

Outstanding issues for Within-document Event Coreference Guidelines

(Laura Hasler: 27.02.2006)

During our discussions and annotations, there were several issues arising that we decided not to change now and also some issues that we did not reach a definite decision about how to deal with. These are things that it would be a good idea to add/change/bear in mind in future guidelines and annotations.

Participles: *they were killed, he was injured* etc. We decided for now that we annotate these as verb triggers, although they also act like an adjective but they are not in a modifier position. We need to think about what to do with these in future.

Headline tense: headlines often use present tense to introduce a past event as part of their style. We need to decide how to deal with this. The idea so far is to mark this as past because it is just a style issue.

Speaker tense: speakers use present tense to describe an event happening whilst they are speaking but which is then past tense by the time the document is written. We need to decide how to deal with this. The idea so far is to mark this as present tense rather than past.

Speaker/hearer distinction in CONTACT events: when demands/threats/promises etc. are made, we only annotate as an argument the agent making the demand/threat/promise. In future it would be better to add to the slot so we can include who is the hearer or the intended recipient of the demand/threat/promise and distinguish this from the speaker or the producer.

Screenshot in guidelines: Karin mentioned that it would be useful to include a screenshot in our guidelines, so that the annotator can better visualise the tool when reading the guidelines. The instructions in the “How to annotate...” section could then refer to this screenshot. This would help to make things clearer.