

# The Probabilities Also Matter: A More Faithful Metric for Faithfulness of Free-Text Explanations in Large Language Models

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## Abstract

In order to oversee advanced AI systems, it is important to understand their underlying decision-making process. When prompted, large language models (LLMs) can provide natural language explanations or reasoning traces that sound plausible and receive high ratings from human annotators. However, it is unclear to what extent these explanations are faithful, i.e., truly capture the factors responsible for the model’s predictions. In this work, we introduce Correlational Explanatory Faithfulness (CEF), a metric that can be used in faithfulness tests based on input interventions. Previous metrics used in such tests take into account only binary changes in the predictions. Our metric accounts for the total shift in the model’s predicted label distribution, more accurately reflecting the explanations’ faithfulness. We then introduce the Correlational Counterfactual Test (CCT) by instantiating CEF on the Counterfactual Test (CT) from [Atanasova et al. \(2023\)](#). We evaluate the faithfulness of free-text explanations generated by few-shot-prompted LLMs from the Llama2 family on three NLP tasks. We find that our metric measures aspects of faithfulness which the CT misses.

## 1 Introduction

In many applications of ML systems it is important to understand why the system came to a particular answer ([Rudin, 2018](#)), and the field of explainable AI attempts to provide this understanding. However, relying on subjective human assessment of explanations can be misleading: humans sometimes prefer interpretability techniques that provide little information about model predictions ([Adebayo et al., 2018](#)). It is therefore important to clearly assess the extent to which explanations inform us about ML systems, both for current high-stakes applications such as medicine and criminal justice ([Rudin, 2018](#)), as well as potential scenarios involving highly general systems ([Shah et al., 2022](#); [Ngo](#)

[et al., 2023](#); [Ward et al., 2023](#)). If we can ensure that explanations are faithful to the inner-workings of the models, we could use the explanations as a channel for oversight, scanning them for elements we do not approve of, e.g. racial or gender bias, deception, or power-seeking ([Lanham, 2022](#)).

We make the following contributions:

1. We argue that in order to be informatively faithful, it is not enough to test whether explanations mention significant factors: we also need to test whether they mention significant factors *more often* than insignificant ones.
2. We introduce Correlational Explanatory Faithfulness (CEF), a novel faithfulness metric that improves upon prior work by capturing both the *degree* of impact of input features, as well as the *difference* in explanation mention frequency between impactful and non-impactful factors.
3. We introduce the Correlational Counterfactual Test (CCT), where we instantiate CEF on the Counterfactual Test (CT) from [Atanasova et al. \(2023\)](#) and use statistical distance between predictions to measure impact.
4. We run experiments with the Llama2 family of LLMs on three datasets and demonstrate that CCT captures faithfulness trends that the existing faithfulness metric used in CT misses.

## 2 Related Work

There has been much discussion on what it means for an explanation to be “faithful”. [Jacovi and Goldberg \(2020\)](#) survey literature on the term and define an explanation as faithful insofar as it “accurately represents the reasoning process behind the model’s prediction”. [Wiegrefe and Marasović \(2021\)](#) review datasets for explainable NLP and identify three predominant classes of textual

explanations: highlights (also called extractive explanations), free-text (also called natural language explanations or NLEs), and structured. Prior work on faithfulness has mostly focused on highlights and NLEs. We chose to focus on NLEs in this work because highlight-based explanations are highly restrictive in what they can communicate (Camburu et al., 2021; Wiegrefe et al., 2020), while NLEs allow models to produce justifications that are as expressive as necessary (e.g. they can mention background knowledge that is not present in the input but that the model made use of for its prediction). Moreover, there is increasing work on NLEs in high-stakes areas, such as healthcare (Kayser et al., 2022), where having faithful explanations is crucial.

Parcalabescu and Frank (2023) review a range of recent NLE faithfulness tests and claim that many are instead measuring “self-consistency”. See Appendix C for further discussion.

### 2.1 “Explanatory” vs. “Causal” Faithfulness

We identify two types of faithfulness being researched in the literature, which we refer to as “explanatory” and “causal”. **Explanatory faithfulness** asks the question: does the explanation reflect the decision-making process of the model? This is often measured by intervening on the input, such as with the metrics of *sufficiency* and *comprehensiveness* for highlight-based explanations (DeYoung et al., 2019; Camburu et al., 2021), or the counterfactual test (CT) for NLEs (Atanasova et al., 2023). **Causal faithfulness** adds the criterion: does the model’s prediction causally depend on the generated reasoning trace? (Creswell and Shanahan, 2022; Lanham et al., 2023; Radhakrishnan et al., 2023; Turpin et al., 2023) Causal faithfulness requires structural restrictions on the prediction system (at a minimum, that the explanation is generated before the prediction), such as in chain-of-thought (Wei et al., 2023) or selection-inference (Creswell et al., 2022). Explanatory faithfulness, however, can be measured for a more general class of rationales, including post-hoc explanations (DeYoung et al., 2019; Atanasova et al., 2023). We focus on explanatory faithfulness in this work; see Appendix A for further discussion of causal faithfulness.

Some authors also distinguish between “explainability” and “interpretability/transparency” as approaches for understanding models (e.g. Rudin (2018)). While the concept of faithfulness is appli-

cable to both approaches, we primarily focus on “explainability” in this work. See Appendix B for further discussion.

### 2.2 The Counterfactual Test

In order to measure whether an explanation captures the true factors responsible for a model’s prediction, we need to know which factors are relevant. However, deep neural networks like LLMs are often difficult to interpret (Fan et al., 2020).

To address this problem, Atanasova et al. (2023) introduce the Counterfactual Test (CT). The CT inserts some text into an input query, which we refer to as an **interventional addition (IA)**. If the model’s prediction changes, then the IA was relevant to the model’s new prediction, and we check if it is mentioned in the new explanation. Counterfactual edits have the advantage of easily generating features that we know are relevant to the model’s prediction. We choose to focus our analysis on this method, and identify ways to improve it.

## 3 Methods

We identify two significant drawbacks with the CT:

1. It does not test whether impactful features are *more likely* to be mentioned than less impactful ones. There is a trivial strategy that leads to 0% unfaithfulness as measured by the CT: repeat all input text verbatim as the explanation, which means explanations will never fail to mention the IA. This demonstrates an important property of useful explanations: they are useful only if they both mention impactful features and *leave out* non-impactful features.
2. It measures impactfulness as binary, i.e. whether the intervention results in a change in the model’s top predicted label. But this ignores changes in the model’s predicted class likelihoods: it would label an intervention that changes the predicted probability of a class from 49% to 51% as relevant, while an intervention that changes the probability from 1% to 49% would be labelled as irrelevant, even though the latter caused a larger shift.

To address these drawbacks, we propose the metric **Correlational Explanatory Faithfulness (CEF)**, which can be applied to any tests with three given properties:

1. An *intervention*: a function mapping an input example to its modified version.

	Input Example	Model Prediction	Model Explanation
Before Intervention	TEXT: Three people are riding a carriage pulled by four horses. HYPOTHESIS: The horses are scrawny.		The horses could be scrawny or not.
After Intervention	TEXT: Three people are riding a carriage pulled by four <b>joyous</b> horses. HYPOTHESIS: The horses are scrawny.		The horses are <b>joyous</b> , so they are not scrawny.
	Intervention: inserted " <b>joyous</b> "	Intervention Impact: <b>TVD = 0.7</b>	Explanation Mention: <b>True</b>

Table 1: Illustration of the Correlational Counterfactual Test (CCT), our instantiation of Correlational Explanatory Faithfulness, on an example from e-SNLI. We measure the impact of an intervention by the total variation distance (TVD) between the model’s predictions before and after the intervention. We then compute CCT as the correlation between intervention impact and explanation mention over multiple examples. Predictions and explanations are given by Llama2 70B. See [Appendix E](#) for additional examples of interventions and their impact.

2. A *prediction impact measure*: a function mapping an input example, intervention, and model to a scalar representing how impactful the intervention was on the model’s prediction. We call the output of this function the *prediction impact* or  $\mathcal{I}$ .
3. An *explanation mention measure*: a function mapping an input example, intervention, and explanation to a scalar representing the extent to which the explanation attributes importance to the intervened factors. We call the output of this function the *mention importance* or  $\mathcal{M}$ .

If an intervention has higher prediction impact, a faithful explanation should assign it higher mention importance. We quantify this relationship by measuring the Pearson correlation coefficient between prediction impact and mention importance:

$$\text{CEF} = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^n (\mathcal{I}_i - \bar{\mathcal{I}}) (\mathcal{M}_i - \bar{\mathcal{M}})}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (\mathcal{I}_i - \bar{\mathcal{I}})^2} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (\mathcal{M}_i - \bar{\mathcal{M}})^2}} \quad (1)$$

where  $\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$  (the sample mean). Being a correlation, it lies in the interval  $[-1, 1]$ , with 0 indicating no relationship and positive values indicating higher mention importance for more impactful interventions.

We can then apply this metric to the CT, which gives us the **Correlational Counterfactual Test (CCT)**. In our work, the intervention inserts an IA. To quantify the degree of prediction impact in a continuous manner, we measure the total shift in the model’s predictions due to the IA. There are a number of ways to measure shifts in probability distributions over discrete classes; we use the *total variation distance* (TVD), i.e:

$$\text{TVD}(P, Q) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_x |P(x) - Q(x)| \quad (2)$$

where P and Q are probability distributions over discrete classes. We take P and Q to be the model’s predicted distributions before and after the intervention, so that TVD measures the absolute change in probabilities assigned to each class. Compared to other common statistical distances such as the relative entropy (KL divergence), TVD gives less weight to shifts between very small probabilities (which are unlikely to impact classification) and has the advantage of symmetry.

To measure mention importance, we use the original CT’s binary metric: does the explanation mention the word? Note that in this case our metric represents the *point-biserial correlation*, a special case of the Pearson correlation coefficient where one variable is continuous and the other is dichotomous. We can then write CCT as:

$$\text{CCT} = \frac{\mathbb{E}_M(\text{TVD}) - \mathbb{E}_{\neg M}(\text{TVD})}{\text{STD}(\text{TVD})} \sqrt{\frac{|M| |\neg M|}{|M \cup \neg M|^2}}, \quad (3)$$

where  $M$  indicates that the explanation mentions the IA, and  $|M|$  indicates the number of examples with explanation mentions. For the binary mentions we study, CCT is maximized when explanations mention IAs exactly when their TVD is above a certain threshold (where the threshold depends on the distribution of TVDs). [Table 1](#) shows an example application of our method. Future work could explore the case where explanations can assign weights to different features. We test alternatives to TVD and CCT in [Appendix F](#).

CCT addresses the mentioned drawbacks of the CT. Unlike the CT, it cannot be trivially gamed:

achieving maximum correlation requires explanations to mention impactful IAs while not mentioning non-impactful IAs, which requires a signal about which words are impactful.

## 4 Experiments

In this section, we describe our experimental setup. We first generate predictions and NLEs using LLMs on a set of three natural language classification tasks. We then study the faithfulness of these NLEs, comparing the CT and CCT.

### 4.1 Datasets

Following [Atanasova et al. \(2023\)](#), we evaluate on three popular classification datasets including human-written NLEs:

**e-SNLI** ([Camburu et al., 2018](#)): Sentence pairs labeled with entailment, contradiction, or neutral.

**ComVE** ([Wang et al., 2020](#)): Sentence pairs where one violates common sense.

**ECQA** ([Aggarwal et al., 2021](#)): Multiple choice common sense questions with 5 options each.

We use ECQA in place of CoS-E ([Rajani et al., 2019](#)) as a more recent dataset also based on CQA with more detailed explanations that both justify the correct answer and refute the incorrect answers. Note that the ground-truth NLEs are not necessarily faithful explanations for an LLM: there may be multiple equally valid justifications for a ground-truth label on an instance (e.g., multiple reasons why two sentences are contradictory), or the LLM could rely on other reasoning, such as spurious correlations. We use the original train/test splits and evaluate on test sets, containing 9,842 (e-SNLI), 2,194 (ECQA), and 999 (ComVE) examples.

### 4.2 Models and Prompts

We use the Llama-2 series of LLMs ([Touvron et al., 2023](#)). We focus on the few-shot imitation setting: we use the pretrained foundation models (Llama-2-7B, Llama-2-13B, and Llama-2-70B) prompted with a brief description of the dataset followed by 20 randomly selected examples from the training set including label and explanation. When prompting the model, we can have it generate NLEs either after its prediction, as an explanation conditioned on the prediction (predict-then-explain, PE), or before the prediction, which is conditioned on the explanation (explain-then-predict, EP)<sup>1</sup> ([Camburu](#)

<sup>1</sup>Using this terminology, chain-of-thought ([Wei et al., 2023](#)) is EP.

[et al., 2018](#)). We provide full example prompts in [Appendix G](#). When generating text with these models, we use greedy sampling to reduce variation during evaluation. However, we still record the probabilities assigned to tokens corresponding to predicted classes, which we use for computing the TVD.

### 4.3 Counterfactual Interventions

We use the random intervention proposed in [Atanasova et al. \(2023\)](#): we insert a random adjective before a noun or a random adverb before a verb, randomly selecting 4 positions where we insert the said words, and for each position selecting 20 random candidate words. The candidates are chosen from the complete list of adjectives or adverbs available in WordNet ([Fellbaum, 2010](#)), and nouns and verbs are identified with spaCy ([Orosz et al., 2022](#)) using the model "en\_core\_web\_lg". In order to avoid highly unnatural sentences, we use an instruction-tuned LLM, Llama-2-70b-chat, to identify interventions that the model judges as not making sense, and keep only the top 20% of interventions for each example (prompt shown in [subsection G.4](#)). See [Appendix E](#) for examples of interventions and their effect on model predictions and explanations. We determine whether an explanation includes an IA by case-insensitive substring matches, either on the original strings or stemmed versions ([Porter, 2001](#)).

For each model, prompting strategy (PE vs. EP), and dataset, we first run the model on each example in the test set and measure its predicted class probabilities. Next, we perform counterfactual interventions on each example and re-run the model on each intervention. Using TVD to measure impactfulness, we can study whether explanations are more likely to mention IAs that are more impactful, and compare the CT and CCT.

## 5 Results

[Figure 1](#) plots intervention importance as measured by TVD vs. the fraction of the time that IAs are mentioned in explanations. A model with faithful explanations should show an upward trend in mentions, being more likely to mention highly impactful IAs than less impactful IAs. We note that while explanation mentions for e-SNLI show a clear upward trend, ECQA has a relatively flat trend: most ECQA explanations mention IAs, but they are not much more likely to mention highly impactful IAs



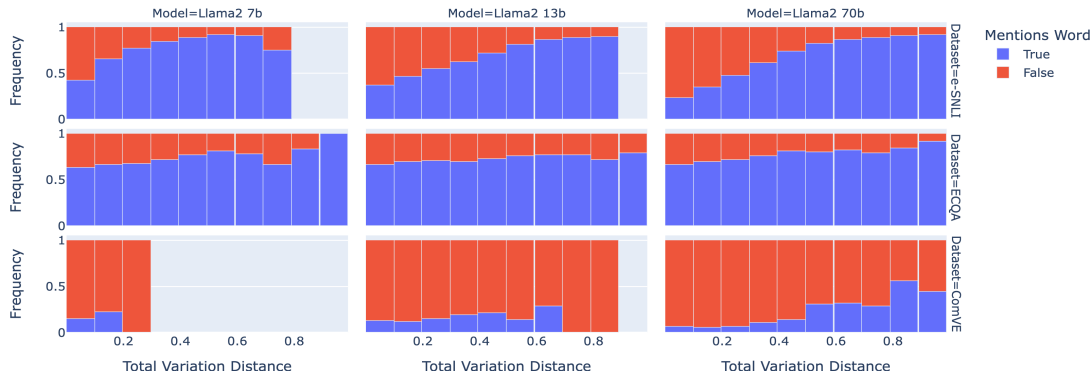


Figure 1: **Intervention impactfulness vs. explanation mentions, PE.** The plots show the fraction of examples where the explanation mentions the inserted text (IA) vs. the total variation distance (TVD) of the model’s predictions before and after interventions. Rows show datasets, columns show models. Higher TVD indicates an intervention was more impactful on the model’s prediction. See Figure 2 for results in the EP setting.

Model	Accuracy (%)			CT Unfaithfulness (%)			CCT Faithfulness		
	e-SNLI	ECQA	ComVE	e-SNLI	ECQA	ComVE	e-SNLI	ECQA	ComVE
Llama2 7B, PE	57.7	54.1	55.2	32.5	30.4	81.3	0.245	0.047	0.040
Llama2 7B, EP	47.6	55.2	52.4	43.5	31.7	78.7	0.141	0.065	0.125
Llama2 13B, PE	67.1	68.0	75.6	39.4	28.6	82.0	0.227	0.055	0.036
Llama2 13B, EP	55.5	71.4	75.8	45.5	30.2	78.4	0.189	0.036	0.201
Llama2 70B, PE	<b>85.5</b>	<b>79.7</b>	97.7	<b>29.3</b>	<b>24.1</b>	70.0	<b>0.411</b>	<b>0.083</b>	0.172
Llama2 70B, EP	74.9	77.8	<b>98.5</b>	37.2	28.8	<b>69.2</b>	0.304	0.038	<b>0.238</b>
Random	33.3	20.0	50.0	-	-	-	0.000	0.000	0.000

Table 2: **Results.** Accuracy (before interventions), CT, and CCT across datasets, models, and prompt orders (predict-then-explain, PE, vs. explain-then-predict, EP). Random CCT Faithfulness assumes that explanation mentions are independent of prediction impact. For CT Unfaithfulness, it is not obvious what to use as a “random” explanation baseline: empty explanations would yield 100% unfaithfulness, while explanations simply repeating all input text verbatim would yield 0% unfaithfulness regardless of model predictions.

than non-impactful ones. This may be because they tend to be verbose and repeat large portions of their inputs, as can be seen from the examples on Table 4.

Table 2 shows the quantitative results of our experiments. Classification accuracy before intervention is above random for all models and datasets (except possibly Llama2-7B on ComVE), indicating that the models are capable of performing some aspects of the tasks. Note that ECQA explanations have the lowest CT unfaithfulness of any dataset, i.e. they frequently mention IAs which cause predictions to change. But Figure 1 shows that this is misleading: ECQA explanations succeed in frequently mentioning impactful IAs because they frequently mention *any* IAs; the fact that a word appears in an ECQA explanation gives little signal about whether that word was impactful or not for the model’s prediction.

The CCT is more informative of the qualitative results from Figure 1 than CT: model explanations provide more information about the relevance of

IAs for e-SNLI than for ECQA, and are thus more faithful. Additionally, we see that the largest model, Llama2 70B, produces the most faithful explanations on e-SNLI and ComVE.

## 6 Summary and outlook

We introduced Counterfactual Explanatory Faithfulness and the Correlational Counterfactual Test, allowing us to measure how informative explanations are about the importance of the factors they mention. Model explanations are more likely to mention inserted words when they’re more impactful to the model’s predictions, suggesting a degree of faithfulness on these tasks which increases with model size. However, there is significant variation between datasets, which could be due to either the nature of the task or the annotator-provided explanations. Future work could apply the CCT to instruction-tuned models, as well as explanations generated using strategies such as question decomposition (Radhakrishnan et al., 2023).

## Limitations

While our analysis identifies and corrects some shortcomings of prior work on measuring the faithfulness of NLEs, it does inherit some of the limitations of the original CT (Atanasova et al., 2023). The counterfactual interventions only insert adjectives and adverbs, and only single words at a time, so our experiments do not measure sensitivity to other parts of speech. Our random intervention can generate text which lacks semantic coherence, despite our LLM filtering step. We do not test for synonyms, which could inaccurately label some explanations. Additionally, we do not consider the semantic usage of word mentions: for example, our metrics would not penalize the faithfulness of illogical explanations as long as they had the correct pattern of word inclusion. Some of these drawbacks could potentially be addressed by further filtering or analysis by more advanced LLMs, taking advantage of their semantic understanding.

We study LLMs generating predictions and explanations using few-shot prompting, with example explanations taken from human-generated NLEs. These explanations can be highly dependent on annotation instructions. For example, CoS-E (Rajani et al., 2019) and ECQA (Aggarwal et al., 2021) both use CQA (Talmor et al., 2019) as a base dataset, but ECQA explanations are significantly longer than those for CoS-E. As such, care should be taken when extrapolating our results to other tasks: in the few-shot setting, the example explanations provided can have just as much impact on faithfulness as the model being used.

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## A "Causal" vs. "Explanatory" Faithfulness

Rather than generating post-hoc explanations, there have been calls to instead build interpretability into the prediction process, where the prediction causally follows from the explanation (Rudin, 2018; Chattopadhyay et al., 2023). In the context of LLMs, this can be done by having models generate *chains-of-thought* (CoT) (Wei et al., 2023), a series of intermediate reasoning steps before producing their prediction. In addition to improving final task accuracy, this has been hypothesized to be a way to improve faithfulness: rationales may be more likely to accurately represent a model’s true reasoning process if they are generated first, so that they can inform the prediction (Lanham, 2022; Camburu et al., 2018). However, it has been shown that even if reasoning is generated before the prediction, it may still be unfaithful (Turpin et al., 2023; Atansova et al., 2023). Work on CoT has often focused on measuring (Lanham et al., 2023) and increasing (Radhakrishnan et al., 2023) the degree to which the model’s final answer depends on its reasoning (i.e. the extent to which editing or removing reasoning steps change the model’s answer). Studying faithfulness and causal dependence in reasoning tackle complementary ideas, and we believe there are reasons to measure them separately:

1. It may be difficult to ensure reliance on CoT reasoning for some tasks: Lanham et al. (2023) found relatively minor accuracy gains from CoT outside of math-focused domains. In particular, as models become more powerful, they may be capable of solving increasing sets of tasks without verbalised CoT.
2. Causal dependence alone doesn’t ensure the usefulness of an explanation: models could use language in ways different from humans, either unintentionally (e.g. semantic drift) or as a result of some optimization pressure (e.g. steganography Roger and Greenblatt (2023)). Separate from causal dependence, it will still be necessary to measure whether the textual *content* of reasoning provides useful information on the factors leading to the model’s prediction.

## B “Explainability” vs. “Transparency/Interpretability”

There isn’t currently a clear consensus on the usage of the terms “explainability” and “interpretability”: they are sometimes used interchangeably (e.g. Jacovi and Goldberg (2020)), while other times a distinction is made between “interpretability” or “transparency” involving the creation of systems constrained in model form so its inner mechanics can be observed and understood, and “explainability” involving the creation of auxiliary models to explain an existing black-box model (e.g. Rudin (2018)). Marcinkevics and Vogt (2020) also survey some existing usages of these terms.

Because “interpretability” is used in these different ways, when discussing this distinction, we’ve found it least ambiguous to refer to the two sides as “explainability” and “transparency”.

The definition of faithfulness we adopt is that an explanation is faithful insofar as it “accurately represents the reasoning process behind the model’s prediction” (Jacovi and Goldberg, 2020). Under Rudin (2018)’s distinction, both transparent systems and explainable systems can in principle be faithful if their explanations accurately represent the model’s reasoning process. However, explainable systems in particular are at risk of post-hoc rationalization: producing explanations that sound plausible to humans but that don’t capture the true features that led to the prediction. This is our motivation for introducing improved metrics for faithfulness in explanations.

## C “Faithfulness” or “Self-Consistency”?

Recent work (Parcalabescu and Frank, 2023) has argued that many metrics claiming to measure “faithfulness” (including the Counterfactual Test (Atansova et al., 2023)) are in fact only measuring a weaker property, which they refer to as “self-consistency”, because these tests fail to take into account mechanistic inner workings.

However, we still believe it is useful to refer to these tests as faithfulness metrics rather than self-consistency tests. Using Jacovi and Goldberg (2020)’s definition of faithfulness, if we intervene on an input and the model’s output distribution changes, we have learned a property of the model’s true reasoning process, i.e. that it depends on the intervened input in the current context. We can then measure the extent to which the explanation reflects this dependency, as in our proposed test.

Additionally, a test being mechanistic is not a guarantee of its robustness. [Parcalabescu and Frank \(2023\)](#) argue that “a test that is able to interrogate a model’s inner workings would be akin to a lie detector that uses more internal cues that cannot be easily suppressed”. Indeed, this has been the motivation for some prior approaches: [Burns et al. \(2022\)](#) proposed Contrast Consistent Search, a test using internal model activations to detect when a model gives an answer it “knows” is untrue. However, later work found that this method often identifies spurious non-knowledge-related features ([Farquhar et al., 2023](#)). Robustly measuring faithfulness may require a combination of tests, both mechanistic and black-box.

## D Intervention Impactfulness with Explain-then-Predict

[Figure 2](#) shows intervention impactfulness vs. explanation mention measure, equivalent to [Figure 1](#) but in the Explain-then-Predict (EP) setting.

## E Example Interventions

In this section we show randomly selected examples of interventions on the three datasets, as well as model responses. For each example, we show the original problem and resulting prediction first, followed by the modified problem and predictions with the IA highlighted in red. We also highlight any mentions of the IA in the model’s explanation for the modified problem. For conciseness we show only the case of Llama2 70B using predict-then-explain prompting. See [Table 3](#) for interventions on e-SNLI, [Table 4](#) for interventions on ECQA, and [Table 5](#) for interventions on ComVE.

## F CCT Variants

We chose to use TVD as our distance metric because it gives less weight to shifts between very small probabilities (which are unlikely to impact the classification decision), and we chose to use Pearson as our correlation coefficient because it takes cardinality into account, unlike rank correlation coefficients which only use ordinality. However, our approach can also be computed using other choices of distance and correlation.

We can compute our metric in the predict-then-explain setting under two other plausible configurations: CCT (Jensen-Shannon) using Jensen-Shannon divergence, a symmetric divergence based

on KL) in place of TVD, and CCT (Spearman) using Spearman’s rank correlation in place of Pearson. [Table 6](#) shows our results.

These variants show similar qualitative trends, with the highest values assigned to e-SNLI explanations, lower values for ECQA and comVE, and slightly more faithful explanations for the largest model (except for CCT (Spearman) EP, where the 13B model has the highest value).

## G LM Prompts

In this section we describe the prompts we use. Each few-shot prompt consists of three parts: the **prefix** describes the format verbally; **20 few-shot examples** sampled uniformly without replacement from the training set, providing demonstrations of predictions and explanations; and the **query**, consisting of the input for a new problem instance to be evaluated. To avoid dependence on a single prompt sample, we independently sample new few-shot examples for each evaluation example. However, to ensure our word insertion interventions are the only thing changing model predictions, we use the same few-shot examples for the model’s prediction before and after interventions.

The following are randomly selected examples of prompts for each dataset. We show predict-then-explain prompts; explain-then-predict prompts have the same format, with the only difference being that the order of the label and explanation lines is reversed and the query ends with "EXPLANATION:" rather than the label title.

### G.1 e-SNLI Example Prompt

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The following are examples from a dataset. Each example consists of a pair of statements, "TEXT" and "HYPOTHESIS". Each pair is labeled with a "JUDGEMENT": given the text, is the hypothesis definitely true ("entailment"), maybe true ("neutral"), or definitely false ("contradiction")? "EXPLANATION" explains why the selected judgement is chosen.

TEXT: a dog chases another dog.  
HYPOTHESIS: The dog is wanting to get the ball first.  
JUDGEMENT: neutral  
EXPLANATION: The dog may not be wanting anything. There may not be a ball present to get first.

TEXT: A woman carried a cake into the room with three candles as another woman holding a flute glass of wine, holds up her hand.  
HYPOTHESIS: Two women were celebrating.  
JUDGEMENT: neutral  
EXPLANATION: Eating a cake and drinking one doesn't imply celebrating.

TEXT: A man in a wetsuit is surfing up and over a wave.  
HYPOTHESIS: A man is surfing over a wave.  
JUDGEMENT: entailment  
EXPLANATION: A man surfing would do so over a wave.

TEXT: Rugby players tackling each other.  
HYPOTHESIS: The rugby players are getting physical.  
JUDGEMENT: entailment  
EXPLANATION: Tackling is a very physical action.

TEXT: Some students saying prayer outside.  
HYPOTHESIS: A dog barks inside.  
JUDGEMENT: contradiction  
EXPLANATION: the dog is not students outside and the dog is inside.

Text	Hypothesis	True Class	Predicted Class	Predicted Class Probabilities	TVD	Generated Explanation
A man is resting in a small stream with a hat over his head while the little waterfall is pouring in the background. A man is <b>deliriously</b> resting in a small stream with a hat over his head while the little waterfall is pouring in the background.	A man is resting in a hammock A man is resting in a hammock	contradiction	contradiction	entailment: 0.1%, neutral: 4.9%, contradiction: 94.4%	0.01	A man can't be resting in a hammock and a stream at the same time.
			contradiction	entailment: 0.1%, neutral: 4.3%, contradiction: 95.0%		A man can't be resting in a hammock and a stream at the same time.
A blond-haired doctor and her African american assistant looking threw new medical manuals. A blond-haired <b>prominent</b> doctor and her African american assistant looking threw new medical manuals.	A doctor is studying A doctor is studying	neutral	neutral	entailment: 32.5%, neutral: 62.7%, contradiction: 3.9%	0.02	Just because a doctor is looking through new medical manuals does not mean that the doctor is studying.
			neutral	entailment: 34.2%, neutral: 61.0%, contradiction: 3.9%		Just because a doctor is looking through new medical manuals does not mean that the doctor is studying.
Man wearing blue bowing on floor in front of another man in blue bowing on floor with two other men wearing blue kneeling on same floor also. <b>Shaky</b> man wearing blue bowing on floor in front of another man in blue bowing on floor with two other men wearing blue kneeling on same floor also.	A man is wearing something. A man is wearing something.	entailment	neutral	entailment: 31.1%, neutral: 53.7%, contradiction: 13.6%	0.02	A man wearing something does not imply that he is wearing blue.
			neutral	entailment: 33.3%, neutral: 53.1%, contradiction: 12.0%		A man wearing something does not imply that he is wearing blue.
Three people are riding a carriage pulled by four horses. Three people are riding a carriage pulled by four <b>joyous</b> horses.	The horses are scrawny. The horses are scrawny.	neutral	neutral	entailment: 0.1%, neutral: 75.0%, contradiction: 23.6%	0.70	The horses could be scrawny or not.
			contradiction	entailment: 0.1%, neutral: 4.9%, contradiction: 94.4%		The horses are <b>joyous</b> , so they are not scrawny.
Children nap on a floor while others stand by. Children nap on a floor while others stand by.	Children are playing childish games while others stand by. Children are <b>gloriously</b> playing childish games while others stand by.	contradiction	contradiction	entailment: 0.4%, neutral: 37.5%, contradiction: 60.9%	0.21	Children cannot be playing childish games while they are napping.
			contradiction	entailment: 0.2%, neutral: 17.1%, contradiction: 81.8%		Children cannot be <b>gloriously</b> playing childish games while others stand by and napping on a floor at the same time.
A child in a jeans jacket and shorts holding up a white dress as another darker-skinned child looks at it. A child in a jeans jacket and shorts holding up a white dress as another darker-skinned child looks at it.	a dog eats his food a dog <b>badly</b> eats his food	contradiction	contradiction	entailment: 0.1%, neutral: 32.0%, contradiction: 66.8%	0.02	A dog eating his food is not related to a child holding up a white dress.
			contradiction	entailment: 0.2%, neutral: 33.7%, contradiction: 65.0%		A dog eating his food <b>badly</b> does not relate to a child holding up a white dress.
A bald person in green clothing stands in front of a brick wall. A bald person in green clothing stands in front of a brick wall.	A person is in front of a brick wall. A <b>takeout</b> person is in front of a brick wall.	entailment	entailment	entailment: 93.4%, neutral: 5.9%, contradiction: 0.4%	0.92	A bald person in green clothing stands in front of a brick wall.
			neutral	entailment: 0.8%, neutral: 68.7%, contradiction: 29.1%		A bald person in green clothing does not imply that they are a <b>takeout</b> person.
A father and son are in a field of yellow flowers. A <b>corrupt</b> father and son are in a field of yellow flowers.	People are picking flowers. People are picking flowers.	neutral	neutral	entailment: 1.3%, neutral: 81.9%, contradiction: 15.6%	0.07	There is no evidence that the people are picking flowers.
			neutral	entailment: 1.7%, neutral: 74.8%, contradiction: 22.1%		There is no evidence that the people are picking flowers.
Very young boy is standing outside near a water fountain that is built into the ground and is squirting water. Very young <b>wholesome</b> boy is standing outside near a water fountain that is built into the ground and is squirting water.	The young boy is standing inside. The young boy is standing inside.	contradiction	contradiction	entailment: 0.1%, neutral: 0.8%, contradiction: 98.7%	0.00	The boy is standing outside.
			contradiction	entailment: 0.1%, neutral: 0.8%, contradiction: 98.7%		The boy is standing outside.
Two men at a table having drinks. Two men at a table having drinks.	Two people are drinking. Two <b>insubordinate</b> people are drinking.	entailment	entailment	entailment: 66.6%, neutral: 29.6%, contradiction: 2.7%	0.66	Two men at a table having drinks means two people are drinking.
			contradiction	entailment: 1.5%, neutral: 28.5%, contradiction: 68.4%		Two men at a table having drinks does not imply <b>insubordinate</b> people are drinking.

Table 3: Example e-SNLI interventions, predictions, and explanations.

Question	Options	True Class	Predicted Class	Predicted Class Probabilities	TVD	Generated Explanation
What will you do after you are awake?	1: open eyes, 2: get to sleep, 3: deep sleep, 4: sleep again, 5: conscious	1	5	1: 24.8%, 2: 1.9%, 3: 2.9%, 4: 1.9%, 5: 68.4%		Conscious is to be awake and aware of one's surroundings. What will you do after you are awake? You will be conscious. Open eyes is not what you will do after you are awake. Get to sleep and sleep again are not what you will do after you are awake. Deep sleep is not what you will do after you are awake.
What will you <b>skilfully</b> do after you are awake?	1: open eyes, 2: get to sleep, 3: deep sleep, 4: sleep again, 5: conscious		5	1: 18.5%, 2: 2.2%, 3: 3.0%, 4: 1.8%, 5: 74.4%	0.06	Conscious is to be awake and aware of one's surroundings. What will you <b>skilfully</b> do after you are awake is to be conscious. Open eyes is not skilful. Get to sleep and sleep again is not what you will do after you are awake. Deep sleep is not skilful.
Where might a person play an acoustic guitar at a birthday party?	1: studio, 2: at funeral place, 3: house, 4: music shop, 5: closet	3	3	1: 2.9%, 2: 0.6%, 3: 94.0%, 4: 0.8%, 5: 1.7%		A person might play an acoustic guitar at a birthday party at a house. A person might not play an acoustic guitar at a birthday party at a studio. A person might not play an acoustic guitar at a birthday party at a funeral place. A person might not play an acoustic guitar at a birthday party at a music shop. A person might not play an acoustic guitar at a birthday party at a closet.
Where might a <b>callous</b> person play an acoustic guitar at a birthday party?	1: studio, 2: at funeral place, 3: house, 4: music shop, 5: closet		3	1: 13.7%, 2: 2.2%, 3: 76.6%, 4: 1.8%, 5: 5.6%	0.17	A <b>callous</b> person is someone who is not sensitive to the feelings of others. A <b>callous</b> person might play an acoustic guitar at a birthday party in a house. A <b>callous</b> person might not play an acoustic guitar at a birthday party in a studio. A <b>callous</b> person might not play an acoustic guitar at a birthday party at a funeral place. A <b>callous</b> person might not play an acoustic guitar at a birthday party in a music shop. A <b>callous</b> person might not play an acoustic guitar at a birthday party in a closet.
What type of location would you find fish for sale?	1: refrigerator, 2: ocean, 3: pay debts, 4: stream, 5: market	5	5	1: 0.2%, 2: 0.3%, 3: 0.5%, 4: 0.9%, 5: 98.1%		Market is a place where goods are bought and sold. Fish for sale can be found at a market. Fish for sale cannot be found at a refrigerator. Fish for sale cannot be found at an ocean. Fish for sale cannot be found at pay debts. Fish for sale cannot be found at a stream.
What type of location would you find <b>elaborate</b> fish for sale?	1: refrigerator, 2: ocean, 3: pay debts, 4: stream, 5: market		5	1: 0.2%, 2: 0.3%, 3: 0.4%, 4: 0.8%, 5: 98.2%	0.00	Market is a place where goods are bought and sold. <b>Elaborate</b> fish for sale can be found at a market. Refrigerator is not a place where <b>elaborate</b> fish for sale can be found. Ocean is not a place where <b>elaborate</b> fish for sale can be found. Pay debts is not a place where <b>elaborate</b> fish for sale can be found. Stream is not a place where <b>elaborate</b> fish for sale can be found.
If someone is fiddling a sad tune, what is the song likely about?	1: troubles, 2: unpredictable, 3: joy, 4: being happy, 5: discovery	1	1	1: 92.1%, 2: 1.6%, 3: 5.9%, 4: 0.2%, 5: 0.2%		A sad tune is a song that is sad and not unpredictable, joyful, happy or a discovery. A sad tune is likely to be about troubles.
If someone is fiddling a sad <b>showy</b> tune, what is the song likely about?	1: troubles, 2: unpredictable, 3: joy, 4: being happy, 5: discovery		1	1: 92.0%, 2: 1.3%, 3: 6.2%, 4: 0.2%, 5: 0.3%	0.00	Troubles are the problems and difficulties that someone has. If someone is fiddling a sad <b>showy</b> tune, the song is likely about troubles. Unpredictable is not a correct option. Joy is not a correct option. Being happy is not a correct option. Discovery is not a correct option.
Sam's children are rambunctious. What might they do?	1: break things, 2: play sports, 3: play with toys, 4: play ball, 5: throw things	5	1	1: 57.0%, 2: 7.7%, 3: 9.2%, 4: 2.3%, 5: 23.8%		Rambunctious means uncontrollable and uncontrollable children might break things. Playing sports, playing with toys, playing ball and throwing things are not what rambunctious children might do.
Sam's <b>friendly</b> children are rambunctious. What might they do?	1: break things, 2: play sports, 3: play with toys, 4: play ball, 5: throw things		1	1: 50.2%, 2: 11.0%, 3: 12.5%, 4: 3.0%, 5: 23.3%	0.07	Rambunctious means uncontrollably exuberant and children who are rambunctious might break things. Children who are rambunctious might not play sports, play with toys, play ball or throw things.
Where is a business restaurant likely to be located?	1: town, 2: at hotel, 3: mall, 4: business sector, 5: yellow pages	4	4	1: 4.8%, 2: 4.0%, 3: 5.4%, 4: 84.6%, 5: 1.2%		Business sector is a place where business is done. Business restaurant is a place where business is done. Business restaurant is likely to be located in business sector. Town is not a place where business is done. At hotel is not a place where business is done. Mall is not a place where business is done. Yellow pages is not a place where business is done.
Where is a <b>halal</b> business restaurant likely to be located?	1: town, 2: at hotel, 3: mall, 4: business sector, 5: yellow pages		4	1: 14.0%, 2: 6.1%, 3: 34.7%, 4: 41.9%, 5: 3.2%	0.43	<b>Halal</b> is an Arabic word meaning lawful or permitted. In reference to food, it is the dietary standard, as prescribed in the Qur'an (the Muslim scripture). <b>Halal</b> business restaurant is likely to be located in a business sector. <b>Halal</b> business restaurant is not likely to be located in a town. <b>Halal</b> business restaurant is not likely to be located at a hotel. <b>Halal</b> business restaurant is not likely to be located in a mall. <b>Halal</b> business restaurant is not likely to be located in yellow pages.

Table 4: Example ECQA interventions, predictions, and explanations.



Sentence 0	Sentence 1	True Class	Predicted Class	Predicted Class Probabilities	TVD	Generated Explanation
It is easy to find seashells in the forest	It is easy to find seashells by the ocean	0	0	0: 99.1%, 1: 0.9%		seashells are found by the ocean
It is easy to find seashells in the forest	It is easy to find seashells by the gloomy ocean		0	0: 97.6%, 1: 2.4%	0.02	seashells are found by the ocean
cars are the only way to get around	cars are a useful mode of transportation	0	0	0: 91.3%, 1: 8.6%		There are many ways to get around, such as buses, trains, bicycles, etc.
cars are the only way to get around	Grey cars are a useful mode of transportation		1	0: 49.6%, 1: 50.3%	0.42	Grey cars are not the only way to get around
The rotary phone recorded me.	The cell phone recorded me.	0	0	0: 98.1%, 1: 1.9%		The rotary phone can't record.
The rotary black phone recorded me.	The cell phone recorded me.		0	0: 98.3%, 1: 1.6%	0.00	The rotary black phone can't record.
he swims 1km each way every day	he swims with piranhas	1	1	0: 29.7%, 1: 70.1%		Piranhas are dangerous
he swims 1km each way every day	he safely swims with piranhas		1	0: 22.2%, 1: 77.6%	0.07	Piranhas are dangerous
The fish ran through the forest	The fox ran through the forest	0	0	0: 99.5%, 1: 0.5%		Fish cannot run on land
The fish ran through the forest	The fox ran through the singing forest		0	0: 69.9%, 1: 30.0%	0.30	Fish cannot run
The kids went to the farm	The farm went to the farm	1	1	0: 3.5%, 1: 96.4%		A farm is a place, not a person or animal.
The kids just went to the farm	The farm went to the farm		1	0: 4.2%, 1: 95.6%	0.01	A farm is a place, not a person or animal.
The stone can float on the water	The wood can float on the water	0	0	0: 91.5%, 1: 8.5%		The density of stone is greater than that of water
The stone can float on the water	The legendary wood can float on the water		0	0: 83.5%, 1: 16.4%	0.08	The stone is too heavy to float on the water
I like to drink coffee beans in the morning	I like to drink coffee in the morning	0	0	0: 98.5%, 1: 1.5%		Coffee beans are not drinkable.
I like to drink coffee beans in the morning	I particularly like to drink coffee in the morning		0	0: 97.5%, 1: 2.4%	0.01	Coffee beans are not drinkable
The teacher was teaching English in the classroom	the teacher was harvesting wheat in the classroom	1	1	0: 0.6%, 1: 99.3%		Teachers teach in classrooms, not harvest wheat
The fussy teacher was teaching English in the classroom	the teacher was harvesting wheat in the classroom		1	0: 1.5%, 1: 98.3%	0.01	Teachers teach in classrooms, not harvest wheat
Blackberries and strawberries are berries.	Blackberries and strawberries are the same.	1	1	0: 2.8%, 1: 97.1%		Blackberries and strawberries are different.
Blackberries and large strawberries are berries.	Blackberries and strawberries are the same.		1	0: 3.5%, 1: 96.4%	0.01	Blackberries and strawberries are different.
I put a bottle of milk into the fridge.	I put a car inside the fridge.	1	1	0: 0.9%, 1: 99.0%		A car is too big to fit in a fridge.
I put a bottle of standard milk into the fridge.	I put a car inside the fridge.		1	0: 1.7%, 1: 98.2%	0.01	A car is too big to fit in a fridge.
she eats an egg for breakfast every day	she eats a table for breakfast every day	1	1	0: 0.5%, 1: 99.4%		a table is not edible
she fearlessly eats an egg for breakfast every day	she eats a table for breakfast every day		1	0: 1.2%, 1: 98.7%	0.01	a table is not edible
He put a motorcycle in his wallet	He put a coin in his wallet	0	0	0: 99.0%, 1: 1.0%		A motorcycle is too big to fit in a wallet
He put a motorcycle in his wallet	He put a coin in his soft wallet		0	0: 94.1%, 1: 5.8%	0.05	A motorcycle is too big to fit in a wallet
he kept the ice cream in the oven	he kept the ice cream in the fridge	0	0	0: 99.3%, 1: 0.6%		ice cream will melt in the oven
he kept the ice cream in the oven	he eagerly kept the ice cream in the fridge		0	0: 96.4%, 1: 3.5%	0.03	ice cream will melt in the oven
He played a game with children	He played a game with fairies	1	1	0: 1.2%, 1: 98.6%		Fairies are not real
He played a game with children	He curiously played a game with fairies		1	0: 3.0%, 1: 96.8%	0.02	Fairies are not real

Table 5: Example ComVE interventions, predictions, and explanations.

Prompt Order: Explain-then-predict (EP)

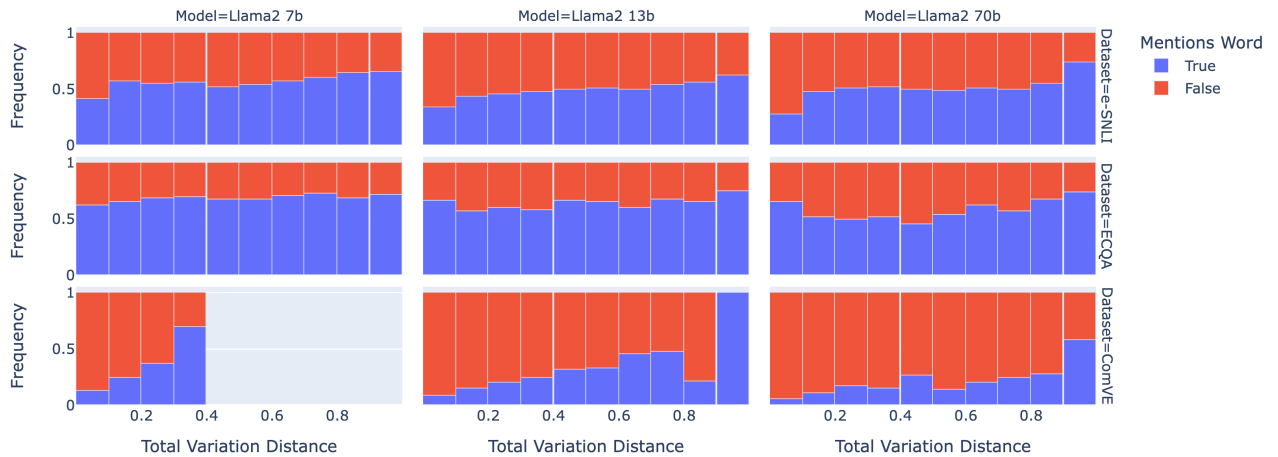


Figure 2: **Intervention impactfulness vs. explanation mentions, EP.** The plots show the fraction of examples where the explanation mentions the inserted text (IA) vs. the total variation distance (TVD) of the model’s predictions before and after interventions: higher TVD indicates an intervention was more impactful on the model.

Model	CCT (Original)			CCT (Jensen-Shannon)			CCT (Spearman)		
	e-SNLI	ECQA	ComVE	e-SNLI	ECQA	ComVE	e-SNLI	ECQA	ComVE
Llama 2 7B, PE	0.245	0.047	0.040	0.247	0.044	0.034	0.242	0.044	0.033
Llama 2 7B, EP	0.141	0.065	0.125	0.147	0.067	0.119	0.206	0.078	0.098
Llama 2 13B, PE	0.227	0.055	0.036	0.230	0.058	0.021	0.180	0.050	0.016
Llama 2 13B, EP	0.189	0.036	0.201	0.198	0.037	0.206	0.207	-0.014	<b>0.173</b>
Llama 2 70B, PE	<b>0.411</b>	<b>0.083</b>	0.172	<b>0.412</b>	<b>0.085</b>	0.129	<b>0.329</b>	<b>0.068</b>	0.046
Llama 2 70B, EP	0.304	0.038	<b>0.238</b>	0.312	0.037	<b>0.239</b>	0.308	0.021	0.128

Table 6: Values for CCT plus two variants: CCT (Jensen-Shannon) using Jennsen-Shannon divergence in place of TVD, and CCT (Spearman) using Spearman’s rank correlation in place of Pearson.

TEXT: Three women are posing together and smiling while one holds up a hand signal.  
HYPOTHESIS: Two women are yelling at each other and pointing fingers.  
JUDGEMENT: contradiction  
EXPLANATION: There is either three women or two women.

TEXT: Three people are checking out a piece of art at the local museum.  
HYPOTHESIS: Three women are at a museum.  
JUDGEMENT: entailment  
EXPLANATION: Three people could be women and they are at a museum

TEXT: Four people are in a group hug near a soda machine.  
HYPOTHESIS: A group of friends in a huddle.  
JUDGEMENT: neutral  
EXPLANATION: a hug is not a huddle

TEXT: A young boy wearing black pants and a pinstriped shirt looks at something on a computer screen.  
HYPOTHESIS: A young boy is doing his homework on the computer.  
JUDGEMENT: neutral  
EXPLANATION: Looking at screen doesn't imply doing homework.

TEXT: A man is rollerblading down a rail.  
HYPOTHESIS: There is a man rollerblading quickly.  
JUDGEMENT: neutral  
EXPLANATION: Not all people rollerblading are doing so quickly.

TEXT: Pedestrians strolling along a brick walkway tween high buildings.  
HYPOTHESIS: People walk through town.  
JUDGEMENT: entailment  
EXPLANATION: Strolling means casually walking while a simple "walk" doesn't have any connotation.

TEXT: a group of people sitting on the ground on the sidewalk  
HYPOTHESIS: A group of people sit around in a circle.  
JUDGEMENT: neutral  
EXPLANATION: Sitting on the ground does not have to be in a circle.

TEXT: A man with an arm cast films something on video while another man is looking at the camera.

HYPOTHESIS: The man does not have a cast.  
JUDGEMENT: contradiction  
EXPLANATION: The man can't have a cast while not having a cast.

TEXT: Young woman in blue shirt checking out merchandise.  
HYPOTHESIS: The woman is shopping.  
JUDGEMENT: entailment  
EXPLANATION: One is shopping by checking out merchandise.

TEXT: A woman carries a young girl on her shoulders  
HYPOTHESIS: A woman carries her purse with her to the concert.  
JUDGEMENT: contradiction  
EXPLANATION: A woman can either carry a young girl or her purse at a time.

TEXT: A man cooking in a restaurants.  
HYPOTHESIS: A lady is cooking in a restaurant.  
JUDGEMENT: contradiction  
EXPLANATION: A man and a lady are two different people.

TEXT: A white dog travels along a narrow path in a park setting.  
HYPOTHESIS: The animal is going along the path.  
JUDGEMENT: entailment  
EXPLANATION: The dog traveling is the animal going on the path.

TEXT: One guy wearing black shirt sitting at table working on computer project.  
HYPOTHESIS: There is a man indoors with a computer.  
JUDGEMENT: entailment  
EXPLANATION: Guy is a synonym for man. Working on a computer project would likely require a computer.

TEXT: A man in blue shorts lays down outside in a parking lot.  
HYPOTHESIS: Nobody is laying.  
JUDGEMENT: contradiction  
EXPLANATION: A man is laying down so there is somebody laying.

TEXT: Girl running in a marathon, wearing a black shirt with a white tank top, with the numbers 44 on it.  
HYPOTHESIS: There is boy sitting at his house.  
JUDGEMENT: contradiction

EXPLANATION: a girl is not a boy and running is not sitting

TEXT: Two women are embracing while holding to go packages.  
HYPOTHESIS: The sisters are hugging goodbye while holding to go packages after just eating lunch.  
JUDGEMENT:

---

## G.2 ComVE Example Prompt

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The following are examples from a dataset. Each example consists of a pair of sentences, "SENTENCE 0" and "SENTENCE 1". One of these sentences violates common sense. Each pair of these is labeled with "FALSE SENTENCE", followed by the label of the false sentence, 0 or 1. "EXPLANATION" explains why sentence is chosen.

SENTENCE 0: You can use a holding bay to store an item  
SENTENCE 1: You can use a holding bay to delete an item  
FALSE SENTENCE: 1  
EXPLANATION: Deleting items is not a holding bay function

SENTENCE 0: Rainbow has five colors  
SENTENCE 1: Rainbow has seven colors  
FALSE SENTENCE: 0  
EXPLANATION: The seven colors of the rainbow are red, orange, yellow, green, blue, blue, and purple

SENTENCE 0: You are likely to find a cat in ocean  
SENTENCE 1: You are likely to find a shark in ocean  
FALSE SENTENCE: 0  
EXPLANATION: Cats do not feed on ocean lives

SENTENCE 0: The caterpillar eats the rose bud  
SENTENCE 1: Roses buds eat caterpillars  
FALSE SENTENCE: 1  
EXPLANATION: Caterpillars have mouths while rose buds don't

SENTENCE 0: playing frisbee is for people who like to play frisbee  
SENTENCE 1: playing frisbee is for people who like to play football  
FALSE SENTENCE: 1  
EXPLANATION: People avoid doing things they dislike so if they like play frisbee they do that sport

SENTENCE 0: A recipe is great way to cook a gourmet meal and avoid minor mistakes in the kitchen.  
SENTENCE 1: Cooking gourmet meals is the number one way to make mistakes such as kitchen fires.  
FALSE SENTENCE: 1  
EXPLANATION: Kitchen fires, and or mistakes are not a direct result of cooking gourmet meals.

SENTENCE 0: Nail is a small piece of metal which is inserted into a lock and turned to open or close it  
SENTENCE 1: Key is a small piece of metal which is inserted into a lock and turned to open or close it  
FALSE SENTENCE: 0  
EXPLANATION: Usually people use key to unlock a lock

SENTENCE 0: She put a Turkey in the oven.  
SENTENCE 1: She put a desk in the oven.  
FALSE SENTENCE: 1  
EXPLANATION: A desk can not fit in a oven.

SENTENCE 0: A lemon has stripes.  
SENTENCE 1: A tiger has stripes.  
FALSE SENTENCE: 0  
EXPLANATION: Lemons are yellow fruits.

SENTENCE 0: Burning trash purifies air quality.  
SENTENCE 1: Burning trash aggravates air quality.  
FALSE SENTENCE: 0  
EXPLANATION: Burning trash will produce a lot of harmful gases and can't purify the air.

SENTENCE 0: my favorite thing is skiing in the lake  
SENTENCE 1: my favorite thing is boating in the lake  
FALSE SENTENCE: 0  
EXPLANATION: a lake is not the right place for skiing

SENTENCE 0: He talked to her using a book shelf  
SENTENCE 1: He talked to her using a mobile phone  
FALSE SENTENCE: 0  
EXPLANATION: Book shelves are for keeping books

SENTENCE 0: People are so glad to see the heavy smog in the winter morning  
SENTENCE 1: People are so glad to see the blue sky in the winter morning  
FALSE SENTENCE: 0  
EXPLANATION: Smog is a kind of pollution, it makes people sad and angry

SENTENCE 0: A towel can not dry the water on your body  
SENTENCE 1: A towel can dry the water on your body  
FALSE SENTENCE: 0  
EXPLANATION: Towels have a certain degree of water absorption.

SENTENCE 0: There are four mountains around the table  
SENTENCE 1: There are four stools around the table

FALSE SENTENCE: 0  
EXPLANATION: Mountains need a great space and cannot be so close to a table

SENTENCE 0: If I have no money, I would lent it to you  
SENTENCE 1: If I have any money, I would lent it to you  
FALSE SENTENCE: 0  
EXPLANATION: He cannot lent money he doesn't have

SENTENCE 0: people go to see a doctor because they fall ill  
SENTENCE 1: people go to see a doctor so they fall ill  
FALSE SENTENCE: 1  
EXPLANATION: a doctor is meant to cure diseases

SENTENCE 0: Metro door is closing, please be quick  
SENTENCE 1: Metro door is closing, please step back  
FALSE SENTENCE: 0  
EXPLANATION: People should step back and wait for the next train if the door is closing

SENTENCE 0: There are many aliens in China.  
SENTENCE 1: There are many people in China.  
FALSE SENTENCE: 0  
EXPLANATION: There aren't aliens in the world.

SENTENCE 0: People usually go to bars for drinks  
SENTENCE 1: People usually go to bars for milk  
FALSE SENTENCE: 1  
EXPLANATION: Bars mainly sell drinks

SENTENCE 0: A red lion will match that suit.  
SENTENCE 1: A red tie will match that suit.  
FALSE SENTENCE: 0  
EXPLANATION: no one puts a lion on their clothes.

SENTENCE 0: I have two eyes  
SENTENCE 1: I have five eyes  
FALSE SENTENCE: 1  
EXPLANATION: Usually, humans have two eyes

SENTENCE 0: drinking milk can help teenagers grow shorter  
SENTENCE 1: drinking milk can help teenagers grow taller  
FALSE SENTENCE: 0  
EXPLANATION: it's impossible for people to grow shorter

SENTENCE 0: She ate her ballet shoes.  
SENTENCE 1: She wore her ballet shoes.  
FALSE SENTENCE: 0  
EXPLANATION: she cannot eat ballet shoes

SENTENCE 0: HE PUT HIS FOOT INTO THE SHOE IN ORDER TO TRY IT ON.  
SENTENCE 1: HE ALSO PUT HIS HAND IN THE SHOE TO SEE IF IT FITS.  
FALSE SENTENCE: 1  
EXPLANATION: HANDS DON'T FIT WELL INSIDE OF SHOES.

SENTENCE 0: He poured orange juice on his cereal.  
SENTENCE 1: He poured milk on his cereal.  
FALSE SENTENCE:

---

## G.3 ECQA Example Prompt

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The following are examples from a dataset. Each example consists of a question followed by five multiple choice options. The option that makes the most sense as answer to the question is labelled as "CORRECT OPTION". "EXPLANATION" explains why the selected option is chosen.

QUESTION: The chief saw his entire tribe wiped out, he was a leader with a single what?  
OPTION 1: peon  
OPTION 2: indian  
OPTION 3: minister  
OPTION 4: follower  
OPTION 5: employee  
CORRECT OPTION: 4  
EXPLANATION: Leaders have followers who are supporters unlike peon, Indian or minister. Followers do not work for money while employees do.

QUESTION: The drive was full of obstacles, he really had to what?  
OPTION 1: listen to radio  
OPTION 2: get into vehicle  
OPTION 3: hole in one  
OPTION 4: sleep  
OPTION 5: pay attention  
CORRECT OPTION: 5  
EXPLANATION: Drive full of obstacles really needs to pay attention from driver. You cannot listen radio when the drive is full of obstacles as it may distract you. you cannot get into vehicle as you are already into the vehicle when driving. Hole in one is not things to do. You cannot sleep when the drive is full of obstacles as it may result in accident.

QUESTION: What can't viruses do without infecting a host cell?  
OPTION 1: reproduce  
OPTION 2: make computer malfunction

OPTION 3: infect  
OPTION 4: hack computer  
OPTION 5: mutate  
CORRECT OPTION: 1  
EXPLANATION: Viruses can't reproduce instead of infecting a host cell. Viruses can make a computer malfunction. Virus can infect. A virus can hack the computer system. Virus do mutate the system.

QUESTION: How might a automobile get off a freeway?  
OPTION 1: exit ramp  
OPTION 2: garage  
OPTION 3: driveway  
OPTION 4: repair shop  
OPTION 5: stop light  
CORRECT OPTION: 1  
EXPLANATION: Exit ramp is the end of a freeway from where people get off the freeway in their automobiles. All the other options are not from where automobiles get off freeways.

QUESTION: It was impossible to find a parking garage, so James took a bus whenever he wanted to go where?  
OPTION 1: neighbor's house  
OPTION 2: car  
OPTION 3: building  
OPTION 4: restaurant  
OPTION 5: downtown  
CORRECT OPTION: 5  
EXPLANATION: Downtown is or is relating to the central and main part of a city. James takes a bus to go downtown since he wouldn't find a parking garage. One won't take a bus to go to his neighbor's house and restaurants usually have a parking area. Building can be any building and a car is not a place to go to.

QUESTION: He made another call, he did this all day hoping people would what well to his offer?  
OPTION 1: hang up  
OPTION 2: respond  
OPTION 3: contact  
OPTION 4: answer  
OPTION 5: attracting ducks  
CORRECT OPTION: 2  
EXPLANATION: A response could get an offer while contacting and answering do not. Responding means answering unlike hanging up or attracting ducks.

QUESTION: Where are people likely to sing?  
OPTION 1: apartment  
OPTION 2: supermarket  
OPTION 3: train station  
OPTION 4: opera  
OPTION 5: conference  
CORRECT OPTION: 4  
EXPLANATION: Opera is an ancient musical art form including theatrical work. Opera includes singing. People usually sing at Opera. Apartment is not a common place where people sing. People do not sing at train stations. People do not sing at conferences of supermarkets.

QUESTION: What might people do to protect their legs from getting dirty on the farm?  
OPTION 1: wear jeans  
OPTION 2: milk cow  
OPTION 3: believe in god  
OPTION 4: avoid mud  
OPTION 5: plant flowers  
CORRECT OPTION: 1  
EXPLANATION: People wear full clothing in order to avoid getting dirty. Jeans is a full clothing for legs. People on farms wear jeans to protect their legs from getting dirty. Milking cow does not help in avoiding dirty legs. Believe in god is an irrelevant option. Avoiding mud does not always help in protecting legs from getting dirt on them. Plant flowers is an irrelevant option.

QUESTION: Where would you get a toothpick if you do not have any?  
OPTION 1: box  
OPTION 2: grocery store  
OPTION 3: eyes  
OPTION 4: chewing  
OPTION 5: mouth  
CORRECT OPTION: 2  
EXPLANATION: You would get a toothpick from a grocery store because it is available there. Box isnt a place from where youn can get a toothpick. Eyes or Chewing is not a place. You cant get a toothpick from mouth if you dont have any.

QUESTION: What is smaller than a country but larger than a city?  
OPTION 1: town  
OPTION 2: france  
OPTION 3: continent  
OPTION 4: state  
OPTION 5: metal  
CORRECT OPTION: 4  
EXPLANATION: Country is a collection of states and state is a collection of cities. So State is smaller than a country and larger than a city. Metal is not a place and all the other options are not smaller than a country and larger than a city.

QUESTION: With all the leaves falling each year, a natural compost keeps the soil healthy for all the trees where?  
OPTION 1: garden

OPTION 2: useful for recycling  
OPTION 3: surface of earth  
OPTION 4: forest  
OPTION 5: orchard  
CORRECT OPTION: 4  
EXPLANATION: A natural compost keeps the soil healthy for all the trees in a forest which is a large area covered chiefly with trees. Compost is decayed or decaying organic matter like leaves. A garden may or may not have trees. Useful for recycling is not a geographical place where trees exist. Trees do not exist across all surface of earth. Leaves of fruit trees in an orchard may or may not fall every year.

QUESTION: What must one be careful about when learning about science?  
OPTION 1: become educated  
OPTION 2: frustration  
OPTION 3: accidents  
OPTION 4: smiles  
OPTION 5: basketball  
CORRECT OPTION: 3  
EXPLANATION: Accident is an unfortunate incident that happens unexpectedly and unintentionally. One must be careful about accidents when learning about science. Become educated is not being careful of. Frustration is the feeling of being upset as one doesn't get frustrated when learning about science. Smile is amused expression whereas being careful about smile is not necessary when learning about science. Basketball is not true as learning about science is not related with basketball.

QUESTION: Where can you learn about the anatomy of a blowfish in print?  
OPTION 1: cuba  
OPTION 2: fish market  
OPTION 3: books  
OPTION 4: france  
OPTION 5: canada  
CORRECT OPTION: 3  
EXPLANATION: Anatomy exists in living beings including fishes and can be accessed in books. Cuba, France and Canada are countries and are not material to be printed on. Fish market cannot be printed on.

QUESTION: If you ate some spicy food, what could happen to you?  
OPTION 1: medium  
OPTION 2: illness  
OPTION 3: throwing up  
OPTION 4: heartburn  
OPTION 5: sleepiness  
CORRECT OPTION: 4  
EXPLANATION: spicy food causes you heartburn. Medium is not that can happen to you. spicy food doesn't cause illness or throwing up or sleepiness.

QUESTION: She let him know he was being over the top, and that his antics where a little what?  
OPTION 1: much  
OPTION 2: plenty  
OPTION 3: larger  
OPTION 4: lot of  
OPTION 5: big  
CORRECT OPTION: 1  
EXPLANATION: The behaviour of the person was getting unbearable and a little much signifies something excess beyond capacity. All the other options are either grammatically or contextually incorrect.

QUESTION: Where can a child learn about the adventures of a talking monkey?  
OPTION 1: rain forest  
OPTION 2: tropical areas  
OPTION 3: pet store  
OPTION 4: library  
OPTION 5: story book  
CORRECT OPTION: 5  
EXPLANATION: Story books are books which are used for teaching children about various things like talking monkeys. Both tropical area sand rain forest are wild areas which are not a thing to teach child. Pet store and library are a different type of place but cannot be used to teach children.

QUESTION: You'll likely have a kitchenette in what place where you sleep away from home?  
OPTION 1: house  
OPTION 2: hotel room  
OPTION 3: apartment  
OPTION 4: allen key  
OPTION 5: dormroom  
CORRECT OPTION: 2  
EXPLANATION: Hotel room is a bedroom usually with bath in a hotel. You'll likely have a kitchenette in a hotel room where you sleep away from home. House is a home where you live permanently and not away from home. Apartments are house and is not where you sleep away from home. Allen key is not a room where you can sleep. Dorm room usually comes without a kitchen.

QUESTION: It was the only way out of town, the police parked their vehicles and drew their guns to create a what?  
OPTION 1: war  
OPTION 2: sporting goods store  
OPTION 3: military base  
OPTION 4: roadblock  
OPTION 5: fun  
CORRECT OPTION: 4



EXPLANATION: A roadblock is a barrier or barricade on a road which is set up to stop people passing through a road. Roads are ways of out towns. The police parked their vehicles to create a roadblock. Parking vehicles and drawing guns does not create fun all the other options.

QUESTION: Sahmbi was lying about the fugitive's location. He was lying because he wanted to avoid legal what?

OPTION 1: confusion  
OPTION 2: being found out  
OPTION 3: hurt feelings  
OPTION 4: being fired  
OPTION 5: trouble  
CORRECT OPTION: 5

EXPLANATION: People lie to avoid legal troubles as they involve lot of hassle. All the other options have no legal implication and meaning.

QUESTION: What does getting in line for a long time require in a person?

OPTION 1: intention  
OPTION 2: getting in the front of the line  
OPTION 3: basic organization  
OPTION 4: early childhood socialization  
OPTION 5: patience  
CORRECT OPTION: 5

EXPLANATION: Patience is the capacity to accept or tolerate delay, problems, or suffering without becoming annoyed or anxious which is what required in a person to get in line for a long time. Getting in front of the line is not something in a person and getting in line for a long time does not require the things given in the other options.

QUESTION: What might a person see at the scene of a brutal killing?

OPTION 1: bloody mess  
OPTION 2: pleasure  
OPTION 3: being imprisoned  
OPTION 4: feeling of guilt  
OPTION 5: cake  
CORRECT OPTION:

---

## G.4 Naturalness Test Example Prompt

The following is the prompt to filter examples for the naturalness of our interventions. Because this prompt is designed for instruction-tuned Llama2 models, it surrounds the instruction with [INST] tags, matching the format these models were fine-tuned on.

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[INST] I'm going to show a sentence, and followed by the same sentence with a word added. It's fine if the added word changes the meaning of the sentence. However, I want you to tell me if the second sentence still makes sense with the added word.

Sentence 1: "The children throw rocks at the militant threatening their safety."

Sentence 2: "The stuck children throw rocks at the militant threatening their safety."

Does the second sentence make sense with the added word? Please begin your answer with "Yes" or "No". [/INST]

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