

Activity Instructions:

This activity will help prepare you to look for themes in your data and build an argument in your paper around those themes.

Your group has been given 18 utterances that could be used as compliments in US American English. Pretend that this is data that you have collected in interviews and observations. Your task is to code the data (identify themes and find evidence for them). Here are the steps you need to complete:

1. Spread your data out where everyone in the group can see them.
2. Working together, look for patterns in the data.
3. Create categories that organize the data in some way. There are multiple possible ways to categorize any given data set, so don't worry about getting it "wrong".
4. Place your data into the categories you have created, as examples of that category.
5. Be able to articulate why you organized the data as you did, using the categories and the data in them as evidence that your coding system is valid.

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US American Compliments:

I like your shirt.

This was a great class.

Your earrings are amazing.

Fabulous goal!

Great haircut.

You're a whiz with computers.

You're really smart.

Your cat is so cute.

You're a really great writer.

Love this car.

I like your apartment.

You make a good margarita.

I love those shoes.

You look really good in red.

Good job with the dishes!

You have such white teeth.

Nice performance.

You are beautiful.