

Textual Categorization Pre-Class Assignment (Prepared March 1, 2018, for Soph. Reading Courses at NENU)

INSTRUCTIONS: How well can you identify different types of texts in English? Each of the following is a sample of a larger text relevant to your major in politics. Before looking at their sources (listed at the end), read them and try to identify the category of text they are from. If you can't decide, take a look at the source, but try to challenge yourself first by just reading the texts themselves. After you've categorized each sample, decide what kind of publication or other media source each is from. We will discuss your answers in the first session of this course. Don't worry if you can't (fully) understand the content right now! All you need to do for this assignment is categorize. Your answers will not affect your grade; the purpose of this assignment is to gauge both your overall reading comprehension and critical thinking skills before we begin the course. Try to do this yourself, individually first, but you may work with classmates also.

SPACE FOR YOUR ANSWERS (WRITE SOMETHING EVEN IF YOU'RE JUST GUESSING!):

TEXTUAL CATEGORY,	SOURCE CATEGORY	TEXTUAL CATEGORY,	SOURCE CATEGORY
1.		7.	
2.		8.	
3.		9.	
4.		10.	
5.		11.	
6.		12.	

TEXTUAL CATEGORIES (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER, EACH WILL BE USED ONLY ONCE): ·Academic Article ·“Fiction”/Tell-all “Insider Account” ·Constitution ·Editorial ·Intelligence Report ·Manifesto/Mission Statement ·Meme ·Memorandum ·News Article ·Policy Briefing/“White Paper” ·Satirical Article ·Tweet

EXAMPLE: Yes. How could we ever have doubted it? All this freezing weather we've been having is, of course, yet another sign that global warming is real. And anyway, we shouldn't take any notice of all this white stuff that is shutting down schools, making journeys impossible, and generally freezing our asses off. Rather, we should be focusing our attention on what's happening way to the north where no one actually lives. Apparently.
Source = <http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2018/02/28/delinqpole-big-freeze-means-global-warming-is-worse-than-ever-alarmists-warn/>
TEXTUAL CATEGORY = Editorial SOURCE CATEGORY = Partisan News Website (www.breitbart.com)

SAMPLE 1: As a broad generalization, most of these officials relate some version of what Shadow Government's Colin Kahl has termed, aptly, the 80/20 rule. They are cautiously encouraged by the fact that perhaps 80 percent of U.S. policy appears to be proceeding more or less normally. NATO's enhanced forward presence is **proceeding**, U.S. spending on the **European Deterrence Initiative** (formerly the European Reassurance Initiative, or ERI) has increased, freedom of navigation operations in the South China Sea have continued and even been intensified, and day-to-day working relationships with U.S. allies remain fairly robust. Yet most officials are also quite alarmed by the fact that this 80 percent continuity came only after President Donald Trump considered dramatic breaks with established policy — withdrawing from the Iran deal and the North American Free Trade Agreement, pulling out of Afghanistan, lifting sanctions on Russia, and so on — and no less by the other 20 percent of U.S. policy. They lament Trump's incendiary and self-defeating rhetoric; the innate, visceral skepticism that Trump obviously feels toward America's longest-standing friends and partners; his obvious preference for autocrats over democrats; his retreat from global leadership on trade and climate issues; and his tendency to inject instability, incompetence, and incoherence into U.S. policy across a broad array of issues.

SAMPLE 2: Armed Educators (and trusted people who work within a school) love our students and will protect them. Very smart people. Must be firearms adept & have annual training. Should get yearly bonus. Shootings will not happen again — a big & very inexpensive deterrent. Up to States.

SAMPLE 3: Hope Hicks, the White House communications director and one of President Trump's longest-serving and closest advisers, abruptly announced Wednesday that she plans to resign — sending a jolt through a West Wing besieged by internal tumult and the intensifying Russia investigation. Hicks, 29, began working for Trump before he announced his candidacy and has been a trusted confidante for three years, shaping his image, managing his moods and counseling him on nearly all matters, from the substantive to the trivial.

A political neophyte who was fiercely loyal to her boss, Hicks exerted extraordinary influence in Washington and was treated by the president almost as a surrogate daughter. She had been widely expected to remain working for Trump until the end of his presidency — and possibly even beyond.

But her special relationship with the president has ensnared Hicks in special counsel Robert S. Mueller III's wide-ranging investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 election and of possible obstruction of justice by the president. She has come under scrutiny for, among other things, her role aboard Air Force One last year helping the president draft a misleading statement about his son Donald Trump Jr.'s 2016 meeting with Russians.

SAMPLE 4: **Championing the decision as a way to cut costs and still meet federally mandated nutrition requirements, President Trump announced a plan Tuesday to replace food stamps with a new low-income foraging program. “We have developed a new foraging-based plan that provides qualifying Americans with a small, reusable bag they can fill with whatever they are able to scavenge from alleys, empty lots, or nearby wooded areas,” said Trump, explaining that underprivileged participants in the program would search for food scraps anywhere they can find them, including the dumpsters behind restaurants. “We will also be providing these low-income Americans with charts that explain which rotting foods are still safe to eat, which seeds and berries can be consumed without getting sick, and how to spot insects that are high in protein. Many disadvantaged citizens don't have access to healthy meals at home, but this program will teach them the self-reliance they need to ensure their basic requirements for sustenance continue to be met.” Trump also proposed a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program in which Americans would receive a weekly meal service kit containing pictures of food.**

SAMPLE 5: Regime type has opposing effects on terrorism. If a regime constrains the executive branch, then terrorism may be more prevalent. If, however, a regime allows all viewpoints to be represented, then grievances may be held in check, resulting in less terrorism. Regimes that value constituents' lives and property will also act to limit attacks. We formulate a game-theoretic model, containing a terrorist group and targeted government, that captures these opposing forces and supports a nonlinear relationship between regime type and terrorism. This model indicates how diverse samples in the literature can result in different relationships between regime type and terrorism. Seldom does it support the positive relationship that is prevalent in the terrorism literature. We apply a large variety of empirical techniques to show that regime type has a robust inverted U-shaped impact on various terrorism measures. Foreign policy variables (e.g., alliance with the United States) are not a robust influence on terrorism.



SAMPLE 6:

SAMPLE 7: Key Judgments: Iraq's Weapons of Mass Destruction Programs. Iraq has continued its weapons of mass destruction (WMD) programs in defiance of UN resolutions and restrictions. Baghdad has chemical and biological weapons as well as missiles with ranges in excess of UN restrictions; if left unchecked, it probably will have a nuclear weapon during this decade. Baghdad hides large portions of Iraq's WMD efforts. Revelations after the Gulf war starkly demonstrate the extensive efforts undertaken by Iraq to deny information. Since inspections ended in 1998, Iraq has maintained its chemical weapons effort, energized its missile program, and invested more heavily in biological weapons; most analysts assess Iraq is reconstituting its nuclear weapons program.

SAMPLE 8: Nothing contributed to the chaos and dysfunction of the White House as much as Trump's own behavior. The big deal of being president was just not apparent to him. Most victorious candidates, arriving in the White House from ordinary political life, could not help but be reminded of their transformed circumstances by their sudden elevation to a mansion with palacelike servants and security, a plane at constant readiness, and downstairs a retinue of courtiers and advisers. But this wasn't that different from Trump's former life in Trump Tower, which was actually more commodious and to his taste than the White House.

Trump, in fact, found the White House to be vexing and even a little scary. He retreated to his own bedroom — the first time since the Kennedy White House that a presidential couple had maintained separate rooms. In the first days, he ordered two television screens in addition to the one already there, and a lock on the door, precipitating a brief standoff with the Secret Service, who insisted they have access to the room. He reprimanded the housekeeping staff for picking up his shirt from the floor: "If my shirt is on the floor, it's because I want it on the floor." Then he imposed a set of new rules: Nobody touch anything, especially not his toothbrush. (He had a longtime fear of being poisoned, one reason why he liked to eat at McDonald's — nobody knew he was coming and the food was safely premade.) Also, he would let housekeeping know when he wanted his sheets done, and he would strip his own bed.

SAMPLE 9: 6. Language 1. All indigenous languages of South Sudan are national languages and shall be respected, developed and promoted. 2. English shall be the official working language in the Republic of South Sudan, as well as the language of instruction at all levels of education. 3. The State shall promote the development of a sign language for the benefit of people with special needs. 7. National Symbols The flag, emblem, national anthem, coat of arms, public seal, medals, festivals and commemorations of the State shall be prescribed by law. 8. Religion 1. Religion and State shall be separate. 2. All religions shall be treated equally and religion or religious beliefs shall not be used for divisive purposes.

SAMPLE 10: FROM: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 3 SUBJECT: Intelligence Reform Bill - Final Thoughts ...No one could suggest that the Secretary of Defense does not have "full budget authority" over the Services and the Department of Defense. Under a similar arrangement between the NID and the Secretary of Defense, the NID would exercise "full budget authority" over the NFIP. We believe that this arrangement may also prove more congenial to those on Capitol Hill who, concerned about such matters, might otherwise oppose the reform effort. General Myers and I would be pleased to discuss this with you before you take your decision if that would be helpful. Respectfully

SAMPLE 11: Our Sustainable Development Goal: Eradicate FGM! Goal 1: Bring FGM community together Goal 2: Enhance mutual support and solidarity Goal 3: Deepen critical thinking and creativity through dialogue and exchange Goal 4: Minimise isolation and strengthen local action Goal 5: Link local organising, structures and action with international counterparts Goal 6: Facilitate access to international fora (WHO and UN) Goal 7: Address global challenge of FGM through global action Goal 8: Raise awareness through cultural events with music and arts Goal 9: Eradicate traditional violence against women

SAMPLE 12: The U.S. Department of the Treasury ("U.S. Treasury Department") shares the European Commission's ("Commission") concern with tax avoidance by multinational firms. The international community, including the European Union ("EU") and its Member States, has long recognized the need to address this issue multilaterally. For more than two decades, the U.S. Treasury Department has worked closely as part of the international community to achieve a collective solution to this global problem. Beginning in June 2014, the Commission announced that certain transfer pricing rulings given by Member States to particular taxpayers may have violated the EU's restriction on State aid. These investigations, if continued, have considerable implications for the United States— for the U.S. government directly and for U.S. companies—in the form of potential lost tax revenue and increased barriers to cross-border investment. Critically, these investigations also undermine the multilateral progress made towards reducing tax avoidance. In light of these consequences, U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Jacob J. Lew sent a letter on February 11, 2016, to Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker describing the U.S. Treasury Department's principal concerns with the Commission's recent State aid investigations.

SOURCE CATEGORIES (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER, MAY BE USED MORE THAN ONCE, NOT ALL WILL BE USED): ·Academic Journal ·Book Chapter ·Government Publication/Declassification ·Humor Website ·Magazine ·News Website ·Newspaper ·Newsmagazine ·Organization Website ·Partisan News Website ·Personal Website ·Social Media ·Trade Journal

SOURCES (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE. ALTHOUGH ALL AVAILABLE ONLINE, PLEASE CLASSIFY BY THEM BY THEIR ORIGINAL SOURCE SUCH AS AN EXCERPT FROM A PUBLISHED BOOK):

- <https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/02/23/foreign-officials-see-bush-and-obama-in-trump/>
- https://static.lakana.com/npg-global-us-east-1/photo/2018/02/24/trump_teachers_tweet%20copy_1519505805352.jpg.jpg.jpg_10489409_ver1.0_640_360.jpg
- https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/white-house-communications-director-hope-hicks-to-resign/2018/02/28/13760a8c-1ccf-11e8-b2d9-08e748f892c0_story.html?utm_term=.a255f9077c43
- <https://politics.theonion.com/trump-announces-plan-to-replace-food-stamps-with-new-lo-1822967010>
- <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/international-organization/article/regime-types-and-terrorism/066297E3A009466D91A96F77D6ED7B3A>
- <https://gopthedailydose.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/guns-in-schools.jpg>
- https://nsarchive2.gwu.edu/NSAEBB/NSAEBB129/nie_first%20release.pdf
- <http://nymag.com/daily/intelligencer/2018/01/michael-wolff-fire-and-fury-book-donald-trump.html>
- https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/South_Sudan_2011.pdf
- <http://libraryrumsfeld.com/doclib/sp/3361/2004-09-15%20To%20President%20George%20W%20Bush%20re%20Intelligence%20Reform%20Bill-%20Final%20Thoughts.pdf>
- <http://www.global-alliance-fgm.org/en-gb/aboutus/ourgoals.aspx>
- <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/tax-policy/treaties/Documents/White-Paper-State-Aid.pdf>