#### Advancing Sentiment Analysis in Serbian Literature: A Zero and Few-Shot Learning Approach Using the Mistral Model

Milica Ikonić Nešić, Saša Petalinkar, Mihailo Škorić, Ranka Stanković, Biljana Rujević



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#### Advancing Sentiment Analysis in Serbian Literature: A Zero and Few-Shot Learning Approach Using the Mistral Model

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#### Abstract

This study presents the Sentiment Analysis of the Serbian old novels from the 1840-1920 period, employing the Mistral Large Language Model (LLM) to pioneer zero and few-shot learning techniques.

The main approach innovates by devising research prompts that include guidance text for zero-shot classi cation and examples for fewshot learning, enabling the LLM to classify sentiments into positive, negative, or objective categories. This methodology aims to streamline sentiment analysis by limiting responses, thereby enhancing classi cation precision. Python, along with the Hugging Face Transformers and LangChain libraries, serves as our technological backbone, facilitating the creation and re nement of research prompts tailored for sentence-level sentiment analysis. The results of sentiment analysis in both scenarios, zero-shot and few-shot, have indicated that the zero-shot approach outperforms, achieving an accuracy of 68.2%.

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Batanovic, 2021) has grown over the years. Considering the insuf cient resources for the Serbian language, the possibility of training large language models (LLM) without a large amount of training data represents an important step in sentiment analysis.

So far, various approaches have been em-

**Keywords:** zero-shot, few-shot, sentiment, Serbian, Mistral model

#### 1 Introduction

Over the years, the need for sentiment analysis as one of the pivotal elds of Natural Language Processing (NLP) has signi cantly grown across various domains of interest, including but not limited to medicine (Ge et al., 2023), nance (Zhang et al., 2023), education (Altrabsheh et al., 2013), digital humanities (Stankovic et al., 2022), politics and social media (Putra et al., 2023). Previous research has mainly focused on a small number of languages that had a larger amount of training data available. Interest in languages with low resources such as Arabic (Alqarni and Rahman, 2023), Bangla (Hasan et al., 2023), African (Wang et al., 2023), and Serbian (Stankovic et al., 2022;

ployed for sentiment analysis over the Serbian language. The sentiment analysis on the Serbian Movie Review Dataset using by using unigram, bigram, and trigram features in a combination of Na ve Bayes (NB) and Support Vector Machines (SVM) (Batanovic et al., 2016) showed the best accuracy of 85.5% for 2 classes and 62.2% for 3 classes. The sentiment analysis framework for a morphologically rich language (SAFOS) (Mladenovic et al., 2016) had the best accuracy of 78.3% for movie reviews and 79.2% for newspapers using a combination of unigram and bigram features reduced by sentiment feature mapping. Within the same research, the sentiment lexicon and Serbian WordNet (SWN) synsets were integrated using sentiment polarity scores for feature selection and the lexicon derived from SWN was augmented by incorporating morphological variants of phrases and emotional terms from Serbian Morphological Electronic Dictionaries (Krstev, 2008). The lexiconbased approach using three existing lexicons: NRC, AFFIN and Bing with additional extensive corrections, using Multinomial Na ve Bayes (MNB) with

Bag-of-Words approach combined with the features of the sentiment lexicon. This approach gave the accuracy of SA on the evaluation dataset of 82% for two classes, and 72% for 3 classes (Stankovic et al., 2022).

The main motivation for this study lies in the fact that, to the best of our knowledge, sentiment analysis in Serbian literature utilizing the zero-shot and few-shot learning approach using the Mistral model has not been jet explored. Machine learning has been highly successful in data-intensive applications but is often hampered when the data set is small, and this study offers a new approach to sentiment analysis in cases of smaller data sets.

The sentiment analysis was applied to the selected, annotated, and balanced sentences from the Serbian part of the ELTeC <sup>1</sup> multilingual corpus of novels. Novels written in the period 1840 1920 are built to test various distant reading methods among them sentiment analysis, presented in Section 2. Four human annotators performed careful checks of sentiment in sentences, yielding 1089 balanced sentences with three classes: positive, negative, and neutral.

Techniques used for automated classi cation were zero-shot and few-shot.

Zero-shot learning techniques, where the LLM is prompted without prior speci c training on the task, rely solely on the general capabilities of the model Romera-Paredes and Torr, 2015; Xian et al., 2017; Wang et al., 2019; Brown et al., 2020. thereby overcoming some of the limitations associated with human annotators. Through this comparison, the feasibility and advantages of integrating LLMs into the sentiment analysis process are aimed to be illuminated, potentially revolutionizing how sentiment data is processed and interpreted in various applications.

This aspect is particularly signi cant for languages with limited linguistic resources, such as Serbian. These languages often lack comprehensive corpora with annotated sentiment, presenting a substantial challenge for traditional sentiment analysis techniques that rely heavily on such datasets. The scarcity of annotated corpora in these languages not only hinders the development of effective sentiment analysis models but also limits the applicability of these models in real-world scenarios.

Conversely, few-shot learning involves providing the LLM with a small number of examples before requesting it to perform the task. This method aims to prime the model with relevant context, enhancing its performance on speci c sentiment classi cation tasks Brown et al., 2020; Wang et al., 2020.

The Mistral 7B-Instruct (Jiang et al., 2023) variant, speci cally utilized in this work, has been netuned to follow instructions with remarkable precision, thus providing an advantage in generating contextually relevant and accurate sentiment analysis. It achieves this by leveraging the base model's architectural ef ciencies without sacri cing performance on complex text inputs. This version of Mistral 7B outperforms comparative models in human and automated benchmarks, showcasing its utility in nuanced language tasks such as sentiment classi cation. Furthermore, further elaboration will be provided in Section 3.1.

In Section 3 the methodological approach is de-

#### 2 Dataset

Serbian part of ELTeC corpus (Krstev, 2021), dubbed SrpELTeC, comprises 100 novels in the main collection and 20 in the extended collection. These novels are digitized and freely accessible, thus presenting no constraints on their usage. However, challenges arise concerning the analysis and extraction of information from such text collection, which consists of 5.886,528 tokens and 4.769,262 words. Novels are automatically annotated with part of speech, lemma, and named entity information, thereby paving the way for the application of advanced text analysis methods, in line with the distant reading paradigm. For sentiment analysis, a subset of this text collection is used in previous research. For evaluation, we will rely on a previously manually annotated dataset with 1089 sentences (Stankovic et al., 2022). Figure 1 presents the distribution of sentence length, quanti ed by the number of words, which corresponds uniquely to each sentiment label. To evaluate the models and demonstrate the capabilities offered by zero-shot and few-shot methodologies compared to previous research, the same dataset was employed for evaluation purposes. The process of annotating sentences occurred in several phases: 1) extraction of 30K sentences from srpELTeC; 2) manual evaluation by four annotators, where the annotation is conducted on a scale from -5 to -2 for negative sentiment gradation; -1, 0, 1 for neutral (objective) sentiment; and 2 to 5 for positive sentiment and 3) calculating inter-

picted through various prompts, while a detailed evaluation of the model on prepared sentences (with the ndings and a thorough discussion) is given in Section 4. Finally, conclusions and plans for future work can be found in Section 5.

One of the main goals is to ascertain whether LLMs can provide a consistent, ef cient, and potentially less biased means of sentiment annotation,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>ELTeC: European Literary Text Collection

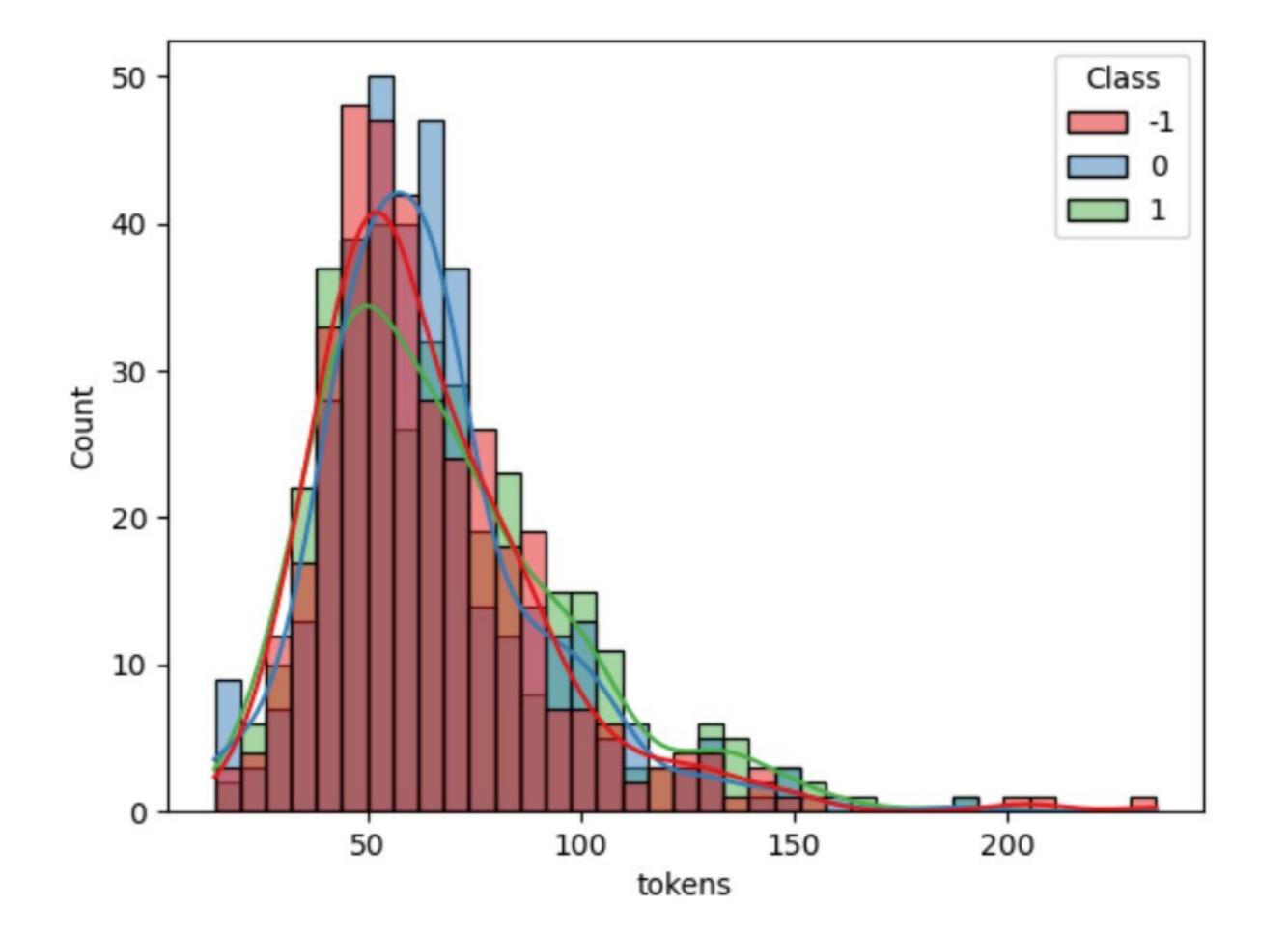


Figure 1: The sentence length (in number of words) distribution of in manually annotated sentiment dataset used for evaluation

annotator agreement was calculated using ReCal2 tool (Deen Freelon, 2011) that showed: Percent Agreement 82.5%, Scott's Pi 0.737, Cohen's Kappa 0.739, Krippendorff's Alpha (nominal) 0.737.

The human annotator's task in this context relied heavily on their intuition as a native speaker of the language. However, this approach had limitations, particularly when dealing with sentences that are sarcastic or express victory of one side over another, for example in sentence "Kad su ga drugi dan iz crkve sa krštenja doneli, dodje i kršteni kum deteta, Sava Srbin, dobra duša ti je on bio, al ' sav beše suzama poliven kad je u sobu ušao." (When they brought him back from the church the next day, the baptized godfather of the child, Sava the Serb, arrived, he was a good soul, but he was entirely bathed in tears when he entered the room.). In such cases, determining the polarity of the sentence became challenging without clear speci cations on what constitutes positive, negative, and neutral sentiment.

Moreover, leveraging advanced natural language processing techniques, such as sentiment analysis algorithms, can complement human annotation efforts by identifying sentiment patterns and detecting nuances in language that may be challenging for human annotators to discern alone.

In conclusion, while annotating sentences for sentiment analysis, relying on the annotator's intuition as a native speaker is essential. However, to ensure accuracy and consistency, it is crucial to provide clear guidelines and consider contextual factors, especially when dealing with ambiguous or nuanced expressions like sarcasm or con icting sentiments.

Manual annotation not only requires signi cant time investment but also heavily relies on the human annotators' comprehension of the instructions and their pro ciency in the native language of the text being analyzed. This dependency introduces a potential for variability and subjectivity in the annotations, which can in uence the reliability of sentiment analysis outcomes.

To address these challenges, annotators may require additional context or guidelines to determine the intended sentiment accurately. Providing specications on what constitutes positive, negative, and neutral sentiment can help standardize the annotation process and minimize subjective interpretation.

#### 3 Methodology

The research on sentiment analysis of ELTeC texts was performed using LLMs Mistral 7B model which will be brie y introduced in Section 3.1. The

methodology for this research employed a Prompt and Response technique (Amatriain, 2024), utilizing LLMs to analyze sentiment within a corpus. Prompts were generated from prompt templates. Prompt templates are crafted so that the prompts generated from them contain sentences or examples from the corpus, designed to elicit LLM responses that re ect a range of sentiments.

Prompt templates were prepared for both zeroshot and few-shot learning scenarios, with the former requiring no examples for the LLM to generate responses, and the latter incorporating speci c examples to guide the model's output. Four templates were devised for the zero-shot learning approach, aiming to evaluate the model's innate understanding and response generation capabilities without prior context. Conversely, two templates were established for the few-shot approach, each including examples intended to orient the model toward the desired output, as will be detailed in Section 3.2. The LLMs responses to the prompts are parsed and classi ed into the same categories as those used for manual annotation within the corpus: positive, negative, and neutral, where the parsing process is crucial, given the LLM's potential to generate subtly nuanced responses. Finally, the LLM-generated sentiment classi cations are compared to the manual annotations using accuracy and confusion matrices presented in Section 4. The approach taken emphasizes minimizing extraneous elements in the LLM's responses. This was achieved by limiting the responses to speci c instructions or grammatical structures, thereby simplifying the subsequent text-parsing process. To prepare the responses for classi cation, the following steps were systematically implemented in three steps: 1) Extraneous characters, including spaces, new lines, and punctuation, were removed from the LLM's responses. Additionally, all text was converted to lowercase to maintain consistency and eliminate any discrepancies caused by case sensitivity; 2) The cleaned text was then parsed to identify keywords that indicate sentiment. Speci cally, the presence of words corresponding to positive, negative, neutral, or variants thereof, such as objective, was checked. 3) Based on the keywords identi ed, each response was classi ed into categories:

-1 for negative responses,

10 for any response that did not t into these categories, labeled as an error.

This method of response processing ensures that the textual responses from the Mistral model are ef ciently classi ed, allowing for clear and quanti able analysis of sentiment trends based on the LLM's outputs. Figure 2 outlines the systematic work ow for preparing the Mistral model for sentiment analysis.

In addition to quantitative analysis, this study also employed qualitative analysis to examine instances where LLMs may surpass human annotators in sentiment analysis accuracy. This qualitative examination focused on identifying speci c cases within the corpus where the LLM's sentiment classi cation demonstrated a higher level of precision, nuanced understanding, or consistency compared to manual annotations.

This facet of analysis involved a detailed review of the LLM responses. Scenarios in which LLMs provided superior sentiment analysis were highlighted to uncover the potential advantages of integrating LLMs in areas requiring high levels of accuracy and objectivity in sentiment classi cation.

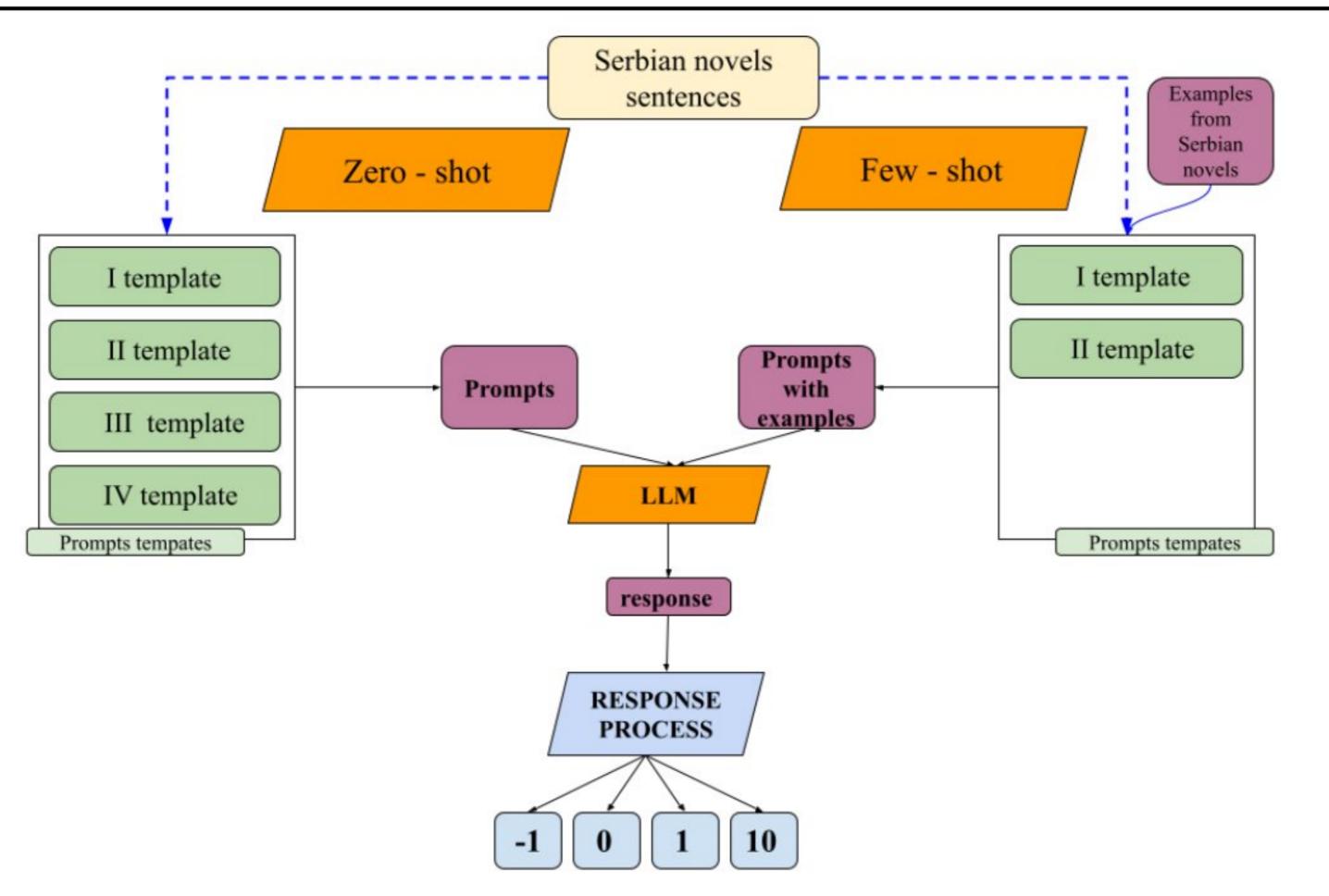
#### 3.1 Mistral

In this study, mistralai/Mistral-7B-Instruct-v0.2 variant, a ne-tuned version of the Mistral 7B model is used. It was engineered for enhanced performance and ef ciency in processing natural language instructions. Mistral 7B is distinguished by its 7-billion-parameter design, which has demonstrated very good performance across various benchmarks, outclassing even larger models such as the 13-billion-parameter Llama 2 and the 34-billion-parameter Llama 1, particularly in areas of reasoning, mathematics, and code generation. This model is released under the Apache 2.0 license as a part of MistralAI's open-source initiative, demonstrating a commitment to advancing NLP research and application. Its architecture facilitates easy ne-tuning across a wide array of tasks, underscoring its adaptability and superior performance in handling instructional datasets from public repositories like Hugging Face, without the need for proprietary data or complex training modi cations (Jiang et al., 2023). Employing the mistralai/Mistral-7B-Instructv0.2 this study aims to explore its potential in

1 for positive responses,

0 for neutral responses,

#### PROCEEDINGS OF CLIB 2024



accurately parsing and classifying sentiment in Serbian novel sentences, offering insights into the advanced capabilities of modern LLMs in automating sentiment analysis with high ef ciency and accuracy. The implementation of the model was carried out using Python, with a particular emphasis on leveraging the Langchain library (Chase, 2022). This choice facilitated a streamlined integration and application of the model for sentiment analysis tasks.

The computational experiments were conducted on a local machine equipped with an NVIDIA GeForce RTX 3060 GPU.

For the zero-shot prompts with the Mistral 7B-Instruct LLM, a strategic limitation was imposed on the output length, restricting it to seven tokens. This was done to favor the generation of concise responses, ideally single-word sentiments in Serbian. The aim was to simplify the parsing process and ensure the directness of sentiment classi cation.

However, the imposition of such token length

pret.

#### **Prompts Templates** 3.2

#### **Zero-shot Prompts Templates** 3.2.1

The rst prompt template in the series designed for zero-shot learning scenarios is marked by its simplicity, tailored to elicit sentiment analysis on Serbian texts. This approach intentionally avoids giving the model elaborate instructions on conducting the analysis. As one of the simplest, the rst template is presented as follows, while all other templates are presented in Appendix A.

#### **Original Template in Serbian:**

Kao ekspert za analizu sentimenta, analizirajte sledeci tekst na srpskom jeziku i odredite njegov sentiment. Sentiment treba da bude striktno klasi kovan kao pozitivan, negativan, ili objektivan. Nijedan drugi odgovor nece biti pri-

restrictions was not feasible with implementations based on llama.cpp. To address this challenge and achieve consistency in the parsing of model outputs, an alternative strategy was adopted. Custom grammar rules were de ned using Grammar-Based Normal Form (GBNF), effectively constraining the model's responses to three speci c, required formats. This approach signi cantly simpli ed the parsing process by rendering the structure of responses predictable and straightforward to interhvacen! Tekst: text Sentiment:

#### **English Translation:**

As an expert in sentiment analysis, analyze the following text in Serbian and determine its sentiment. The sentiment should be strictly classi ed as positive, negative, or objective. No other response will be accepted! Text: text Sentiment:

The template is segmented into three distinct parts (role play, clear instructions, and a speci ed response format) (Amatriain, 2024), each aimed at directing the model's response straightforwardly:

- 1. Role Play as Expert: The prompt positions the LLM as an expert in sentiment analysis, priming it for task-speci c responses.
- 2. Instructions: The model is given direct instructions to analyze the provided text and classify its sentiment within strict parameters, aimed at minimizing ambiguity in its responses.
- 3. Expected Format of Response: By clarifying the acceptable response format, the template simpli es the parsing process, facilitating straightforward sentiment classi cation.

a chain of thought strategy, is aimed at encouraging the model to consider stylistic and linguistic variations when analyzing sentiment.

The fourth prompt template marks a return to simplicity, albeit with strategic emphasis on key instructions through the use of all-caps (Amatriain, 2024). While maintaining the role-play aspect as a professor of Serbian literature, detailed instructions were streamlined to exclude the notion of in-depth analysis. This approach emphasizes the importance of direct sentiment classi cation, with speci c instructions highlighted in all-caps to ensure clarity and focus.

#### **Few-shot Prompts Templates** 3.2.2

In the progression toward the examination of fewshot templates, a cautionary note must be articulated. As previously discussed in the document, the classi cation tasks for the few-shot scenario were performed utilizing an 8-bit version of the Mistral model. This adaptation was necessitated by resource limitations, leading to a reduced context window of 512 tokens. Consequently, the length of the few-shot templates was constrained, resulting in the incorporation of only three examples within them, corresponding to each sentiment class. This limitation was pivotal in ensuring the feasibility of the few-shot classi cation under the speci ed computational constraints, albeit at the cost of a more extensive illustrative context. In the deployment of few-shot templates within this investigation, a structured format was adhered to, consisting of a pre x, examples, and a suf x, following the established pattern of the Langchain library. This structured approach facilitated the systematic presentation of examples to the model. The rst few-shot template is an extension of the rst zero-shot template. The pre x provides a simple clari cation that examples will follow. This is succeeded by the examples themselves, and the instructions similar to the rst zero-shot template, albeit slightly simpli ed and shortened due to the limited context window. This adaptation was necessary to t within the computational constraints while maintaining the template's instructional integrity.

4. Placeholder for Dataset Sentences: The 'text' placeholder signi es where sentences from the dataset are to be inserted, allowing for the template's broad application across various texts.

This minimalist strategy is employed to assess how the Mistral model performs in interpreting and analyzing sentiment with only the most basic instructions. The design tests the model's intrinsic sentiment analysis capabilities, offering insights into its performance when provided with just the essential task parameters and no further methodological guidance.

In the development of the second prompt template, a chain of thought Amatriain, 2024 was incorporated, introducing a methodical approach to sentiment analysis. The chain of thought is described as a sequence of analytical steps that guides the model through a detailed examination of the text. It includes instructions for reading the entire text, identifying words that convey strong sentiment polarity, and noting instances of negation and sarcasm. This method facilitates a nuanced understanding of sentiment within the provided text. For the third prompt template, a more specialized approach was adopted, aligning closely with the corpus's characteristics. The model is positioned in the role of a professor of Serbian literature, with instructions emphasizing the differentiation between modern Serbian and the language found in old novels. This role-play, combined with

The second template was an attempt to implement a chain-of-thought process. However, the limitations of the context window required signi cant pruning of the text. The language of instruction was simpli ed to minimize word count, reducing the instructions to the bare essentials. Despite these

adaptations, some sentences extended beyond the context window, ultimately impacting the effectiveness of this template in the experiment. This outcome highlighted the need for a larger context window to fully realize the potential of chain-ofthought processes in few-shot learning scenarios.

Thus, this part of the experiment was deemed a failure and no results were included. While it was possible to exclude those sentences containing over 150 tokens, it was deemed unnecessary due poor performance of the other few-shot template.

#### 4 Results/Discussion

The results given in this section represent sentiment analysis on the Serbian novels dataset by using responses generated by the Mistral model in both scenarios, i.e. zero-shot and few-shot learning. The accuracy values (acc.) depicted in Table 1 illustrate divergent performance across distinct prompt templates enumerated in the column labeled prompt template of zero and few-shot, underscoring the signi cance of template design on sentiment analysis accuracy. The evaluation of the zero-shot templates reveals a varied range of accuracy, where the rst template exhibited the highest result, suggesting that straightforward and direct prompts are most effective in eliciting accurate sentiment analysis from this model for Serbian sentiment. Figure 3 presents the confusion matrix for the rst zero-shot template. In Appendix A is presented a confusion matrix for the rest zero-shot templates. The rst and fourth templates were most effective in identifying positive and negative sentiments. However, they struggled with objective sentences, showing a high rate of mislabeling. Interestingly, the rst template, despite its higher accuracy in sentiment classi cation, also exhibited a higher number of errors where the LLM responses could not be classi ed into any of the categories. The fourth template utilized all-caps to emphasize key instructions, and also performed well, indicating that clarity in instruction plays a crucial role. The second zero-shot template, which attempted a more complex chain-of-thought analysis, resulted in the lowest accuracy, highlighting the limitations of the model's processing capacity in its current con guration.

| Туре      | Prompt Template | Acc.  |
|-----------|-----------------|-------|
| zero-shot | 1               | 0.682 |
|           | 2               | 0.205 |
|           | 3               | 0.482 |
|           | 4               | 0.657 |
| few-shot  | 1               | 0.392 |

Table 1: Accuracy of SA on Serbian novels dataset for zero-shot and few-shot templates

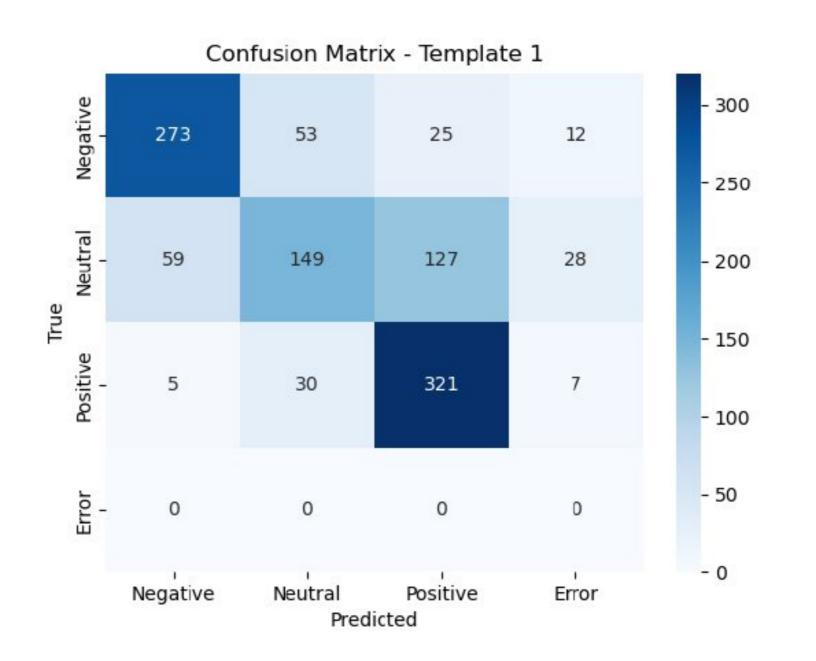


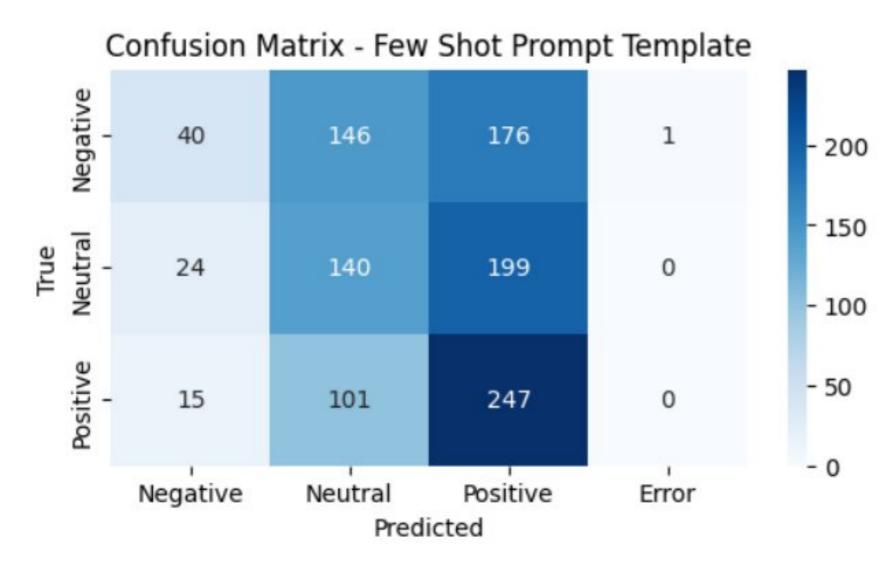
Figure 3: Confusion matrix for zero-shot rst template

ments and was not very effective for positive sentiments. It is designed with a role-play scenario involving old literary Serbian, and showed moderate success, re ecting the added dif culty of interpreting historical and stylistic language nuances. The rst zero-shot template recorded the highest accuracy but also the most unclassi ed responses, marked as errors at 47. In Table 2 are presented some of the examples where the model made mistakes. To illustrate the error, the template with the highest accuracy was chosen. It is important to note that in some cases of sarcasm, overuse of dashes (-) and presence of loanwords rst template has attend to to classi ed as an error (10) as it is presented in the last sentence in Table 2. In contrast, the second template had no errors, while the third and fourth templates showed minimal errors with only two and one unclassi able response, respectively. Notably, of the errors in the rst template, 28 were attributed to objective sentiments, which correlates with a high number of misclassi cations. This highlights the inherent dif culty in classifying objective sentiments, a challenge that is also evident among human annotators due to the subjectivity involved. It is important to note that templates 2 and 3 tended to detect sarcasm where it was not recognized by

The third zero-shot template achieved the best accuracy in classifying objective sentiments. Nevertheless, it performed poorly with negative senti-

| Example sentence  | Translation of sentence   | Annotators | Model |
|---|---|------------|-------|
| U Ivanu zilice se zaigraju, srce mu se<br>stesni; ove dve tri reci, koje Mladen izusti,<br>ucine mu se prorocanstvo koje ovaj govori<br>iz magneticnog sna. | In Ivan, his veins begin to throb, his<br>heart tightens; these two or three<br>words uttered by Mladen seem to him a<br>prophecy spoken from a magnetic dream. | -1         | 1     |
| Sto je bio sav mokar, i s njegovih krajeva<br>kapala je voda s mrvicama od duhana i pepelom od<br>cigara, koji sam ja otresao na svecnjak.                  | He was completely wet, and water dripped<br>from his edges along with bits<br>of tobacco and cigarette ash,<br>which I shook off onto the candlestick.          | 0          | -1    |
| Oh, da znate vi, dragi prijatelju,<br>kakva je to naslada prolivati suze<br>na grudima vernog prijatelja il 'ljubavnika!                                    | Oh, if you only knew, dear<br>friend, what a delight it is to<br>shed tears on the chest of a faithful<br>friend or lover!                                      | 1          | 10    |

Table 2: Example sentences where the model recognized sentiment incorrectly.



as this study, this approach demonstrates that employing zero-shot learning with the Mistral model can achieve a comparable accuracy of 68.2%, with a signi cant advantage being that the model does not require a training corpus.

Figure 4: Confusion matrix for few-shot template

the annotators. Upon further examination, there have been instances where the LLM's classi cation proved to be more accurate than human annotation. Notably, in many of these cases, the majority or at least half of the template responses were consistent with each other.

Furthermore, it is worth noting that the accuracy of the only few-shot template surpasses only the second zero-shot template, which displayed the lowest accuracy among zero-shot prompts. This outcome highlights the challenges associated with the few-shot scenario, especially given the limited context window. Although better than the lowest zero-shot results are still underwhelming, illustrating the inherent challenges of adapting few-shot learning strategies within a constrained computational environment. Figure 4 presents the confusion matrix for the few-shot rst template. It is important that compared to previous sentiment analysis studies (Stankovic et al., 2022), where an approach utilizing MNB solely with features derived from the sentiment lexicon achieved an accuracy of 65.7%, and MNB with a Bag-of-Words approach combined with sentiment lexicon features achieved an accuracy of 71.9%, tested on the same corpus

#### **5** Conclusion and Future Work

In this study, the simpli cation necessitated by using a quanti ed model with a limited context window appeared to strip away many of the bene ts typically associated with the Mistral model. Despite its notable speed, the diminished performance suggests that such an approach may not be viable, particularly for less commonly studied languages like Serbian. It is important to mention that zero-shot prompts were not run on the quanti ed model in our study. Therefore, it remains unclear whether the quanti cation itself degrades performance for less commonly trained parts of the model (such as Serbian language processing), or if the limitations imposed by the reduced context window, especially when combined with the addition of examples, render the model unsuitable for this type of text. One potential method to further investigate these ndings would be to run zero-shot prompts on quanti ed models. However, the value of such research remains uncertain. The ndings of this study demonstrate that in literary texts of old Serbian novels, the zero-shot approach exhibits superior performance, particularly in the case of the simplest prompt, thereby leaving room for further exploration in this direction. Using all caps to highlight the part of instructions has proven useful in the elimination of unusable responses, but instructing LLM to detect sarcasm resulted in overdetection. Additionally, comparing this approach with ne-tuned XLM-R models will represent one of the future objectives.

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#### Appendix A Prompt tempalates

#### A.1 Second Zero-shot Template

#### Zero-shot Second (using chain of though) template in Serbian:

Kao strucnjak za analizu sentimenta, analizirajte sledeci tekst na srpskom jeziku i odredite njegov sentiment. Sentiment treba klasi kovati strogo kao pozitivan, negativan ili objektivan. Nece biti prihvaceni drugi odgovori.

- 1. Procitajte i razumite dati tekst.
- Identi kujte kljucne reci ili fraze u tekstu koje ukazuju na sentiment. Posebnu paznju obratite na pridjeve, priloge i bilo koje speci cne glagole koji obicno nose emotivnu tezinu.
- Razmotrite ukupni kontekst poruke. Ponekad, sentiment nije u vezi sa prisustvom speci cnih reci, vec kako su te reci upotrebljene zajedno u recenicama.

as positive, negative, or objective. No other response will be accepted.

- 1. Read and understand the given text.
- 2. Identify the key words or phrases in the text that indicate sentiment. Pay special attention to adjectives, adverbs, and any speci c verbs that typically carry emotional weight.
- 3. Consider the overall context of the message. Sometimes, the sentiment is not about the presence of speci c words, but how those words are used together in sentences.
- 4. Determine if the text primarily expresses positive feelings (such as happiness, satisfaction, or hope), negative feelings (such as sadness, anger, or frustration), or is primarily factual or neutral, without any emotional content.
- 4. Odredite da li tekst primarno izrazava pozitivna osecanja (kao sto su sreca, zadovoljstvo ili nada), negativna osecanja (kao sto su tuga, ljutnja ili frustracija), ili je primarno cinjenican ili neutralan, bez ikakvog emotivnog sadrzaja.
- Razmislite o prisustvu bilo kakvih negacija ili sarkazma jer to moze znacajno promeniti sentiment teksta.
- 6. Nakon analize teksta na osnovu gore navedenih koraka, klasi kujte sentiment kao pozitivan, negativan ili objektivan.
- 7. Samo vrednosti pozitivan, negativan i objektivan ce biti prihvacene.
- Ne treba objasnjavati svoj odgovor, vec samo dati klasi kaciju sentimenta.

- 5. Consider the presence of any negations or sarcasm as this can signi cantly change the sentiment of the text.
- After analyzing the text based on the above steps, classify the sentiment as positive , negative , or objective .
- 7. Only the values positive, negative, and objective will be accepted.
- 8. Do not explain your answer, but simply provide the sentiment classi cation.
- 9. The response should not include new lines, just the sentiment classi cation.

Text: {text} The text's sentiment is

#### A.2 Third Zero-shot Template

## Third (advanced chain of though) template in Serbian:

Kao profesor srpske literature, analizirajte sledece recenice izvadjene iz starih srpskih romana cija su autorska prava istekla. Zbog toga sto su ti romani napisani pre mnogo godina, jezik moze biti nesto zastareliji. Vas zadatak je da odredite sentiment tih recenica. Sentiment treba klasi kovati strogo kao pozitivan , negativan ili objektivan . Nece biti prihvaceni drugi odgovori.

9. U odgovoru ne treba da bude novih redova, samo klasi kacija sentimenta.

#### Tekst: {text} Sentiment teksta je English Translation of Zero-shot Second (using chain of though) template in Serbian:

As an expert in sentiment analysis, analyze the following text in Serbian and determine its sentiment. The sentiment should be strictly classi ed

 Pazljivo procitajte i analizirajte dati tekst, uzimajuci u obzir stil i kontekst u kojem je napisan.

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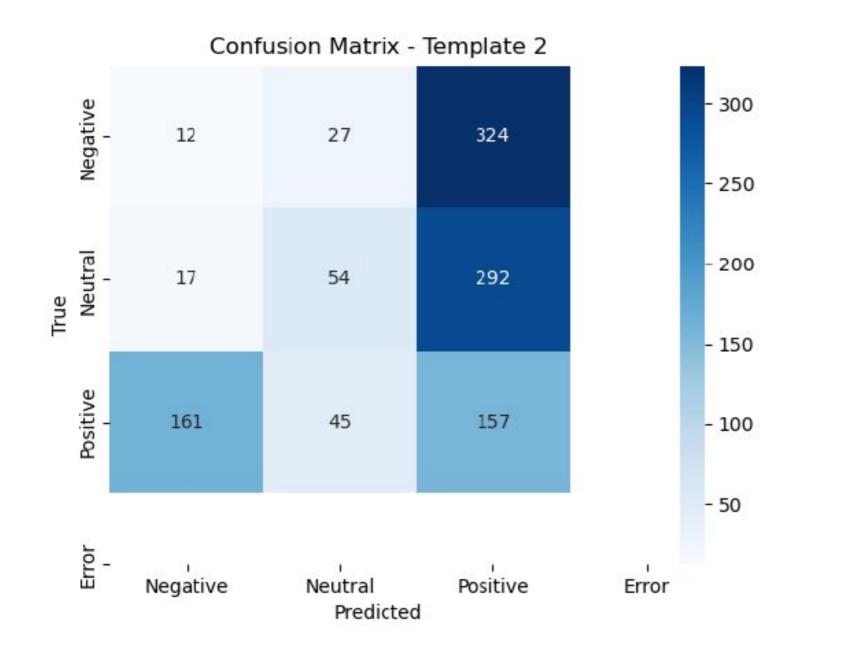


Figure 5: Confusion matrix for few-shot second template

2. Identi kujte kljucne reci ili fraze koje su karakteristicne za period kada je delo may be somewhat outdated. Your task is to determine the sentiment of these sentences. The sentiment should be strictly classi ed as positive , negative , or objective . No other responses will be accepted.

- 1. Carefully read and analyze the given text, considering the style and context in which it was written.
- 2. Identify key words or phrases characteristic of the period the work was written in that may indicate sentiment.
- 3. Consider how outdated expressions or constructions affect the expressed sentiment and whether the language of that time has special ways of expressing emotions.
- 4. Analyze whether the sentences express positive emotions (such as joy, satisfaction, or anticipation), negative emotions (such as sadness, despair, or loss), or are primarily descriptive and objective, without expressed emotions.
- napisano i koje mogu ukazivati na sentiment.
- Razmotrite kako zastareli izrazi ili konstrukcije uticu na izrazeni sentiment i da li jezik tog vremena ima posebne nacine izrazavanja emocija.
- Analizirajte da li recenice izrazavaju pozitivne emocije (kao sto su radost, zadovoljstvo ili ocekivanje), negativne emocije (kao sto su tuga, ocajanje ili gubitak) ili su primarno deskriptivne i objektivne, bez izrazenih emocija.
- 5. Imajte na umu kontekst u kojem se recenica nalazi unutar dela, jer to moze promeniti percepciju sentimenta, narocito kada je jezik arhaican.
- Klasi kujte sentiment recenice kao pozitivan, negativan ili objektivan nakon dublje analize uzete u obzir sve prethodne korake.
- 7. Odgovor treba da se sastoji od samo od jedne

- 5. Keep in mind the context in which the sentence is found within the work, as this can change the perception of sentiment, especially when the language is archaic.
- 6. Classify the sentence's sentiment as positive, negative, or objective after a deeper analysis considering all the previous steps.
- 7. The response should consist of only one word: positive, negative, or objective.

Sentence: {text} The sentence's sentiment is

- A.3 Fourth (All Caps) Zero-shot Template
- Fourth (All Caps) template in Serbian: Kao PROFESOR SRPSKE LITERATURE, anal-

reci: pozitivan, negativan ili objektivan.

Recenica: {text} Sentiment recenice je

English Translation of third (advanced chain of though) template :

As a professor of Serbian literature, analyze the following sentences extracted from old Serbian novels whose copyrights have expired. Since these novels were written many years ago, the language izirajte sledece recenice izvadjene iz starih srpskih romana cija su autorska prava istekla. Jezik u tim delima moze biti nesto zastareliji. VAS ZADATAK JE DA ODREDITE SENTIMENT RECENICA KORISTECI SAMO TRI MOGUCE RECI: POZITIVAN , NEGATIVAN , ili OB-JEKTIVAN . VAZNO JE! DOZVOLJENI SU SAMO TI ODGOVORI! BEZ IKAKVOG DO-DATNOG OPISA, RAZMATRANJA ILI DUGIH ODGOVORA!!!

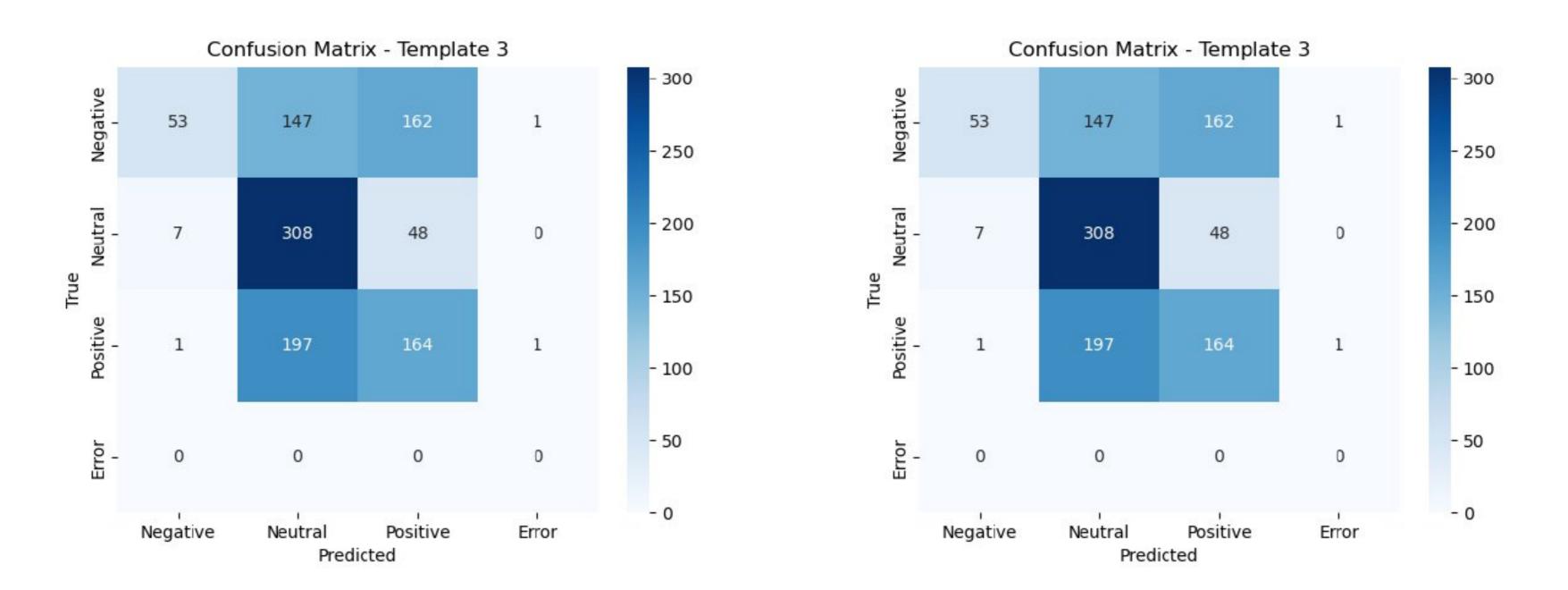


Figure 6: Confusion matrix for few-shot third template

1. PROCITAJTE DATI TEKST! SENTIMENT BEZ IDENTIFIKUJTE **DUBLJE ANALIZE!** 

Figure 7: Confusion matrix for few-shot fourth template

Sentence: {text} Sentiment:

- 3. ODGOVOR MORA BITI SAMO JEDNA OD TRI RECI: pozitivan, negativan, ili objektivan !!!
- 4. NEMA OBJASNJAVANJA, SAMO OD-ABERITE JEDNU OD TRI RECI!!!

Recenica: {text}

Sentiment:

English Translation of fourth (all caps) template:

As a PROFESSOR OF SERBIAN LITERA-TURE, analyze the following sentences extracted from old Serbian novels whose copyrights have expired. The language in these works may be somewhat outdated. YOUR TASK IS TO DETERMINE THE SENTIMENT OF THE SENTENCES US-ING ONLY THREE POSSIBLE WORDS: POS-ITIVE, NEGATIVE, or OBJECTIVE. IM-PORTANT! ONLY THOSE RESPONSES ARE ALLOWED! WITHOUT ANY ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION, CONSIDERATION, OR LONG ANSWERS!!!

#### A.4 Few-Shot Templates and Examples

Below are the examples and templates used for fewshot learning, presented separately for Serbian and English to ensure clarity.

Examples for Few-Shot Learning: The following Table 3 presents the examples utilized in the few-shot templates in Serbian, alongside their corresponding sentiment labels:

Prefix, Example Template, and Suffix in Serbian:

```
\Prefix in Serbian:
"Pirmeri sentiment analize na
srpskom jeziku:
```

```
Example Template in Serbian:
"Tekst: {Text}
Sentiment je {Label}"
```

```
Suffix in Serbian:
"*****************************
Kao ekspert za analizu
```

#### 1. READ THE GIVEN TEXT!

- 2. IDENTIFY THE SENTIMENT WITHOUT DEEP ANALYSIS!
- 3. THE RESPONSE MUST BE ONLY ONE OF THE THREE WORDS: positive, negative, or objective !!!
- 4. NO EXPLANATIONS, JUST CHOOSE ONE OF THE THREE WORDS!!!

sentimenta, analizirajte sledeći tekst na srpskom jeziku i odredite njegov sentiment. Sentiment treba da bude klasifikovan kao "pozitivan", "negativan", ili "objektivan". Odgovor treba da bude u skladu sa primerima koje ste videli. Tekst: {Text} Sentiment:"

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| Text in Serbian  | English Translation                       | Label |  |
|--|---|-------|--|
| Kukavan mlad covek; on bejase  | A cowardly young man; he was              |       |  |
| tako dobar i veran drug, prihvati  | such a good and faithful friend,          | -1    |  |
| jedan drugi, kom su oci bile pune suza.  | another accepted, his eyes full of tears. |       |  |
| Juh, ala je to dobra zena,   | Wow, what a good woman,                   | 1     |  |
| dobra kao dobar dan!   | as good as a good day!                    |       |  |
| Nisam valjada ni pet puta udario,  | I surely didn't hit it ve                 |       |  |
|  | times, and half of the awn ew             |       |  |
| a pola avana odlete u stranu, a druga<br>se polovina, koja je bila nesto<br>veca, prevrte i rastok ode u prasinu | to the side, and the other half,          | 0     |  |
|  | which was slightly larger, turned         |       |  |
|  | over and crumbled into dust               |       |  |

Table 3: Examples of Serbian sentences for Few-Shot Learning

#### **English Translations:**

For accessibility, the examples and templates are also provided in English below:

#### Prefix in English:

"Examples of sentiment analysis in Serbian language: \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Example Template in English:
"Text: {Text}
The sentiment is {Label}"

This structure provides a clear division between the Serbian texts and their English translations, aiding in comprehension for readers of both languages.