#### MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES

MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY POPULAR AS PLATFORMS THAT CONNECT INDIVIDUALS OR BUSINESSES WITH FREELANCE WORKERS FOR COMPLETING MICROTASKS ONLINE. THESE PLATFORMS OFFER OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE TO EARN MONEY BY PERFORMING TASKS SUCH AS DATA ENTRY, CONTENT MODERATION, SURVEY PARTICIPATION, AND MORE. THIS ARTICLE EXPLORES THE CONCEPT OF MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES, HIGHLIGHTING THEIR FUNCTIONALITY, POPULAR ALTERNATIVES, AND TIPS FOR MAXIMIZING EARNINGS. ADDITIONALLY, THE DISCUSSION COVERS THE ADVANTAGES AND CHALLENGES OF USING THESE PLATFORMS, HELPING BOTH WORKERS AND REQUESTERS NAVIGATE THE GROWING GIG ECONOMY. UNDERSTANDING THE LANDSCAPE OF MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES IS ESSENTIAL FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN LEVERAGING ONLINE TASK-BASED WORK OR OUTSOURCING SMALL-SCALE JOBS EFFICIENTLY. THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS PROVIDE A COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW OF THE BEST PLATFORMS, KEY FEATURES, AND PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR SUCCESS.

- Understanding Mechanical Turk and Its Alternatives
- POPULAR MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES
- KEY FEATURES TO CONSIDER IN MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES
- How to Maximize Earnings on Mechanical Turk Like Sites
- BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES OF MECHANICAL TURK LIKE PLATFORMS

## UNDERSTANDING MECHANICAL TURK AND ITS ALTERNATIVES

MECHANICAL TURK, ORIGINALLY LAUNCHED BY AMAZON, IS A PIONEER IN THE CROWDSOURCING MARKETPLACE WHERE BUSINESSES POST SIMPLE TASKS THAT REQUIRE HUMAN INTELLIGENCE. THESE TASKS, OFTEN REFERRED TO AS HUMAN INTELLIGENCE TASKS (HITS), INCLUDE ACTIVITIES THAT ARE DIFFICULT FOR AUTOMATED SYSTEMS BUT EASY FOR HUMANS, SUCH AS IMAGE TAGGING, TRANSCRIPTION, AND SURVEY COMPLETION. MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES HAVE EMERGED AS ALTERNATIVES, OFFERING SIMILAR SERVICES WITH VARIATIONS IN TASK TYPES, PAYMENT STRUCTURES, AND USER EXPERIENCE.

#### WHAT ARE MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES?

MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES ARE ONLINE PLATFORMS THAT FACILITATE THE COMPLETION OF MICROTASKS BY CONNECTING WORKERS WITH REQUESTERS. THESE PLATFORMS ALLOW BUSINESSES TO OUTSOURCE SMALL JOBS THAT REQUIRE HUMAN INPUT, WHILE WORKERS CAN EARN MONEY BY PERFORMING THESE TASKS REMOTELY. THEY TYPICALLY FEATURE A WIDE RANGE OF TASK CATEGORIES, INCLUDING DATA VALIDATION, CONTENT MODERATION, AUDIO TRANSCRIPTION, AND MORE.

#### HOW DO THESE PLATFORMS WORK?

On mechanical turk like sites, requesters create tasks and set payment amounts. Workers browse available tasks and choose those that match their skills and interests. Once a task is completed and approved by the requester, the worker receives payment. These platforms often include rating systems, quality checks, and dispute resolution processes to maintain task integrity and fair compensation.

## POPULAR MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES

SEVERAL PLATFORMS HAVE GAINED RECOGNITION AS RELIABLE ALTERNATIVES TO MECHANICAL TURK. EACH OFFERS UNIQUE FEATURES TAILORED TO DIFFERENT USER NEEDS, WHETHER FOR WORKERS SEEKING FLEXIBLE INCOME OR BUSINESSES REQUIRING

#### **CLICKWORKER**

CLICKWORKER IS A WELL-ESTABLISHED PLATFORM THAT OFFERS A WIDE VARIETY OF MICROTASKS, INCLUDING DATA CATEGORIZATION, WEB RESEARCH, AND CONTENT CREATION. IT SUPPORTS WORKERS WORLDWIDE AND PAYS VIA PAYPAL OR DIRECT BANK TRANSFERS, DEPENDING ON THE COUNTRY.

#### **MICROWORKERS**

MICROWORKERS ALLOWS WORKERS TO COMPLETE SMALL TASKS SUCH AS SURVEYS, APP TESTING, AND DATA MINING. IT IS KNOWN FOR ITS GLOBAL REACH AND EASY-TO-USE INTERFACE, WITH PAYMENTS PROCESSED THROUGH MULTIPLE METHODS INCLUDING PAYPAL AND SKRILL.

#### **APPEN**

APPEN FOCUSES ON DATA ANNOTATION, MACHINE LEARNING TRAINING, AND LANGUAGE-RELATED TASKS. IT OFFERS LONGER-TERM PROJECTS ALONGSIDE MICROTASKS AND IS POPULAR FOR ITS FLEXIBLE WORK ARRANGEMENTS AND COMPETITIVE PAY RATES.

# FIGURE EIGHT (NOW PART OF APPEN)

FIGURE EIGHT WAS A NOTABLE CROWDSOURCING PLATFORM BEFORE MERGING WITH APPEN. IT SPECIALIZED IN PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY LABELED DATA FOR AI AND MACHINE LEARNING APPLICATIONS, CONTINUING UNDER APPEN'S BRAND.

#### PROLIFIC

PROLIFIC IS A PLATFORM PRIMARILY ORIENTED TOWARD ACADEMIC RESEARCH STUDIES, OFFERING SURVEY PARTICIPATION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL EXPERIMENTS. IT IS FAVORED FOR ITS TRANSPARENCY IN PAYMENT AND ETHICAL RESEARCH PRACTICES.

# KEY FEATURES TO CONSIDER IN MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES

Choosing the right mechanical turk like site depends on various factors that influence both the quality of work and the earning potential for users. Understanding these features helps in selecting the best platform according to individual needs.

#### TASK VARIETY AND AVAILABILITY

A DIVERSE RANGE OF TASKS AND CONSISTENT AVAILABILITY ARE CRUCIAL FOR WORKERS WHO WANT TO MAINTAIN STEADY EARNINGS. PLATFORMS WITH EXTENSIVE TASK CATEGORIES PROVIDE MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR USERS WITH DIFFERENT SKILL SETS.

#### PAYMENT METHODS AND RATES

RELIABLE AND CONVENIENT PAYMENT OPTIONS ARE ESSENTIAL. COMMON METHODS INCLUDE PAYPAL, BANK TRANSFERS, AND DIGITAL WALLETS. ADDITIONALLY, COMPETITIVE PAY RATES PER TASK OR HOUR ARE IMPORTANT TO ENSURE FAIR COMPENSATION.

#### USER INTERFACE AND EXPERIENCE

AN INTUITIVE AND USER-FRIENDLY INTERFACE IMPROVES THE EFFICIENCY OF TASK COMPLETION. PLATFORMS THAT OFFER CLEAR INSTRUCTIONS, RESPONSIVE DESIGN, AND MOBILE COMPATIBILITY TEND TO ATTRACT AND RETAIN MORE WORKERS.

## QUALITY CONTROL AND SUPPORT

EFFECTIVE QUALITY CONTROL MECHANISMS, SUCH AS TASK VALIDATION AND REVIEW PROCESSES, PROTECT WORKERS FROM UNFAIR REJECTIONS. RESPONSIVE CUSTOMER SUPPORT ALSO ENHANCES THE OVERALL PLATFORM EXPERIENCE FOR BOTH WORKERS AND REQUESTERS.

## HOW TO MAXIMIZE EARNINGS ON MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES

MAXIMIZING INCOME THROUGH MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES REQUIRES STRATEGIC APPROACHES THAT IMPROVE TASK SELECTION, EFFICIENCY, AND RELIABILITY. FOLLOWING BEST PRACTICES CAN SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE OVERALL EARNINGS.

#### SFI FCTING HIGH-PAYING TASKS

Workers should focus on tasks that offer the best pay-to-time ratio. Prioritizing tasks that match their skills and can be completed quickly helps optimize earnings per hour.

#### BUILDING A STRONG REPUTATION

CONSISTENTLY DELIVERING HIGH-QUALITY WORK LEADS TO POSITIVE RATINGS AND ACCESS TO BETTER-PAYING TASKS. MAINTAINING ACCURACY AND MEETING DEADLINES ARE KEY FACTORS IN REPUTATION BUILDING.

#### UTILIZING MULTIPLE PLATFORMS

REGISTERING ON SEVERAL MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES DIVERSIFIES INCOME STREAMS AND PROVIDES ACCESS TO A WIDER VARIETY OF TASKS. THIS APPROACH REDUCES DOWNTIME WHEN TASKS ARE SCARCE ON ONE PLATFORM.

#### IMPROVING TASK EFFICIENCY

DEVELOPING SHORTCUTS, TEMPLATES, AND TIME MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES CAN SPEED UP TASK COMPLETION WITHOUT SACRIFICING QUALITY. USING BROWSER EXTENSIONS OR TASK-SPECIFIC TOOLS MAY ALSO ENHANCE PRODUCTIVITY.

# BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES OF MECHANICAL TURK LIKE PLATFORMS

MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES OFFER NUMEROUS ADVANTAGES FOR BOTH WORKERS AND BUSINESSES, BUT THEY ALSO COME WITH CERTAIN LIMITATIONS AND RISKS. UNDERSTANDING THESE FACTORS IS ESSENTIAL FOR MAKING INFORMED DECISIONS ABOUT PARTICIPATION.

#### BENEFITS FOR WORKERS

• FLEXIBILITY: ABILITY TO WORK ANYTIME AND FROM ANYWHERE.

- VARIETY: ACCESS TO DIVERSE TASKS THAT SUIT DIFFERENT SKILLS.
- LOW ENTRY BARRIER: MINIMAL QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED TO START WORKING.
- Supplemental Income: Opportunity to earn extra money alongside other commitments.

#### BENEFITS FOR REQUESTERS

- COST-EFFECTIVE: AFFORDABLE WAY TO OUTSOURCE SMALL TASKS.
- SCALABILITY: ABILITY TO HANDLE LARGE VOLUMES OF TASKS QUICKLY.
- ACCESS TO DIVERSE WORKFORCE: GLOBAL POOL OF WORKERS WITH VARIED EXPERTISE.

#### CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS

Workers may face inconsistent task availability, low pay for some tasks, and occasional unfair rejections. Requesters must ensure clear task instructions and fair compensation to maintain quality. Additionally, both parties need to be cautious of scams or unethical practices on some platforms.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### WHAT ARE MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES?

MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES ARE ONLINE PLATFORMS THAT CONNECT BUSINESSES OR INDIVIDUALS WITH A CROWD OF WORKERS WHO COMPLETE SMALL TASKS, OFTEN CALLED MICROTASKS, IN EXCHANGE FOR PAYMENT.

#### WHAT ARE SOME POPULAR ALTERNATIVES TO AMAZON MECHANICAL TURK?

POPULAR ALTERNATIVES INCLUDE CLICKWORKER, APPEN, MICROWORKERS, FIGURE EIGHT (NOW PART OF APPEN), AND PROLIFIC, ALL OF WHICH OFFER SIMILAR MICROTASK CROWDSOURCING SERVICES.

# HOW DO MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES ENSURE THE QUALITY OF WORK?

THESE SITES TYPICALLY USE QUALITY CONTROL METHODS SUCH AS WORKER QUALIFICATION TESTS, TASK VERIFICATION BY MULTIPLE WORKERS, AUTOMATED CHECKS, AND REQUESTER REVIEWS TO MAINTAIN HIGH-QUALITY OUTPUTS.

# WHAT TYPES OF TASKS ARE COMMONLY FOUND ON MECHANICAL TURK LIKE PLATFORMS?

COMMON TASKS INCLUDE DATA LABELING, CONTENT MODERATION, SURVEYS, TRANSCRIPTION, IMAGE TAGGING, SENTIMENT ANALYSIS, AND SIMPLE DATA ENTRY JOBS.

#### ARE MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES SUITABLE FOR PEOPLE LOOKING TO MAKE FULL-TIME

#### INCOME?

GENERALLY, THESE PLATFORMS ARE BETTER SUITED FOR SUPPLEMENTAL INCOME OR FLEXIBLE PART-TIME WORK, AS THE PAY PER TASK IS OFTEN LOW AND TASK AVAILABILITY CAN BE INCONSISTENT.

### HOW CAN WORKERS MAXIMIZE EARNINGS ON MECHANICAL TURK LIKE PLATFORMS?

WORKERS CAN MAXIMIZE EARNINGS BY QUALIFYING FOR HIGHER-PAYING TASKS, WORKING QUICKLY AND ACCURATELY, USING SCRIPTS OR TOOLS ALLOWED BY THE PLATFORM TO FIND TASKS FASTER, AND FOCUSING ON REPUTABLE REQUESTERS.

#### IS IT SAFE TO USE MECHANICAL TURK LIKE SITES?

MOST REPUTABLE SITES ARE SAFE TO USE, BUT WORKERS SHOULD BE CAUTIOUS OF SCAMS, AVOID SHARING SENSITIVE PERSONAL INFORMATION, AND RESEARCH PLATFORMS BEFORE COMMITTING SIGNIFICANT TIME.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- 1. Mastering Crowdwork: Strategies for Success on Mechanical Turk and Beyond
  This book offers a comprehensive guide to effectively navigating Mechanical Turk and similar platforms. It
  covers best practices for selecting high-paying tasks, managing time efficiently, and maximizing earnings. Readers
  Will also find tips on avoiding scams and improving task approval rates.
- 2. THE GIG ECONOMY AND MICROTASKING: INSIGHTS FROM MECHANICAL TURK

  EXPLORING THE RISE OF MICROTASK PLATFORMS, THIS BOOK EXAMINES HOW MECHANICAL TURK AND RELATED SITES HAVE
  TRANSFORMED THE GIG ECONOMY. IT PROVIDES AN ANALYSIS OF WORKER DEMOGRAPHICS, ECONOMIC IMPACTS, AND THE ETHICAL
  CONSIDERATIONS SURROUNDING CROWD LABOR. THE AUTHOR ALSO DISCUSSES FUTURE TRENDS IN DIGITAL LABOR MARKETS.
- 3. CROWDSOURCING FOR RESEARCHERS: UTILIZING MECHANICAL TURK AND OTHER PLATFORMS
  DESIGNED FOR ACADEMICS AND PROFESSIONALS, THIS BOOK EXPLAINS HOW TO USE MECHANICAL TURK AND SIMILAR SITES FOR DATA COLLECTION AND EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH. IT INCLUDES PRACTICAL ADVICE ON DESIGNING TASKS, ENSURING DATA QUALITY, AND MANAGING PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT. CASE STUDIES HIGHLIGHT SUCCESSFUL RESEARCH PROJECTS EMPLOYING CROWDWORK.
- 4. Automation and Human Intelligence: The Role of Mechanical Turk in AI Training
  This title delves into the symbiotic relationship between human workers on platforms like Mechanical Turk and artificial intelligence development. It explores how microtasks contribute to training machine learning models and improving AI accuracy. Ethical implications and challenges of relying on crowd labor are also discussed.
- 5. BEYOND MECHANICAL TURK: A GUIDE TO ALTERNATIVE MICROTASK PLATFORMS
  FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN EXPLORING OPTIONS OUTSIDE MECHANICAL TURK, THIS BOOK REVIEWS A VARIETY OF SIMILAR SITES AND SERVICES. IT COMPARES PLATFORM FEATURES, PAYMENT STRUCTURES, AND TASK DIVERSITY. READERS GAIN INSIGHTS INTO FINDING THE BEST FIT FOR THEIR SKILLS AND EARNING GOALS.
- 6. THE ECONOMICS OF MICROTASK PLATFORMS: UNDERSTANDING MECHANICAL TURK AND ITS COMPETITORS
  THIS BOOK PROVIDES AN ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE ON MICROTASK MARKETPLACES, ANALYZING SUPPLY AND DEMAND DYNAMICS, PRICING MODELS, AND WORKER INCENTIVES. IT COVERS MECHANICAL TURK EXTENSIVELY AND CONTRASTS IT WITH EMERGING COMPETITORS. POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND POTENTIAL REFORMS ARE ALSO EXAMINED.
- 7. QUALITY CONTROL IN CROWDSOURCING: TECHNIQUES FOR MECHANICAL TURK AND SIMILAR SITES
  FOCUSING ON MAINTAINING HIGH-QUALITY OUTPUTS, THIS BOOK OFFERS STRATEGIES FOR REQUESTERS AND WORKERS ON MECHANICAL TURK AND OTHER PLATFORMS. TECHNIQUES SUCH AS TASK DESIGN, VALIDATION METHODS, AND FEEDBACK MECHANISMS ARE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL. THE BOOK AIMS TO IMPROVE RELIABILITY AND TRUST IN CROWD-GENERATED DATA.
- 8. DIGITAL LABOR AND WORKER RIGHTS: CHALLENGES ON MECHANICAL TURK AND MICROTASK SITES
  THIS TITLE ADDRESSES THE SOCIAL AND LEGAL ISSUES FACED BY WORKERS ON MECHANICAL TURK AND ANALOGOUS
  PLATFORMS. IT INVESTIGATES LABOR RIGHTS, WAGE FAIRNESS, AND WORKPLACE PROTECTIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF DIGITAL GIG
  WORK. THE BOOK ADVOCATES FOR IMPROVED STANDARDS AND COLLECTIVE ORGANIZING AMONG CROWDWORKERS.

9. PRACTICAL TIPS FOR NEW CROWDWORKERS: STARTING YOUR JOURNEY ON MECHANICAL TURK
A BEGINNER-FRIENDLY GUIDE, THIS BOOK HELPS NEW USERS GET STARTED WITH MECHANICAL TURK AND SIMILAR MICROTASK
SITES. IT COVERS ACCOUNT SETUP, TASK SELECTION, AND STRATEGIES TO BUILD A GOOD REPUTATION. THE AUTHOR SHARES
PERSONAL EXPERIENCES AND COMMON PITFALLS TO AVOID FOR A SUCCESSFUL START IN CROWDWORKING.

# **Mechanical Turk Like Sites**

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mechanical turk like sites: Work Without the Worker Philip Jones, 2021-10-05 We are told that the future of work will be increasingly automated. Algorithms, processing massive amounts of information at startling speed, will lead us to a new world of effortless labour and a post-work utopia of ever expanding leisure. But behind the gleaming surface stands millions of workers, often in the Global South, manually processing data for a pittance. Recent years have seen a boom in online crowdworking platforms like Amazon's Mechanical Turk and Clickworker, and these have become an increasingly important source of work for millions of people. And it is these badly paid tasks, not algorithms, that make our digital lives possible. Used to process data for everything from the mechanics of self-driving cars to Google image search, this is an increasingly powerful part of the new digital economy, although one hidden and rarely spoken of. But what happens to work when it makes itself obsolete. In this stimulating work that blends political economy, studies of contemporary work, and speculations on the future of capitalism, Phil Jones looks at what this often murky and hidden form of labour looks like, and what it says about the state of global capitalism.

mechanical turk like sites: Crowdsourcing our Cultural Heritage Mia Ridge, 2016-04-22 Crowdsourcing, or asking the general public to help contribute to shared goals, is increasingly popular in memory institutions as a tool for digitising or computing vast amounts of data. This book brings together for the first time the collected wisdom of international leaders in the theory and practice of crowdsourcing in cultural heritage. It features eight accessible case studies of groundbreaking projects from leading cultural heritage and academic institutions, and four thought-provoking essays that reflect on the wider implications of this engagement for participants and on the institutions themselves. Crowdsourcing in cultural heritage is more than a framework for creating content: as a form of mutually beneficial engagement with the collections and research of museums, libraries, archives and academia, it benefits both audiences and institutions. However, successful crowdsourcing projects reflect a commitment to developing effective interface and technical designs. This book will help practitioners who wish to create their own crowdsourcing projects understand how other institutions devised the right combination of source material and the tasks for their 'crowd'. The authors provide theoretically informed, actionable insights on crowdsourcing in cultural heritage, outlining the context in which their projects were created, the challenges and opportunities that informed decisions during implementation, and reflecting on the results. This book will be essential reading for information and cultural management professionals, students and researchers in universities, corporate, public or academic libraries, museums and

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mechanical turk like sites: Machine Learning for Text Charu C. Aggarwal, 2022-05-04 This second edition textbook covers a coherently organized framework for text analytics, which integrates material drawn from the intersecting topics of information retrieval, machine learning, and natural language processing. Particular importance is placed on deep learning methods. The chapters of this book span three broad categories:1. Basic algorithms: Chapters 1 through 7 discuss the classical algorithms for text analytics such as preprocessing, similarity computation, topic modeling, matrix factorization, clustering, classification, regression, and ensemble analysis. 2. Domain-sensitive learning and information retrieval: Chapters 8 and 9 discuss learning models in heterogeneous settings such as a combination of text with multimedia or Web links. The problem of information retrieval and Web search is also discussed in the context of its relationship with ranking and machine learning methods. 3. Natural language processing: Chapters 10 through 16 discuss various sequence-centric and natural language applications, such as feature engineering, neural language models, deep learning, transformers, pre-trained language models, text summarization, information extraction, knowledge graphs, question answering, opinion mining, text segmentation, and event detection. Compared to the first edition, this second edition textbook (which targets mostly advanced level students majoring in computer science and math) has substantially more material on deep learning and natural language processing. Significant focus is placed on topics like transformers, pre-trained language models, knowledge graphs, and question answering.

mechanical turk like sites: Analyzing Social Media Networks with NodeXL Derek Hansen, Ben Shneiderman, Marc A. Smith, 2010-09-14 Analyzing Social Media Networks with NodeXL offers backgrounds in information studies, computer science, and sociology. This book is divided into three parts: analyzing social media, NodeXL tutorial, and social-media network analysis case studies. Part I provides background in the history and concepts of social media and social networks. Also included here is social network analysis, which flows from measuring, to mapping, and modeling collections of connections. The next part focuses on the detailed operation of the free and open-source NodeXL extension of Microsoft Excel, which is used in all exercises throughout this book. In the final part, each chapter presents one form of social media, such as e-mail, Twitter, Facebook, Flickr, and Youtube. In addition, there are descriptions of each system, the nature of networks when people interact, and types of analysis for identifying people, documents, groups, and events. - Walks you through NodeXL, while explaining the theory and development behind each step, providing takeaways that can apply to any SNA - Demonstrates how visual analytics research can be applied to SNA tools for the mass market - Includes case studies from researchers who use NodeXL on popular networks like email, Facebook, Twitter, and wikis - Download companion materials and resources at https://nodexl.codeplex.com/documentation

mechanical turk like sites: *Gigged* Sarah Kessler, 2018-06-12 With deep reporting and graceful storytelling, Sarah Kessler reveals the ground truth of a key part of the American workforce. Her analysis is both astute and nuanced, making GIGGED essential reading for anyone interested in the future of work. —Daniel H. Pink, author of WHEN and DRIVE The full-time job is disappearing—is landing the right gig the new American Dream? One in three American workers is now a freelancer. This "gig economy"—one that provides neither the guarantee of steady hours nor benefits—emerged out of the digital era and has revolutionized the way we do business. High-profile

tech start-ups such as Uber and Airbnb are constantly making headlines for the disruption they cause to the industries they overturn. But what are the effects of this disruption, from Wall Street down to Main Street? What challenges do employees and job-seekers face at every level of professional experience? In the tradition of the great business narratives of our time, Gigged offers deeply-sourced, up-close-and-personal accounts of our new economy. From the computer programmer who chooses exactly which hours he works each week, to the Uber driver who starts a union, to the charity worker who believes freelance gigs might just transform a declining rural town, journalist Sarah Kessler follows a wide range of individuals from across the country to provide a nuanced look at how the gig economy is playing out in real-time. Kessler wades through the hype and hyperbole to tackle the big questions: What does the future of work look like? Will the millennial generation do as well as their parents? How can we all find meaningful, well-paid work?

mechanical turk like sites: Critical Discourse Studies and Technology Ian Roderick, 2016-06-16 Making a new contribution to the developing field of multimodal critical discourse studies, Ian Roderick's book demonstrates how technologies that tend to be widely represented as innovative, or as simple pragmatic solutions, are always anchored in power relations and are therefore deeply ideological. A series of examples analysing technologies such as robotics, smart phones or bio-medicine, their functioning and uses, as well as their representations in the media, show that these are embedded within discourses that tell us about social and power relations, identities and political values. The book takes a tour of everyday technologies and how they are represented in different settings. A Disney theme park attraction showing how technology has improved family life makes many assumptions about what is natural in terms of interpersonal relations, pleasure and satisfaction. Advertisements that represent robot workers inform us about the kinds of worker-management relations now characterising work places. Roderick looks at the way that technologies, while often represented as divorced from their production and maintenance, as objects of wonder, need to be seen within a fabric of social relations that tends to be supressed from how we see them as part of a wider technological fetishism. Engaging with existing theories of technology, the book argues that we must take a more interdisciplinary approach to avoid the pitfalls of social constructivism and technological determinism. Our experiences of technologies are shaped through the relationship between knowledge, practices and institutional forms.

mechanical turk like sites: Good Enough for Government Work Amy E. Lerman, 2019-06-14 American government is in the midst of a reputation crisis. An overwhelming majority of citizens—Republicans and Democrats alike—hold negative perceptions of the government and believe it is wasteful, inefficient, and doing a generally poor job managing public programs and providing public services. When social problems arise, Americans are therefore skeptical that the government has the ability to respond effectively. It's a serious problem, argues Amy E. Lerman, and it will not be a simple one to fix. With Good Enough for Government Work, Lerman uses surveys, experiments, and public opinion data to argue persuasively that the reputation of government is itself an impediment to government's ability to achieve the common good. In addition to improving its efficiency and effectiveness, government therefore has an equally critical task; countering the belief that the public sector is mired in incompetence. Lerman takes readers through the main challenges. Negative perceptions are highly resistant to change, she shows, because we tend to perceive the world in a way that confirms our negative stereotypes of government—even in the face of new information. Those who hold particularly negative perceptions also begin to "opt out" in favor of private alternatives, such as sending their children to private schools, living in gated communities, and refusing to participate in public health insurance programs. When sufficient numbers of people opt out of public services, the result can be a decline in the objective quality of public provision. In this way, citizens' beliefs about government can quickly become a self-fulfilling prophecy, with consequences for all. Lerman concludes with practical solutions for how the government might improve its reputation and roll back current efforts to eliminate or privatize even some of the most critical public services.

mechanical turk like sites: New England English James N. Stanford, 2019 For nearly 400

years, New England has held an important place in the development of American English, and New England accents are very well known in popular imagination. This book is the first large-scale academic project since the 1930s to focus specifically on New England English as a whole. It presents new variationist sociolinguistic research covering all six New England states, with detailed geographic, acoustic phonetic, and statistical analyses of recently collected data from over 1,600 New Englanders. The book systematically documents major traditional New England dialect features and their current usage in terms of location, age, gender, ethnicity, social class, and other factors.

**mechanical turk like sites:** <u>Polling at a Crossroads</u> Michael A. Bailey, 2024-03-07 Polling at a Crossroads presents an intuitive paradigm that allows us to understand and confront the challenges facing modern polling.

mechanical turk like sites: Crowdsourcing For Dummies David Alan Grier, 2013-03-27 Give your business the edge with crowd-power! Crowdsourcing is an innovative way of outsourcing tasks, problems or requests to a group or community online. There are lots of ways business can use crowdsourcing to their advantage: be it crowdsourcing product ideas and development, design tasks, market research, testing, capturing or analyzing data, and even raising funds. It offers access to a wide pool of talent and ideas, and is an exciting way to engage the public with your business. Crowdsourcing For Dummies is your plain-English guide to making crowdsourcing, crowdfunding and open innovation work for you. It gives step-by-step advice on how to plan, start and manage a crowdsourcing project, where to crowdsource, how to find the perfect audience, how best to motivate your crowd, and tips for troubleshooting.

mechanical turk like sites: Conducting Online Research on Amazon Mechanical Turk and Beyond Leib Litman, Jonathan Robinson, 2020-05-12 Conducting Online Research on Amazon Mechanical Turk® and Beyond, written by Leib Litman and Jonathan Robinson, provides both students and experienced researchers with essential information about the online platforms most often used for social science research. This insightful and accessible text answers common questions like, How do I maintain data quality in online studies?, What is the best way to recruit hard-to-reach samples? and How can researchers navigate the ethical issues that are unique to online research? Drawing on their experiences as the founders of CloudResearch (formerly TurkPrime), the authors provide information that guides new users planning their first online studies and engages even the most experienced researchers with detailed discussions about the challenges of online research. The book begins with an overview of Amazon's Mechanical Turk and its rapid rise within academic research. Then, the authors describe how to set up an MTurk study with screenshots that walk readers through the steps of creating an account, designing a study, collecting data, and using third-party applications to enhance MTurk's functionality. Later chapters provide readers with a detailed understanding of the MTurk environment and use data from hundreds of thousands of participants and tens of millions of completed tasks to dive into issues like participant demographics. sources of sampling bias, and the generalizability of findings from MTurk. Finally, the book explores the benefits of using other online platforms as a complement to MTurk and the ethical issues that are unique to conducting research with online participant platforms. Throughout the book, the authors share hands-on advice and best practices, such as those for conducting longitudinal studies or carrying out complex studies. Altogether the mix of data, insight, and advice make this book an essential resource for researchers who want to understand the online environment and the most effective ways to conduct research online.

**mechanical turk like sites:** Crowdsourcing for Speech Processing Maxine Eskenazi, Gina-Anne Levow, Helen Meng, Gabriel Parent, David Suendermann, 2013-02-15 Provides an insightful and practical introduction to crowdsourcing as a means of rapidly processing speech data Intended for those who want to get started in the domain and learn how to set up a task, what interfaces are available, how to assess the work, etc. as well as for those who already have used crowdsourcing and want to create better tasks and obtain better assessments of the work of the crowd. It will include screenshots to show examples of good and poor interfaces; examples of case studies in speech processing tasks, going through the task creation process, reviewing options in the interface,

in the choice of medium (MTurk or other) and explaining choices, etc. Provides an insightful and practical introduction to crowdsourcing as a means of rapidly processing speech data. Addresses important aspects of this new technique that should be mastered before attempting a crowdsourcing application. Offers speech researchers the hope that they can spend much less time dealing with the data gathering/annotation bottleneck, leaving them to focus on the scientific issues. Readers will directly benefit from the book's successful examples of how crowd-sourcing was implemented for speech processing, discussions of interface and processing choices that worked and choices that didn't, and guidelines on how to play and record speech over the internet, how to design tasks, and how to assess workers. Essential reading for researchers and practitioners in speech research groups involved in speech processing

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