last two decades. In January 2004, the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute in Pune was vandalised by the Shiv Sena group and a highly respected scholar, Bahukar was harassed by mob. The Maharashtra government prosecuted the American Indologist James Laine for his book *Shivaji*.

A new form of censorship has emerged, targeting the foreign author.

An official of the central government asserted a right to hold up a book at Customs because, in his worthy opinion, "It has incorrect facts on Sardar Patel." Davar Singh, the commission of Aurangzeb in New Delhi, was referring to *The British Raj in India* written by two scholars of excellent credentials, the British civil servant and Pakistani diplomat and professor, Samuel M. Burke, and Salim Al-Din Quaraishi of the British Library.

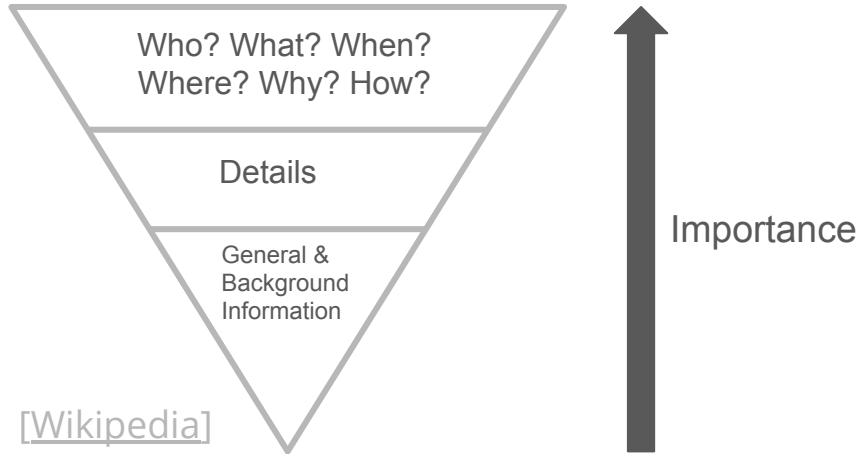
Libraries are full of books that contain "incorrect facts" on Gandhi, Nehru, Patel and Azad. Will the government try to "weed them out?"

All this violates a fundamental right of the Indian citizen, which is his right to know. The Customs Act provides no judicial tribunal to adjudicate on the ban. Section 95 of the Criminal Procedure Code provides that a ban by a state government can be challenged before a three-judge bench of the high court. This remedy may not be available in all cases—official, police or on film.

The writer is an author and a lawyer based in Mumbai.

News Reports vs Editorials

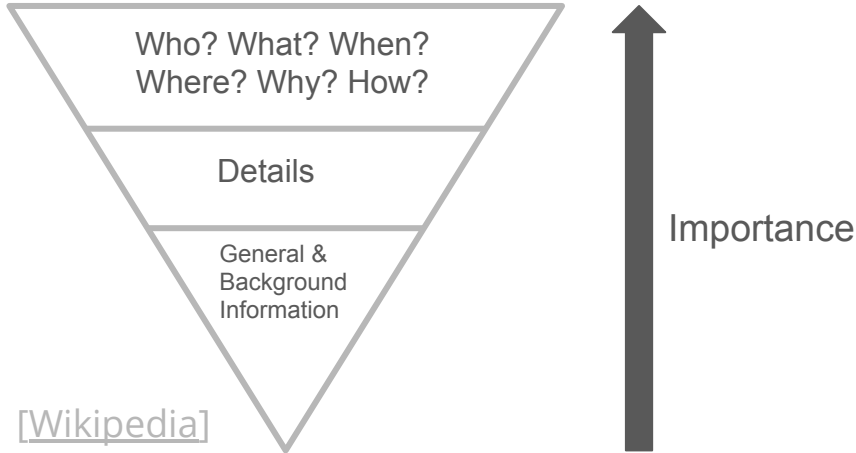
Reports



- ❑ **Goal:** Inform
- ❑ **Style:** Objective
- ❑ **Layout:** Inverted Pyramid

News Reports vs Editorials

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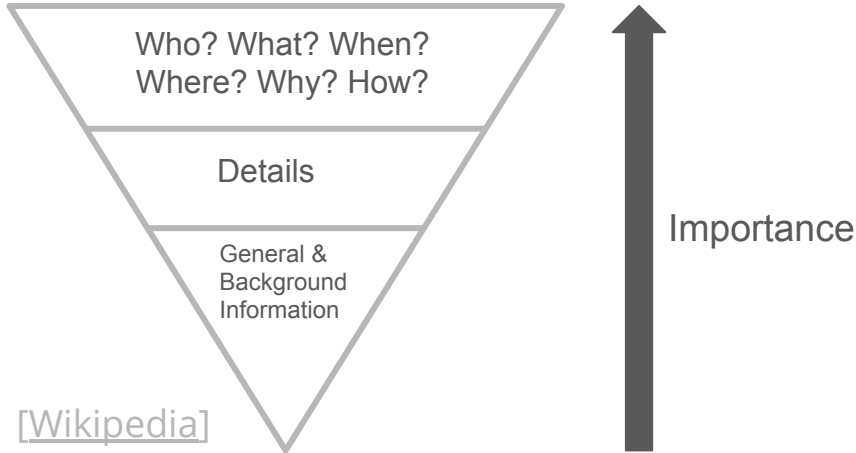
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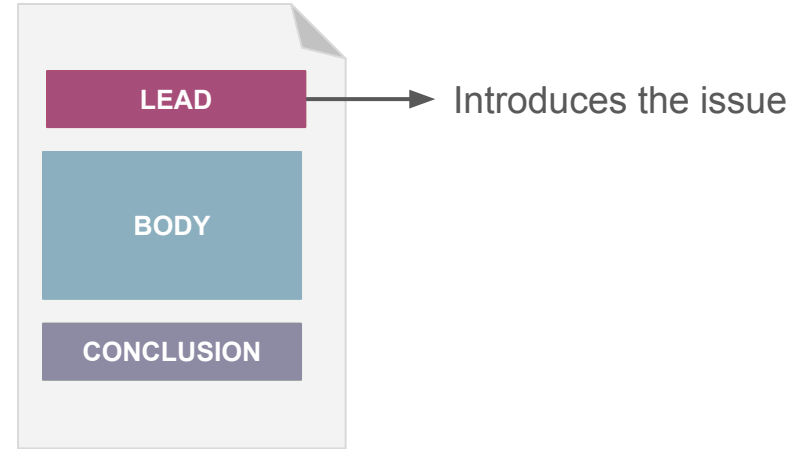
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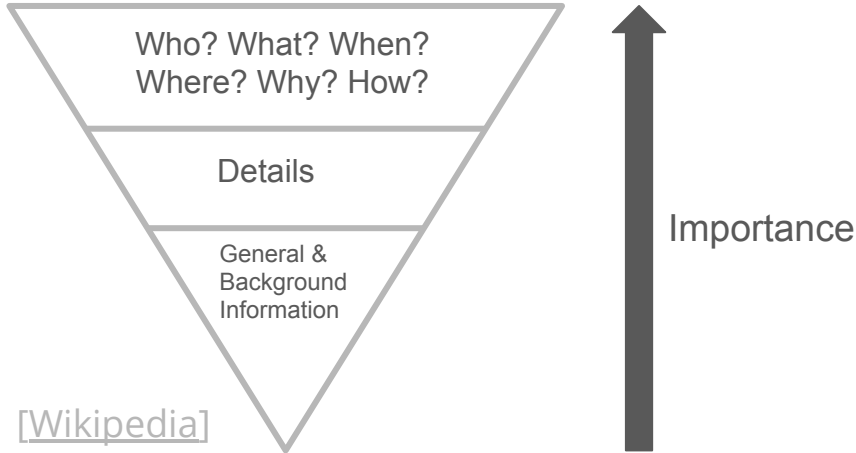
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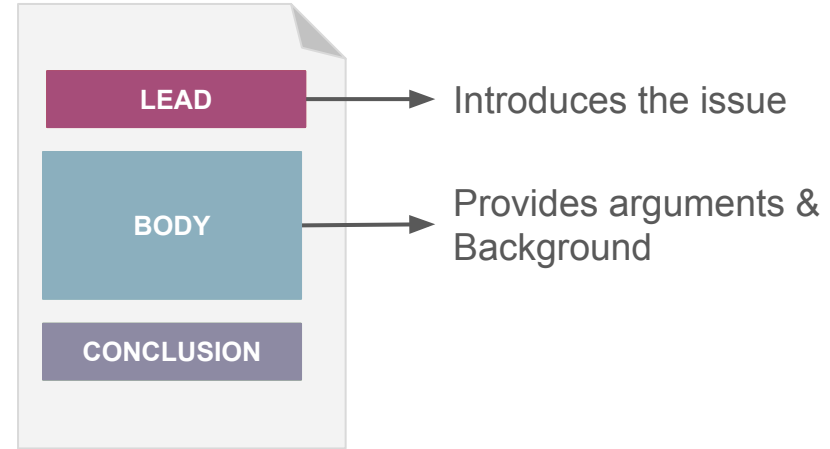
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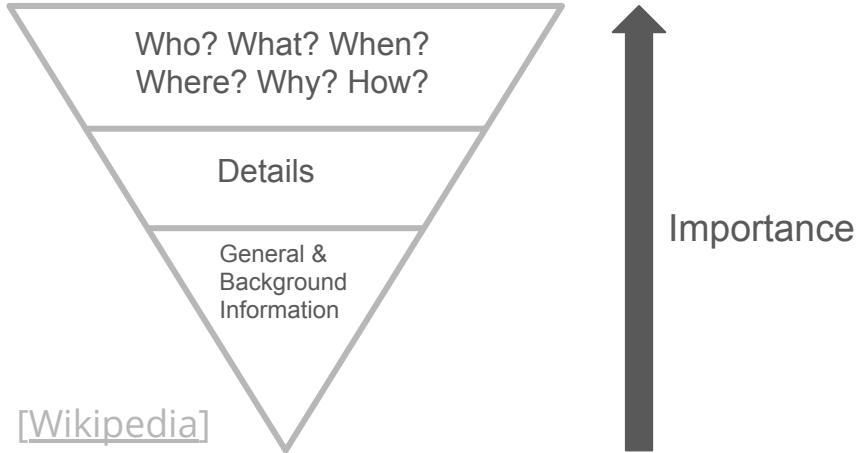
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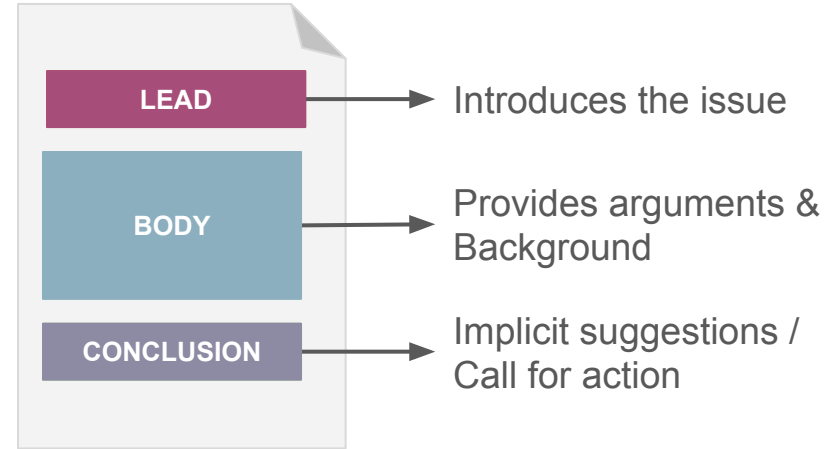
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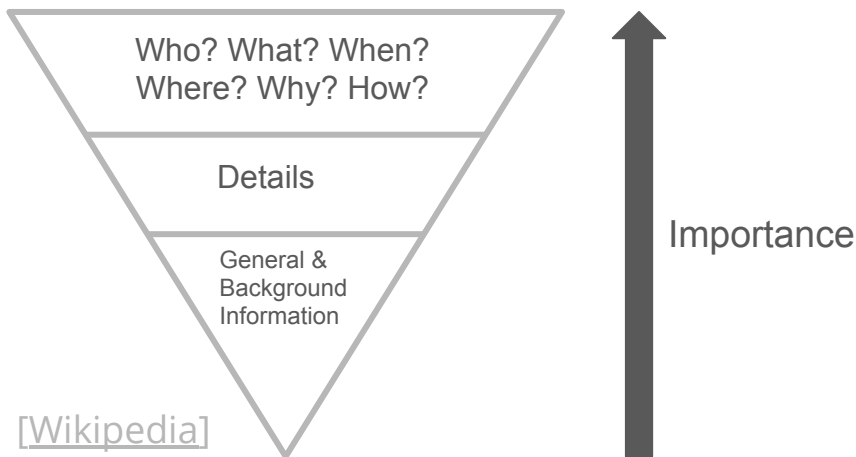
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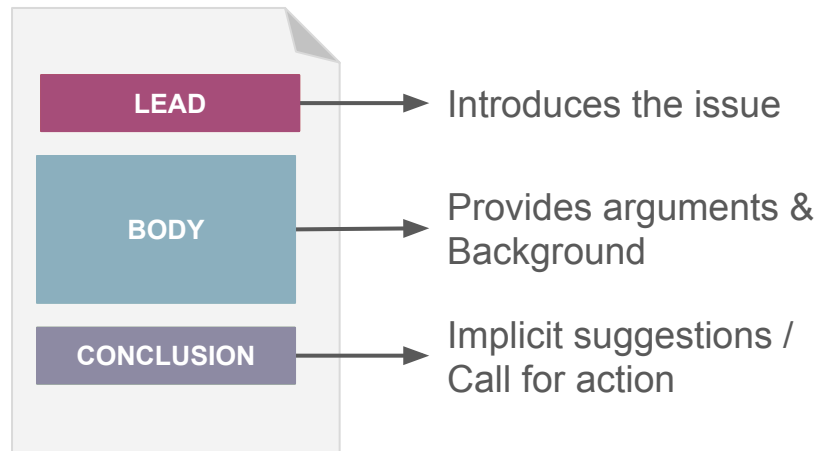
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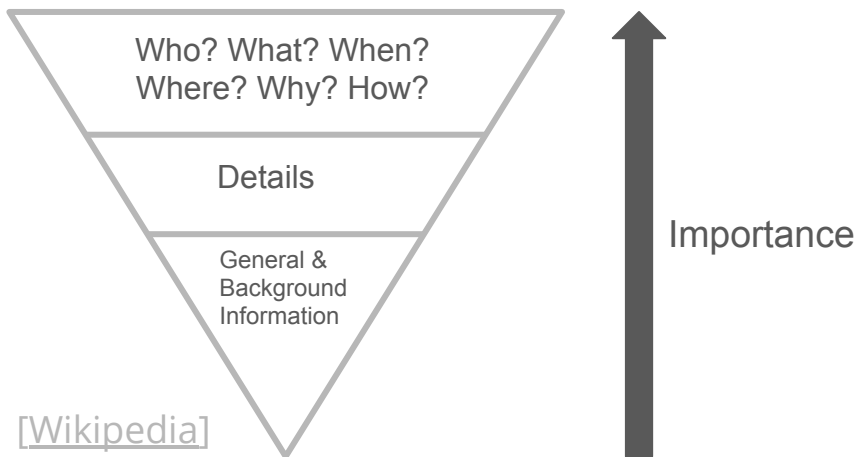
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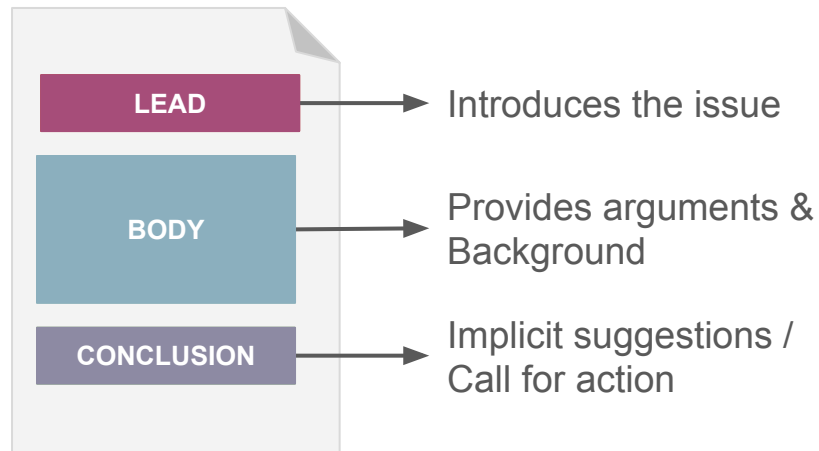
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Research Question:

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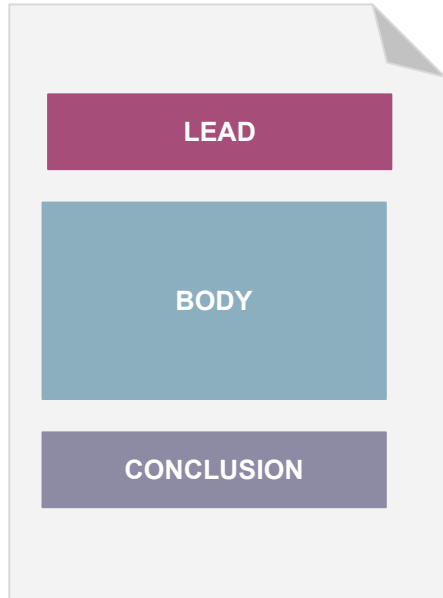
Approach:

Define a high-quality summary; operationalize the annotation and evaluation of summaries

Contributions:

1. A unified scheme for annotation and evaluation of editorial summaries
2. **Webis-EditorialSum-2020 Corpus** containing 1330 summaries for 266 news editorials
3. Detailed analyses w.r.t summary structure, summary quality and its argumentation

Anatomy of an Editorial



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 Argumentative Discourse Units



Anatomy of an Editorial





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Argumentative Structure



-  Thesis
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Evidence Types

-  Anecdote
-  Assumption
-  Common-Ground
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<i>Testimony</i>	"I saw my brother drown in front of my eyes," said Hamid.

Summarizing an Editorial

Editorial



▲ Thesis ▲ Justification

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Summary



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- ❑ A concrete definition of a *high-quality* summary is lacking
- ❑ Scholarship on **argument quality assessment** provides the foundation [Wachsmuth et al., 2017a, 2017b]

Computational Argumentation Quality Assessment in Natural Language [Wachsmuth et al., 2017a]

Argumentation Quality Assessment: Theory vs. Practice [Wachsmuth et al., 2017b]

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Summary is shorter than the editorial and avoid superfluous details

5. **Self-containedness**

Summary is comprehensible without referring to additional resources

Summary Creation

Editorial

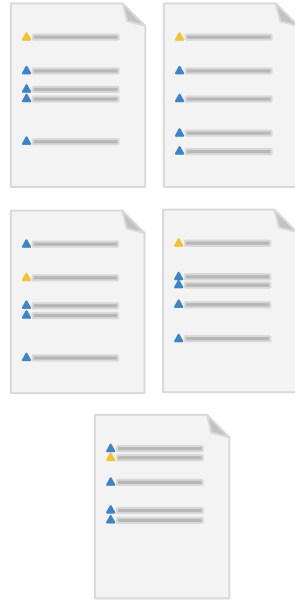


Summary Creation

Editorial



Summaries



▲ Thesis ▲ Justification

Summary Creation



- ❑ **Webis-Editorials-16 Corpus** of 300 editorials (each labeled with evidence types) as our data source [Al-Khatib et al. 2016]
- ❑ Excluded short editorials resulting in 266 editorials; summary length is fixed to **20%**
- ❑ Each editorial was annotated by **five** workers with labels ▲ Thesis ▲ Justification
- ❑ Each summary can have up to two thesis segments

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- ❑ A high-quality summary has at least three dimensions (according to majority vote)

Key Findings

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Part	Percentage
LEAD	28.3%
BODY	60.6%
CONCLUSION	11.1%
- ❑ High-quality summaries have more third-party evidence (Statistic and Testimony)
- ❑ Reasonableness is significantly correlated with Persuasiveness and Self-Containedness

Example

2015: Beyond Obama, new Congress, we need a revival of the American spirit. [[Fox News, 2015](#)]

High-quality summary

A Pew Research Center study confirms one trend that has been obvious over several years. The "typical" American family is no longer typical. Just 46 percent of American children now live in homes with their married, heterosexual parents. Five percent have no parents at home. They most likely are living with grandparents, says the study. A major contributor to this trend has been the assault on marriage and other institutions by the Baby Boom generation. It was that generation that promoted cohabitation, no-fault divorce, hatred of the police(they called them "pigs" then, too) and disdain for the military and America, spawned not just by the Vietnam War but a life of relative ease unknown to their parents.

	Thesis-indicativeness	Persuasiveness	Reasonableness	Self-containedness
Majority	✗	✓	✓	✓

Example

2015: Beyond Obama, new Congress, we need a revival of the American spirit. [[Fox News, 2015](#)]

Low-quality summary

the stock market is at record highs. A Pew Research Center study confirms one trend that has been obvious over several years. In the film, "Girl Interrupted," Winona Ryder plays an 18-year-old who enters a mental institution for what is diagnosed as borderline personality disorder. These startling figures about the decline of the American family contrast with the year 1960. It was that generation that promoted cohabitation, no-fault divorce, hatred of the police(they called them "pigs" then, too) and disdain for the military and America, spawned not just by the Vietnam War but a life of relative ease unknown to their parents. Since the elimination of the draft, young people are no longer expected to serve in the military and so most of them pursue whatever goals they wish with no expectation they should give something back to their country. All empires begin, writes Glubb, with the age of pioneers, followed by ages of conquest, commerce, affluence, intellect and decadence.

	Thesis-indicativeness	Persuasiveness	Reasonableness	Self-containedness
Majority	✗	✗	✗	✗

Conclusion

Contributions

- ❑ A unified scheme for annotating and evaluating summaries of editorials
- ❑ **Webis-EditorialSum-2020 Corpus** containing 1330 summaries for 266 editorials (90% of editorials have at least 3 high-quality summaries, 52% have 5 high-quality summaries)
- ❑ Detailed analyses of summary structure, evidence types and summary quality

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- ❑ Summaries are extractive in nature
- ❑ Larger corpora following our annotation scheme are required for training end-to-end models

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Corpus

webis.de/data/webis-editorialsum-20

Resources

github.com/webis-de/coling-20