
Experiment 1 Stimuli

Evidence manipulation: SS - Seeing Strong  
SW - Seeing Weak  
HF - Hearing First-person  
HS - Hearsay

(1) Background: Lila and her family were tiny people who lived underneath the floorboards of a large house. They borrowed whatever they needed from the house above. They were always careful to not be seen.

Evidence:  
SS: Lila and Uncle Boris tiptoed towards the kitchen. The house was brightly lit. Lila looked into the bright room. She saw a pot of stew boiling on the stove.  
SW: Lila and Uncle Boris tiptoed towards the kitchen. The house was dimly lit. Lila peered into the dark room. She made out a coat hanging on a hook.  
HF: Lila and Uncle Boris tiptoed towards the kitchen. The house was silent. Lila paused to listen. She heard a radio playing in the next room.  
HS: Lila and Uncle Boris tiptoed towards the kitchen. The house was silent. Boris whispered to Lila that there was a pot of stew on the stove.

Conclusion: Lila told her uncle disappointedly, "There's a boy! We have to hide..."  
Valence: Negative

(2) Background: Spot was a sweet puppy, but he had a mean owner. Oliver loved Spot, so he and his friend Mark hid the puppy in an abandoned cabin. Oliver hoped to keep Spot safe.

Evidence:  
SS: One bright and sunny day, Oliver went to the cabin. As he neared the cabin, he looked through the window and saw that the cabin was empty.  
SW: One moonless evening, Oliver went to the cabin. He looked through the dense trees towards the cabin. He couldn't see anything through the cabin window.  
HF: One calm and quiet day, Oliver went to the cabin. As he neared the cabin, he called Spot's name. The cabin was strangely quiet.  
HS: One calm and quiet day, Oliver went to the cabin. As he neared the cabin, Mark came and told Oliver the door was left open.

Conclusion: Oliver felt his heart race in panic. He muttered, "Spot's owner found Spot."  
Valence: Negative

(3) Background: Ben and Jessica were runaway orphans. They didn't know where to go, but anything was better than the orphanage. One week, they decided to work in a bakery in exchange for shelter.

Evidence:  
SS: On the fourth day, Ben looked across the bright, clean bakery, saw all of their belongings packed by the door, and frowned.  
SW: On the fourth day, Ben looked across the dimly lit bakery towards a letter buried amongst the Baker's mail on the table, and frowned.  
HF: On the fourth day, Ben walked towards the quiet, near-empty bakery. He overheard the Baker talking excitedly on the phone, and frowned.
HS: On the fourth day, Jessica approached Ben in secret and whispered to him that their belongings had
been packed and left by the door. Ben frowned.

**Conclusion:** Ben told Jessica, "The Baker wants to take us back to that orphanage."

**Valence:** Negative

(4) **Background:** After school, April ran home with her friend, Piper, to get ready for homecoming dance.
April "borrowed" her mom's earrings to look her best – if her parents found out, she'd be grounded.

**Evidence:**
SS: April and Piper paraded through the brightly lit house. April peeked into her parent's room and saw
her mother digging through her jewelry box.
SW: April and Piper paraded through a dark, dingy hallway. April passed by her parents' room and
glimpsed her mother's silhouette in the dim room.
HF: April and Piper paraded through an empty hallway. April pressed her ear to the door of her parents'
room and heard her mother rummaging through her jewelry box.
HS: April and Piper paraded through an empty hallway. Piper peeked into a room and told April that her
mother was digging through the jewelry box.

**Conclusion:** April's heart sank. "I'll never get to go to the dance," she cried.

**Valence:** Negative

(5) **Background:** The mice of Nanook were very smart. Hopi, their leader, had planned to move the mice
settlement in order to survive winter, but knew to wait until the neighborhood cat was away.

**Evidence:**
SS: On the day of the move, Hopi looked across the open, sunny field. He saw the nearby brush shake
and quiver ominously.
SW: On the day of the move, Hopi squinted to see across the dense, grassy field. He saw the tall grass
far away rustle a little.
HF: On the day of the move, Hopi perked up his large ears and listened closely. He heard distinct rustling
in the nearby brush.
HS: On the day of the move, Hopi looked across the open, sunny field. A passing mouse told him that a
nearby brush had rustled.

**Conclusion:** Defeated, Hopi told the other mice, "The cat is out there. It's unsafe."

**Valence:** Negative

(6) **Background:** Liane Jones always wore her bright red hair in two braids. Dillon, a boy at school,
constantly made fun of Liane's braids, so Liane and her best friend Didi tried to avoid him.

**Evidence:**
SS: One day, Liane and Didi were in their classroom. The classroom was small and brightly lit. Nearby,
Liane saw Dillon make a face and point at her.
SW: One day, Liane and Didi were in their classroom. The classroom was large and crowded. Across the
room, Dillon was pointing at something.
HF: One day, Liane and Didi were in their classroom. The classroom was small and quiet. Nearby, Liane
heard Dillon tell a joke and mention her.
HS: One day, Liane and Didi were in their classroom. Didi whispered in Liane's ear that Dillon was telling
a joke about her.

**Conclusion:** Liane exclaimed, "He's making fun of my hair again?!?"

**Valence:** Negative
(7) **Background:** The boys feared that there was a beast stalking the island at night. Each night, Griffin elected one boy to guard the others. The boys were getting more nervous with each passing night.

**Evidence:**

**SS:** Tonight, Kyle was on duty. The boys' camp was in a large clearing. Kyle looked intently for the beast. He saw a large shape moving nearby.

**SW:** Tonight, Kyle was on duty. The boys' camp was in a dense part of the jungle. Kyle peered out for the beast. He glimpsed something moving from afar.

**HF:** Tonight, Kyle was on duty. The boys' camp was in a quiet part of the jungle. Kyle listened intently for the beast. He heard a growl nearby.

**HS:** Tonight, Kyle was on duty. The boys' camp was in a quiet part of the jungle. While Kyle kept watch, Griffin warned him that there was growling nearby.

**Conclusion:** Kyle shouted to the others, "The beast is coming!"

**Valence:** Negative

(8) **Background:** Stanley agreed to help his friend Patrick learn to read. Neither of the boys had any books, so they stole one from a bookshop. Afterwards, they couldn't stop worrying that they'd be caught.

**Evidence:**

**SS:** The next day, Stanley and Patrick walked by the bookshop. Stanley looked through the big, glass windows and saw the bookkeeper frantically going through his books.

**SW:** The next day, Stanley and Patrick walked by the bookshop. Stanley peered through the small, dirty windows and saw the bookkeeper tending to his books.

**HF:** The next day, Stanley and Patrick walked by the bookshop. Stanley pressed his ear against the window and heard the bookkeeper frantically going through his books.

**HS:** The next day, Stanley and Patrick walked by the bookshop. Patrick told Stanley that the bookkeeper was frantically going through his books.

**Conclusion:** Stanley whispered to Patrick, "Oh boy, we're in trouble now…"

**Valence:** Negative

(9) **Background:** Eric served on the Night Guard. Every night, he and his brother patrol the border of the realm, protecting it from invasion. Their duty was to warn others if the enemy approached.

**Evidence:**

**SS:** The night was bright with a full moon, and Eric could see for miles. He scanned the landscape. He saw a large mass come over the hill.

**SW:** The night was cloudy and hail blocked his view; Eric could barely see. He peered out as best he could. He glimpsed large moving shadows in the distance.

**HF:** The night was silent and cold; Eric could have heard a pin drop. He stood completely still, listening intently. He heard war-drums pounding over the hill.

**HS:** The night was silent and cold; Eric could have heard a pin drop. His brother approached him to report a large mass coming over the hill.

**Conclusion:** Eric ran to his fellow guards and cried, "The enemy is here!"

**Valence:** Negative

(10) **Background:** Ms. How and Mr. Bluestone walked down a winding garden path. Every evening after tea, they explored the grounds to care for the mandrakes and other magical plants.

**Evidence:**
SS: Ms. How walked ahead while Mr. Bluestone watered a shrub. In the clear, still light of the afternoon, Ms. How saw fresh, and very large, paw prints.
SW: Ms. How walked ahead while Mr. Bluestone watered a shrub. In the dying, dim light of the evening, Ms. How saw some old markings in the dirt.
HF: Ms. How walked ahead while Mr. Bluestone watered a shrub. In the cool, still evening air, Ms. How heard a long, low growl.
HS: While Ms. How watered a shrub, Mr. Bluestone walked ahead. In the cool, still evening air, he told Ms. How there were fresh, large paw prints on the path.

Conclusion: "There's a wolf out there!" Ms. How said fearfully.
Valence: Negative

(11) Background: Tina and her brother Davie were visiting their grandma. They flew there all by themselves. They huddled against the window and watched the plane roll into the airport.

Evidence:
SS: Tina ran out of the plane to find her grandma. The airport was silent and empty. She looked around, but did not see her grandma.
SW: Tina ran out of the plane to find her grandma. The airport was noisy and crowded. She looked around, but did not see her grandma.
HF: Tina ran out of the plane to find her grandma. The airport was silent and empty. She called out, but did not hear her grandma answer.
HS: Davie ran out of the plane to find their grandma while Tina fetched their bags. He called out to Tina that he couldn't see their grandma.

Conclusion: "There's no one here to pick us up!" she wailed.
Valence: Negative

(12) Background: Jenny rolled over, and her best friend, Ben, pulled her up. She rummaged through her pockets. Her beloved space pen was gone! It could play music and write underwater, on glass, or upside down.

Evidence:
SS: As she sat up, her eyes flashed with anger. Nearby, she saw the boys that had pushed her down tossing around something small and silver.
SW: As she sat up, her eyes overflowed with tears. In the distance, she saw the boys that had pushed her down exchanging high fives.
HF: As she sat up, her eyes overflowed with tears. She heard the boys that had pushed her down humming happily to the music of her pen.
HS: As she sat up, her eyes filled with tears. Ben said that the boys who had pushed her down were tossing around something small and silver.

Conclusion: "They stole it" she moaned, hiding her face in her hands.
Valence: Negative

(13) Background: The pirate Redbeard was the best treasure hunter in the seven seas, second only to Bluebeard, his sworn enemy. Redbeard and his first mate were combing the shores of the island of Tesoro.

Evidence:
SS: It was a clear, moonlit night. Redbeard scanned the beach. He saw shovels nearby, abandoned next to a large pit in the sand.
SW: It was a dark, stormy night. Redbeard scanned the sea. He saw the vague outline of a ship sailing off into the horizon.
HF: It was a calm, moonless night. Redbeard listened to the soft whisper of the waves. He heard a deep, low cackle nearby.
HS: It was a calm, moonless night. Redbeard's first mate ran ahead. He reported that there were shovels and a large pit in the sand.

Conclusion: Redbeard growled, "Bluebeard was here first."
Valence: Negative

(14) Background: It was Christmas Eve, and Millie lay wide awake in her bed. This year, she was determined to meet Santa; her dad had even left cookies for him under the Christmas tree.

Evidence:
SS: Millie's dad was fast asleep. Millie hopped out of bed and walked into the brightly lit living room. There were cookie crumbs and presents under the tree.
SW: Millie's dad was fast asleep. Millie got out of bed and peered through the foggy, icy window. She saw the silhouette of a man walking through the snow.
HF: Millie's dad was fast asleep. Millie listened for any sounds outside her door. Suddenly, she heard sleigh bells and slow, heavy footsteps – then the noise vanished.
HS: Millie listened for any sounds outside her door. Millie's dad peeked into the room and told her that there were presents under the tree.

Conclusion: Her eyes filled with tears. "Santa's gone!" she cried.
Valence: Negative

(15) Background: Mr. Stupendous was the ringleader of The Stupendous Circus. He and his assistant, Deborah, were famous for miles around. Their finest act was Lola, the dancing bear.

Evidence:
SS: Mr. Stupendous and Deborah walked around the empty, brightly lit fairground. Near Lola's cage, Mr. Stupendous saw fresh pawprints and Lola's trademark tutu lying in the mud.
SW: Mr. Stupendous and Deborah walked around the dark, bustling, chaotic fairground. Near Lola's cage, he lowered his eyes. He glimpsed a costume being trampled by the crowd.
HF: Mr. Stupendous and Deborah walked around the quiet, empty fairground. Near Lola's cage, Mr. Stupendous heard a loud, menacing roar not too far behind him.
HS: Mr. Stupendous walked around the quiet, empty fairground. Deborah rushed to him and told him that Lola's tutu was lying in the mud.

Conclusion: Mr. Stupendous grew pale. "The bear has escaped!"
Valence: Negative

(16) Background: Sam lived with his mom on an island in the ocean. For as long as they could remember, huge tsunamis had hit the shore from time to time. Thankfully, the ocean had been calm for many months now.

Evidence:
SS: Sam was walking along the beach on a sunny, cloudless day. He spotted white peaks of waves rising near the shore.
SW: Sam was walking along the beach on a dark, foggy night. He caught a glimpse of water rippling gently in the distance.
HF: Sam was walking along the beach on a still, peaceful day. Suddenly, he heard a large wave crash on the nearby shore.
**HS:** Sam was walking along the beach on a sunny, cloudless day, when his mom told him that there were waves crashing loudly on the shore.

**Conclusion:** Sam panicked and cried out, "Oh no, a storm's coming!"

**Valence:** Negative

(17) **Background:** This morning, Tim's mom packed him a big chocolate chip cookie for dessert. Tim decided to eat his lunch outside today, even though lately there had been a mean vulture flying around and stealing people's food.

**Evidence:**

**SS:** Tim went to get some water. As he walked back, he saw a large hole in his lunch bag, and a large feather floating towards the ground.

**SW:** Tim went to get some water. As he walked back, he saw his lunch bag had been moved. There was an old feather lying on the ground.

**HF:** Tim went to get some water. As he walked back, he heard the crinkling of his lunch bag and the swoop of large wings.

**HS:** Tim went to get some water. As he walked back, his mom told him that there was a large hole in his lunchbag.

**Conclusion:** Tim sighed, "Darn, I really wanted that cookie..."

**Valence:** Negative

(18) **Background:** Amy and Anthony were twins; they always did everything together. One day, they were playing hide and seek with their friends. Amy pulled Anthony into a closet. They hid together and waited.

**Evidence:**

**SS:** After a while, Amy peeked out of the closet. The room was brightly lit. Nearby, she saw her friends playing video games on the couch.

**SW:** After a while, Amy peeked out of the closet. The room was very dark. From afar, she saw someone walking away from them.

**HF:** After a while, Amy peeked out of the closet. The room was very quiet. Nearby, she heard her friends turn on the television.

**HS:** After a while, Anthony peeked out of the closet. The room was very quiet. He told Amy that their friends were playing video games on the couch.

**Conclusion:** Amy started crying. "They forgot to look for us!", she said to Anthony.

**Valence:** Negative

(19) **Background:** Will and Sophia had heard rumors about the abandoned house down the lane – one night, they decided to see it for themselves. They snuck into the grounds and opened the front door.

**Evidence:**

**SS:** The house was brightly light and very quiet. Will looked inside. In the next room, he saw a big, wooden coffin surrounded by lit candles.

**SW:** The house was pitch-black and very quiet. Will strained to see anything in the darkness. Down the hall, he made out a curtain fluttering in the wind.

**HF:** The house was pitch-black and very quiet. Will looked inside. In the next room, he heard the floorboards creaking and the distinct jingling of chains.

**HS:** The house was pitch-black and very quiet. Sophia walked down the hall. She turned around and told Will that there was a coffin in the next room.

**Conclusion:** Will ran out of the house, screaming: "This house is haunted!"
Valence: Negative

(20) **Background:** Basil and his sister, Iris, were the guardian spirits of the forest. They kept all the creatures living in the forest safe from intruders. One day, they were soaring over the forest.

**Evidence:**
**SS:** Basil and Iris flew into a clearing in the forest. The day was clear and sunny. In the bright light, Basil saw a big pile of trash.
**SW:** Basil and Iris flew into dense part of the forest. The night was dark and silent. In the distance, Basil made out something moving among the trees.
**HF:** Basil and Iris flew into a clearing in the forest. The night was dark and silent. Nearby, Basil heard trees crunching and falling.
**HS:** Basil and Iris flew into a clearing in the forest. Iris flew ahead. She zoomed back to warn Basil about a big pile of trash ahead.

**Conclusion:** Heart racing, Basil told Iris: "The humans are coming!"
Valence: Negative

(21) **Background:** Joseph had been sick this entire week. His dad made him tomato soup and told him to rest, but Joseph couldn’t asleep. All he wanted was to feel better and see his friends.

**Evidence:**
**SS:** Joseph lay on a couch in the living room, which was very bright. Through the large, sunny windows, he saw a familiar car drive into his driveway.
**SW:** Joseph lay on a couch in the living room, which was quite dark. Through the tiny windows, he glanced at an unfamiliar car driving down his street.
**HF:** Joseph lay on a couch in the living room, which was very quiet. Through the large windows, he heard chatter and footsteps approaching the front door.
**HS:** Joseph lay on a couch in the living room, which was very quiet. His dad called out that there was chatter and footsteps at the front door.

**Conclusion:** Joseph called out to his dad happily, "Hooray, my friends are here!"
Valence: Positive

(22) **Background:** Sonia and Hal loved playing outside. They would catch fireflies in jars and wait until it got dark to let them all free at once. This is when they lit up the most!

**Evidence:**
**SS:** Sonia was following a firefly through the backyard. It was dark enough that she could keep track of it. She saw a clear flicker of light nearby.
**SW:** Sonia was following a firefly through the backyard. It was light outside, so she couldn't keep track of it easily. She glimpsed a flicker of light across the lawn.
**HF:** Sonia was following a firefly through the backyard. It was so quiet that she could hear it buzz. She heard a clear bzzz nearby.
**HS:** Sonia was following a firefly through the backyard. It was so quiet that she could hear it buzz. Hal told her it was a foot in front of her.

**Conclusion:** Sonia called to Hal, "I've almost got this one!"
Valence: Positive

(23) **Background:** Justine had always wanted to become a detective, but she never encountered the right case to solve. Her mom was always trying to find people she could help.
Evidence:
SS: One day, Justine was exploring her neighbor's yard. Her neighbor had been away for months. Through the kitchen window, she saw bags of fresh groceries on the counter.
SW: One day, Justine was exploring her neighbor's yard. Her neighbor had been away for months. Through a grimy kitchen window, she glimpsed some moldy fruit on the counter.
HF: One day, Justine was exploring her neighbor's yard. Her neighbor had been away for months. Through a cracked window, she heard voices coming from the kitchen.
HS: One day, Justine was exploring her neighbor's yard. Her neighbor had been away for months. Her mother told her that there were fresh groceries in the neighbor's kitchen.

Conclusion: Justine exclaimed, "Someone's living in the neighbor's house! Finally- a mystery to solve!"
Valence: Positive

(24) Background: Julie and her little sister had wanted a puppy for years. Every holiday, they asked their parents to give them a puppy, but their parents had always said no.

Evidence:
SS: On Julie's ninth birthday, she woke up and ran downstairs to her parents. In the bright kitchen, she saw a newly installed doggy door.
SW: On Julie's ninth birthday, she woke up and ran downstairs to her parents. In the cluttered kitchen, she saw a few small toys on the floor.
HF: On Julie's ninth birthday, she woke up and ran downstairs to her parents. In the quiet kitchen, she heard a quiet, excited yipping.
HS: On Julie's ninth birthday, she woke up and ran downstairs to her parents. In the kitchen, her little sister told her about the newly installed doggy door.

Conclusion: Julie asked her mom, "Did we get a new puppy?!"
Valence: Positive

(25) Background: Grace was sick and tired of hearing her parents praise Anna, her older sister, for her good grades and study habits. One night, Anna was supposed to study for a big test in her room.

Evidence:
SS: Grace walked by Anna's room and noticed that the door was open, so she looked inside. In the bright light, she saw Anna watching television.
SW: Grace walked by Anna's room and peeked through a crack in the door. In the dim light, she saw that Anna wasn't at her desk.
HF: Grace walked by Anna's room and pressed her ear against the door. The room was quiet except for the sound of a television playing.
HS: Grace's dad walked around the house and passed by Anna's room. He told Grace that Anna had turned on the television in her room.

Conclusion: Later, Grace told Anna, "You're going to be in so much trouble!"
Valence: Positive

(26) Background: Jack had entered a raffle to win a secret surprise from his favorite toy company. His sister teased him about how badly he wanted to win, but Jack waited patiently for the results.

Evidence:
SS: On the day of the announcement, Jack waited at home with his sister. Through an open window, he saw the mailman place a large package at the front door.
SW: On the day of the announcement, Jack waited at home with his sister. Through the small, dingy windows, he saw the mailman approach his home.
**HF:** On the day of the announcement, Jack waited at home with his sister. Through an open window, he heard the mailman place a heavy package at the front door.

**HS:** On the day of the announcement, Jack was in his kitchen. His sister snickered and told him there was a large package at the front door.

*Conclusion:* Jack danced around the room and yelled ecstatically, "Hoorah, I've won!"

*Valence:* Positive

(27) **Background:** Carmen and her dad had constructed a birdhouse to hang in their backyard. Carmen waited anxiously for signs that there were birds living in the home she’d built.

**Evidence:**

**SS:** One bright, sunny morning, Carmen went up close to the birdhouse. She saw some twigs and fluff sticking out through its door.

**SW:** One dark, windy evening, Carmen glanced at the birdhouse from across the yard. She glimpsed the birdhouse swaying a bit in the breeze.

**HF:** One quiet, sunny morning, Carmen went up close to the birdhouse. She heard tweeting and shuffling through the door of the birdhouse.

**HS:** One quiet, sunny morning, Carmen's dad woke her and told her that there was tweeting and shuffling coming from the door of the birdhouse.

*Conclusion:* Carmen clapped and cheered, "Our birdhouse was a success!"

*Valence:* Positive

(28) **Background:** The Bennett family had embarked on a journey across the country in a covered wagon, in hopes of finding a better life. Tired and weary, they yearned for signs of settlements.

**Evidence:**

**SS:** The day was clear and sunny- Pa could see for miles. As they rounded the mountain, Pa saw footprints and an abandoned campfire.

**SW:** The day was rainy and cloudy- Pa could barely see in front of him. As they rounded the mountain, Pa squinted and saw some trampled brush.

**HF:** The day was clear and quiet- Pa could hear for miles. As they rounded the mountain, Pa heard a hail of gunshots coming from nearby.

**HS:** The day was clear and quiet- Pa could hear for miles. As they rounded the mountain, Ma told Pa about an abandoned campfire.

*Conclusion:* Pa exclaimed- "There must be other travelers nearby!"

*Valence:* Positive

(29) **Background:** Shelly suspected that Mr. Poe, their next door neighbor, was hiding a secret pet in his house. One day, she and her friend Monica snuck up to his house.

**Evidence:**

**SS:** Shelly went up to the door. Shelly stared through the huge, nicely clean, front window. She saw a long, stripy tail.

**SW:** Shelly went up to the door. Shelly peered through the tiny, grimy, back window. She saw a big shadow in the corner.

**HF:** Shelly went up to the door. Shelly put her ear to the front door. She distinctly heard growling and purring coming from inside.

**HS:** Shelly sent Monica up to the door. Monica put her ear to the front door. Monica told Shelly that there was growling and purring coming from inside.
Conclusion: Shelly grinned and squeaked: "Wow, there's a tiger in there!"
Valence: Positive

(30) Background: Emily and Danny had just finished making chocolate pudding for their grandmother, who was coming to visit. They were waiting for her eagerly – they could hardly sit still.

Evidence:
SS: Their mother was napping, and the house was very still. Emily saw presents and a familiar purse sitting in the front hall.
SW: Their cousins were visiting, and people kept running in and out of the house. Emily saw the front door open and shut.
HF: Their mother was napping, and the house was very quiet. Emily suddenly heard footsteps and a purse jingling in the front hall.
HS: Their mother was napping, and the house was very quiet. Danny sat by the front door and called out to Emily that there were footsteps outside.

Conclusion: Emily jumped for joy. "Grandma is here!" she yelled.
Valence: Positive

(31) Background: Bella poured the sleeping potion into Ardwin's soup and went into the next room, where her sister, Jen, was waiting. They held their breaths while Ardwin started to eat.

Evidence:
SS: Bella stared through the secret peep hole and waited. In the bright light, Bella saw his eyes close and his head droop.
SW: Bella peered through a crack in the door. In the very dim light, Bella squinted and spied Ardwin staring at his soup.
HF: Bella pressed her ear against the door and waited. In the sudden quiet, Bella heard the spoon drop and a soft snore.
HS: Jen pressed her ear against the door and waited. In the sudden quiet, Jen whispered to Bella that he was starting to snore.

Conclusion: Bella grinned from ear to ear. "The potion worked!" she exclaimed.
Valence: Positive

(32) Background: Howie and his sister Addie were lost in a cave. As quietly as possible, Howie and Addie crept along the passages of the cave, hoping to find the way out.

Evidence:
SS: In the dim light, Howie paused and looked closely for any signs of the outside world. Recognizing a beam of sunlight ahead,
SW: In the crazily flickering torch-light, Howie paused and strained his eyes to see any signs of the outside world. Seeing something glint ahead,
HF: In the dead silence, Howie paused and listened closely for any signs of the outside world. Recognizing the sound of wind ahead,
HS: In the dead silence, Addie ran in front of Howie and paused. She told Howie that there was the sound of wind ahead,

Conclusion: he broke into a smile. "Let's go" he said.
Valence: Positive

(33) Background: Thomas knew that he should not follow Flagg, but he had no choice—he had to escape the castle. Flagg, a powerful magician, led him to the end of a passageway.
Evidence:
SS: When Flagg raised the bright flame that burned from the tip of his finger, Thomas looked at the wall. He saw the clear outline of a door.
SW: When Flagg dimmed the flickering flame that burned from the tip of his finger, Thomas squinted at the wall. He saw a crack in the wall.
HF: When Flagg blew out the flame that burned from the tip of his finger, Thomas put his ear against the wall. He heard sounds from the outside world.
HS: After examining a wall, Flagg extinguished the bright flame that burned from the tip of his finger. He told Thomas "there is an outline of a door there."

Conclusion: "This is a secret way out of the castle!" Thomas exclaimed.
Valence: Positive

(34) Background: Jajo and the dwarves were horribly lost. They had been walking tirelessly through scorching hot days and icy nights. They stumbled through the woods, searching for the elves.

Evidence:
SS: Jajo signaled for the dwarves to pause and scanned the wide open landscape. He saw bright, colorful tents on the next hill.
SW: Jajo peered through the densely layered forest and spotted a patch of dark, cloudy sky ahead. He saw smoke in the distance.
HF: Jajo lifted his eyes to the dense cover of the forest and listened to the softly blowing wind. He heard clear laughing and talking.
HS: Jajo paused and listened attentively to the report of one of the dwarves, who told him there was laughing and talking nearby.

Conclusion: Jajo turned to the dwarves. "The elves are near!" he cheered.
Valence: Positive

(35) Background: Nina and Kit were running away from home. After walking through the woods, they came across a busy street. The police were looking for them, and they were worried about being seen.

Evidence:
SS: The sun was up, and the air was still. Nina crouched behind a large bush. She could see the road perfectly. She didn't spot any cars at all.
SW: The sun had set, and it was getting dark. Nina crouched behind a large bush; she could hardly see the road. She didn't see any familiar cars.
HF: The wind had died down, and the air was still. Nina crouched behind a large bush and listened intently for traffic. She didn't hear anything.
HS: The wind had died down, and the air was still. Kit crouched behind a large bush. He told Nina that there were not any cars.

Conclusion: Nina wiped the sweat from her forehead. "We're safe" she said.
Valence: Positive

(36) Background: Paul put his fingers on Derek's wrist, but couldn't find the pulse. He had never tried to find anyone's pulse before. Kara was biting her nails and watching nervously.

Evidence:
SS: In the bright light of the flashlight, Paul stared at Derek's chest. After a few moments, he saw his chest rise and fall steadily.
SW: In the flicker of the candlelight, he squinted at Derek's chest. After a few moments, he saw Derek's body twitch slightly.
HF: In the pitch black of the night, Paul put his ear near Derek's chest. After a few moments, he heard a clear steady heartbeat.
HS: In the pitch black of the night, Kara put her ear near Derek's chest. She told Paul that there was a clear, steady heartbeat.

Conclusion: Paul sighed in relief. "Looks like he'll be all right" he said.
Valence: Positive

(37) Background: The road dipped into a green valley, and stretched toward the horizon. The car bounced along. Ollie and Morris were enjoying themselves. They were going to visit the biggest city in the country.

Evidence:
SS: Ollie, who had very good eyes, was looking out the window. He saw the tall, imposing buildings of a big city on the horizon.
SW: Ollie, who had very bad eyes, was squinting to see out the window. He saw the faint glimmer of lights on the horizon.
HF: Ollie, who had very good ears, was listening carefully out the window. He heard the clamor and commotion of a big city.
HS: Ollie, who had very good ears, listened to Morris describe the tall, imposing buildings of the city that were on the horizon.

Conclusion: Ollie clapped and cheered. "We're nearly there!" he said.
Valence: Positive

(38) Background: Sarah and her sister woke up bright and early, as usual. Sarah's best friend was coming to visit, and she was very excited. Sarah sat up, feeling groggy, and reached for her glasses.

Evidence:
SS: She wiped her glasses clean, put them on, and looked out the window. She saw her best friend's car in the driveway.
SW: She put them on, smudging the lens with her hands, and peered out the window. She saw a car she didn't recognize across the street.
HF: She couldn't find them, so she shrugged and listened carefully to the noise downstairs. She heard her friend's mom in the hallway.
HS: She couldn't find them, so she shrugged and rubbed her eyes. With a sly grin, her sister told her that her best friend's car was in the driveway.

Conclusion: Sarah broke into a grin and jumped out of bed.
Valence: Positive

(39) Background: On the deck of the ship, Captain Roberts stared sadly at the sea. He and his partner, Smith, had almost given up on finding the mysterious sea monster – and claiming the reward.

Evidence:
SS: It was a sunny day, and the sea was bright blue. Captain Roberts saw a boat sailing nearby. In a flash, the boat split in half.
SW: It was a stormy day, and the sea was black as ink. Captain Roberts peered through the heavy rain. He saw something swimming under the water's surface.
HF: It was a sunny day, and the ship was silent. Captain Roberts scanned the horizon. Suddenly, he heard a loud, menacing shriek.
**HS:** It was a sunny day, and the ship was silent. From the crow's nest, Smith shouted at Captain Roberts that a nearby boat had split in half.

*Conclusion:* Captain Roberts laughed and lifted his sword. "Finally – there's the monster!"

*Valence:* Positive

(40) **Background:** Annie and Tom were always pulling pranks on each other and making trouble around the house. They only sat still on Saturday mornings to wait for the ice cream truck to pass by their house.

**Evidence:**

**SS:** Annie opened a big window and looked outside. The streets were empty. Down the street, she saw a big group of kids running down the sidewalk.

**SW:** Annie looked outside through a tiny, grimy window. The streets were full of cars. Down the street, she saw a kid walking down the sidewalk.

**HF:** Annie opened a big window and looked outside. The streets were quiet. Around the corner, she heard a cheerful jingle coming towards them.

**HS:** Tom opened a big window and looked outside. Trying not to laugh, he told Annie that there was a big group of kids running down the sidewalk.

*Conclusion:* "The ice cream truck is here!" she said happily.

*Valence:* Positive