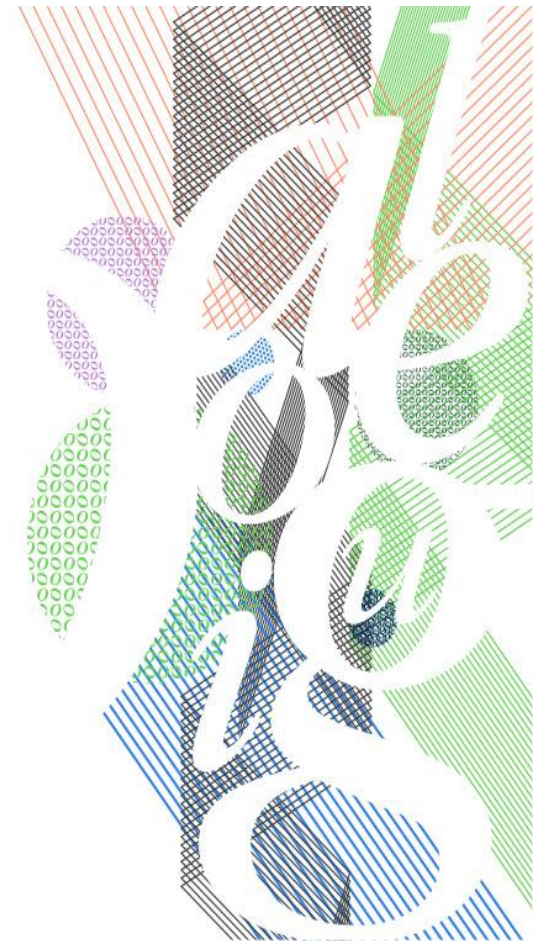
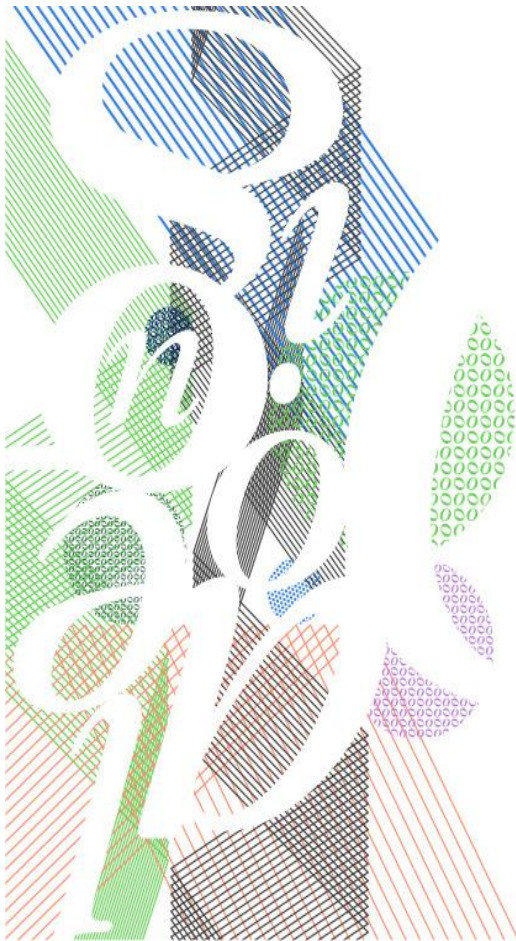


THE ROLE AND APPLICATIONS OF EXPERT ERROR ANNOTATION IN A CORPUS OF ENGLISH LEARNER TEXTS

Olga Vinogradova
(olgavinogr@gmail.com),
Research University Higher
School of Economics, Moscow



REALEC

- **Russian** – texts written by speakers of Russian
- **Error-Annotated** – the mistakes in the texts were annotated manually
- **Learner** – texts written by learners=HSE students
- **English** – texts written in English
- **Corpus**

Corpus Features

Set up at School of Linguistics, HSE

Founding father – Andrey Kutuzov

In the open access, available at

<http://realec.org>

http://realec.org/hse/#/data_4_staff

By now almost 3400 pieces of HSE students' writing with about 838,000 word tokens

Achievements

- A well developed system of hierarchical tags to mark the errors (tags of different colours) and Tagging Manual (http://realec.org/tagging_instructions.pdf).
- Methodology of using essays from the corpus in class in preparation for IELTS
- Annotating as linguistic practical work
- Reviewing annotations as a part of work on the thesis
- Research and study group “REALEC for real words”

Problems

- Essays are written by hand
- Annotation is expensive and time-consuming
- Experts' agreement is difficult to achieve
- There is a need for more annotators
- There is a need for applications for students and EFL instructors

Agreement experiments

- Experiment 1:

10 annotators

30 essays (150-300 words)

Preliminary error spans marking

Total 2128 error tags assigned

KA = 0.57

- Experiment 2:

12 annotators

1 essay (600 words)

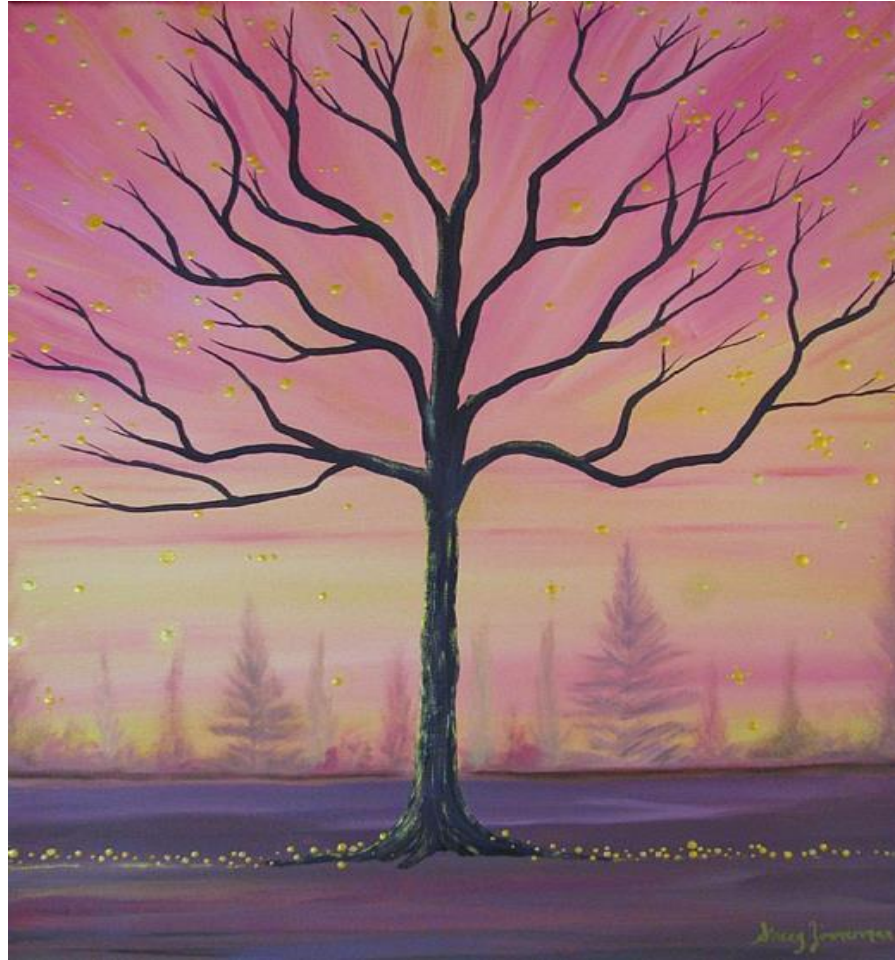
Error spans not marked

Total 156 error tags assigned

New Corpus-based Applications

- **RETM** – **REALEC** **T**est-**M**aker
 - In-built transition to a more sophisticated question after the success, and to lower-level complexity in case of a failure.
 - placement test
 - custom-made progress tests
- Lexical Trainers (Kuzmenlo, Fenogenova)
- Training exercises and games for new annotators (crowdsourcing?)

Will it survive?



Thank you!

olgavinogr@gmail.com