

Additional example sentences for Nieuwland & Kuperberg (submitted), “When the truth isn’t too hard to handle: An Event-Related Potential study on the Pragmatics of Negation.”. Critical words are underlined for expository purpose only. TA: true-affirmative, FA: false-affirmative False, TN: true-negative, FN: false-negative. Note that the terms ‘licensed’ and ‘unlicensed’ relate to the naturalness rating for the true-negative sentence version only.

Pragmatically licensed negation

TA: Traveling in Baghdad is very dangerous because of the war.

TN: Traveling in Baghdad isn’t very safe because of the war.

FA: Traveling in Baghdad is very safe because of the war.

FN: Traveling in Baghdad isn’t very dangerous because of the war.

TA: In moderation, drinking red wine is good for your health.

TN: In moderation, drinking red wine isn’t bad for your health.

FA: In moderation, drinking red wine is bad for your health.

FN: In moderation, drinking red wine isn’t good for your health.

TA: Drinking tap water in developing countries is very dangerous because of bacteria.

TN: Drinking tap water in developing countries isn’t very safe because of bacteria.

FA: Drinking tap water in developing countries is very safe because of bacteria.

FN: Drinking tap water in developing countries isn’t very dangerous because of bacteria.

TA: Secondhand furniture is very cheap and sometimes very nice

TN: Secondhand furniture isn't very expensive and sometimes very nice.

FA: Secondhand furniture is very expensive and sometimes very nice.

FN: Secondhand furniture isn't very cheap and sometimes very nice.

TA: Most smokers find that quitting is very difficult and very stressful.

TN: Most smokers find that quitting isn't very easy and very stressful.

FA: Most smokers find that quitting is very easy and very stressful.

FN: Most smokers find that quitting isn't very difficult and very stressful.

TA: Old computers may be slow but some are valuable collectors' items.

TN: Old computers may not be fast but some are valuable collectors' items.

FA: Old computers may be fast but some are valuable collectors' items.

FN: Old computers may not be slow but some are valuable collectors' items.

TA: A fast food dinner on a first date is very lame and too informal.

TN: A fast food dinner on a first date isn't very romantic and too informal.

FA: A fast food dinner on a first date is very romantic and too informal.

FN: A fast food dinner on a first date isn't very lame and too informal.

Pragmatically unlicensed negation

TA: Terrorist bomb attacks are really dangerous and cause great suffering.

TN: Terrorist bomb attacks aren't really safe and cause great suffering.

FA: Terrorist bomb attacks are really safe and cause great suffering.

FN: Terrorist bomb attacks aren't really dangerous and cause great suffering.

TA: Vitamins and proteins are very good for your health.

TN: Vitamins and proteins aren't very bad for your health.

FA: Vitamins and proteins are very bad for your health.

FN: Vitamins and proteins aren't very good for your health.

TA: Using strong suntan lotion is safe and can be moisturizing.

TN: Using strong suntan lotion isn't dangerous and can be moisturizing.

FA: Using strong suntan lotion is dangerous and can be moisturizing.

FN: Using strong suntan lotion isn't safe and can be moisturizing.

TA: Rockets and missiles are very fast and can carry explosives.

TN: Rockets and missiles aren't very slow and can carry explosives.

FA: Rockets and missiles are very slow and can carry explosives.

FN: Rockets and missiles aren't very fast and can carry explosives.

TA: Keeping the door open for somebody is very polite and will be appreciated.

TN: Keeping the door open for somebody isn't very rude and will be appreciated.

FA: Keeping the door open for somebody is very rude and will be appreciated.

FN: Keeping the door open for somebody isn't very polite and will be appreciated.

TA: A baby bunny's fur is very soft and very fluffy.

TN: A baby bunny's fur isn't very hard and very fluffy.

FA: A baby bunny's fur is very hard and very fluffy.

FN: A baby bunny's fur isn't very soft and very fluffy.

TA: Businessman Donald Trump is really rich and into real estate.

TN: Businessman Donald Trump isn't really poor and into real estate.

FA: Businessman Donald Trump is really poor and into real estate.

FN: Businessman Donald Trump isn't really rich and into real estate.