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Conversation Tree for Effective Communication

A conversation tree is a powerful framework for structuring dialogues, widely applied in customer service, gaming, and AI design to enhance communication efficiency. It visualizes conversations as a series of branching paths, where each node represents a statement or question, and branches correspond to possible responses. This method ensures interactions remain clear, coherent, and goal-oriented by anticipating various conversational outcomes.



The structure of a conversation tree starts with a root node - an initial prompt, such as “How can I assist you today?” in a customer service scenario. From this node, branches diverge based on expected responses, like “Technical issue,” “Billing inquiry,” or “Product question.” Each branch leads to further nodes with tailored follow-ups, creating a hierarchical map that guides the conversation logically. For instance, selecting “Technical issue” might lead to questions like “Is this a hardware or software problem?” This branching ensures the dialogue stays relevant and addresses the user’s needs efficiently.

Conversation trees offer several advantages. They promote active listening by preparing communicators for diverse responses, reducing the likelihood of miscommunication. In AI applications, such as chatbots, they enable context-aware, natural interactions, improving user satisfaction. In gaming, they create immersive dialogue systems, allowing players to influence narratives through choices. However, designing an effective conversation tree requires careful planning. Understanding the audience and context is crucial to avoid rigid or overly predictable dialogues, which can frustrate users.

To create a conversation tree, define the conversation's objective first. Then, map out possible responses and refine the branches based on feedback or testing. Tools like flowchart software (e.g., Lucidchart) or AI platforms can help visualize and organize the structure. Regularly updating the tree based on real-world interactions ensures its relevance and effectiveness over time.

Despite its benefits, conversation trees can be complex to manage in dynamic settings, where unexpected responses may arise. Flexibility and periodic revisions are key to maintaining their utility in fostering effective communication across various domains.

References

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~ Prof. Siddharth Thakkar
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Operation Sindoor raises geopolitical stakes; past strikes speak of India's market resilience

Markets have declined marginally in opening trade following India's 'Operation Sindoor' executed in hours of May 7, striking as many as 9 sites and no Pakistani military facilities were targeted. Such strikes in the past have typically caused short-term volatility in Indian stock markets but have not led to prolonged downturns. Analysts expect any decline to be limited to 5 to 10% even in case of escalation, based on historical patterns and current global risk assessments. The government emphasized the operation was “focused, measured, and non-escalatory,” avoiding Pakistani military targets. The key factor influencing market direction is whether hostilities remain localized or escalate into broader conflict, suggest analysts.



1. Kargil War (1999): The Kargil conflict was a full-scale war triggered by Pakistani troops and militants infiltrating Indian positions in the Kargil region. In resilience, the Sensex rather gained around 1,115 points (approximately 33%) during the three-month war period. The Nifty climbed 319 points.

2. 2001 Indian Parliament Attack: The December 2001 terrorist attack on the Indian Parliament led to heightened India-Pakistan tensions and military mobilization. The Nifty fell sharply by nearly 14%, reflecting fears of escalation into full-scale war. This was one of the rare occasions when geopolitical tensions caused a significant market correction.

3. 2016 Surgical Strikes (Post-Uri Attack): Following the Uri terror attack, India conducted surgical strikes on terror launch pads across the LoC in PoK. The Sensex dropped over 400 points and the Nifty fell by 156 points on the day of the announcement. The rupee weakened by 0.73%. Markets stabilized quickly in the following days as no further escalation occurred.

References

<https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/markets/operation-sindoor-raises-geopolitical-stakes-past-strikes-speak-of-india-s-market-resilience-13015429.html>

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Student Portfolio



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