SUMM-IT. Creative writing tool by Richard Viso

SUMM-IT helps users get rid of irrelevant phrases. SUMM-IT uses natural language processing to show the user which parts of their writing is relevant. It highlights phrases based on their relevance to the rest of the writing. The user can then click and drag the slider to “SUMMARIZE” or “UNSUMMARIZE” their writing. We think the program is pretty cool! Also, Abraham Lincoln was a U.S. president.

How it works? SUMM-IT uses Google’s word2vec algorithm and the frequency of words in a text to classify phrases on a gradient from green (relevant) to red (irrelevant). The slider allows the user to chop off irrelevant sentences or add new irrelevant sentences from a database of news articles. The user can also click on a word to reclassify it as important.
The SUMM-IT Manifesto  SUMM-IT was designed to help anyone create better writing. It lets the user see what information is relevant and irrelevant and keep their writing on topic. However, SUMM-IT can also guide the user towards something greater. Applications like spell-check and Grammarly are great, but these only correct the user’s writing. They do not encourage creativity or spur new ideas. The end goal of SUMM-IT is to improve writing and give the user new ideas so they can better express themselves.

SUMM-IT was designed with simplicity in mind. There are only three features: dragging the slider to the right to “SUMMARIZE,” dragging the slider to the left to “UNSUMMARIZE,” and clicking on a phrase to reclassify it as important.

The UNSUMMARIZE tool seems pointless or even contrary to the program’s function, but this feature lies at the heart of SUMM-IT. On one level, the UNSUMMARIZE tool adds playfulness to the program. The user can drag the slider to the left and read some funny, out-of-context sentences. Designing with playfulness in mind can help the user flourish, or at least laugh. On another level, the UNSUMMARIZATION tool can push the user towards creativity. The new text, full of random sentences, can help the user come up with fresh ideas.

The last important feature of SUMM-IT is the reclassifying feature. The user can click on a phrase to reassign its importance. Natural language Processing algorithms, and more specifically Google’s word2vec, are not perfect. The reclassifying feature keeps the user in the loop, allowing them to give their input and improve the accuracy of the summarization.