# **CaLMQA: Exploring culturally specific long-form** question answering across 23 languages

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#### Abstract

Despite rising global usage of large language 002 models (LLMs), their ability to generate longform answers to culturally specific questions remains unexplored in many languages. To fill this gap, we perform the first study of textual multilingual long-form QA by creating CALMQA, a dataset of 51.7K culturally specific questions across 23 different languages. We define culturally specific questions as those 011 that refer to concepts unique to one or a few 012 cultures, or have different answers depending on the cultural or regional context. We obtain these questions by crawling naturallyoccurring questions from community web forums in high-resource languages, and by hir-016 017 ing native speakers to write questions in underresourced, rarely-studied languages such as Fijian and Kirundi. Our data collection method-019 ologies are translation-free, enabling the collection of culturally unique questions like 'Ku-021 ber iki umwami wa mbere w'uburundi yitwa Ntare?" (Kirundi; English translation: "Why 024 was the first king of Burundi called Ntare (Lion)?"). We evaluate factuality, relevance and surface-level quality of LLM-generated long-form answers, finding that (1) for many languages, even the best models make critical surface-level errors (e.g., answering in the wrong language, repetition), especially for lowresource languages; and (2) answers to culturally specific questions contain more factual errors than answers to culturally agnostic questions – questions that have consistent meaning and answer across many cultures. We release 036 CALMOA to facilitate future research in cultural and multilingual long-form QA.

### 1 Introduction

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While large language models (LLMs) are increasingly used by people across the world, most NLP efforts are focused on English and western cultures. Growing evidence reveals significant gaps in their performance across languages (Qiu et al., 2023; Guerreiro et al., 2023) and their understanding of diverse cultures (Tao et al., 2024; Li et al., 2024), as well as a persistent bias toward Westerncentric perspectives (Palta and Rudinger, 2023; Durmus et al., 2024; AlKhamissi et al., 2024; Naous et al., 2024). Existing research of multilingual QA largely focuses on assets derived from English resources (Singh et al., 2024; Zhang et al., 2023; Lai et al., 2023), limiting their coverage of culturally unique concepts especially in lowresource languages. While some prior work collects short-answer and multiple-choice questions in non-English languages (Myung et al., 2025; Clark et al., 2020; Liu et al., 2019), multilingual longform QA, a task more aligned with real-world applications, remains unexplored.

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In this work, we develop a translation-free multilingual QA dataset of long-form culturally specific questions: Cultural Long-form Multilingual Question Answering (CALMQA). Questions are posed in the language of the target culture and demand nuanced, long-form responses. We only collect *culturally specific* questions that (1) refer to concepts unique to one or a few cultures, such as "Kuber iki umwami wa mbere w'uburundi yitwa Ntare?" (Kirundi),<sup>1</sup> or (2) have different answers depending on the cultural or regional context, as in "बंदूक का लाइसेंस कैसे बनता है?" (Hindi).<sup>2</sup> We contrast the quality of an LLM's answers to these questions with its answers to *culturally ag*nostic questions that have consistent meaning and answer across many cultures (e.g., "Why is smoking bad for the heart?"), which are prevalent in many translation-centric multilingual QA works.

Evaluation of multilingual long-form QA is challenging: lexical metrics for short-form QA do not correlate with human preferences in long-form QA (Krishna et al., 2021; Xu et al., 2023) or transfer

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>English translation: "Why was the first king of Burundi called Ntare (Lion)?"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>English translation: "How do you get a gun license?"

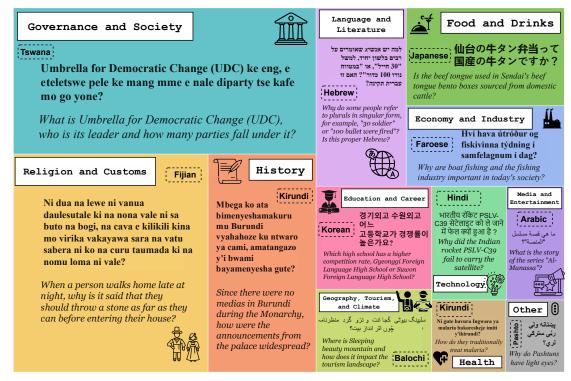


Figure 1: Distribution of topics in CALMQA, with box size indicating the frequency of each topic. Each topic is accompanied by an example and its English translation. Table 12 contains descriptions of the topics, and §B describes our topic classification method.

from English to other languages (Kang et al., 2024; Koto et al., 2021; Min et al., 2023; Song et al., 2024). We thus adopt a multi-aspect evaluation protocol including (1) surface-level measures of language identification and repetition; (2) automatic factuality and relevance metrics run on translated answers; and (3) human evaluations from native speakers. To distinguish the effects of culture and language on model performance, we use a baseline set of parallel culturally agnostic questions created by translating a seed set of 51 English questions into the 22 other languages, following common practice in prior work (Vayani et al., 2024; Artetxe et al., 2020; Lewis et al., 2020; Alonso et al., 2024).

We show that seven popular LLMs, including closed models such as CLAUDE-3-OPUS, GEMINI-1.5-PRO and GPT-40, suffer from basic surface-level issues, especially on low-resource languages (e.g., none of them reliably generate text in Afar). Also, open-weight models such as MIXTRAL-8X22B and LLAMA-3-70B often apologize instead of providing an answer or generate text in English when prompted with non-English questions. We observe that the factuality and relevance of LLM-generated culturally specific answers is significantly lower than that of culturally agnostic answers, underscoring the importance of studying culturally specific questions. Factuality and relevance drop considerably on low-resource languages, with GPT-4-TURBO and GPT-40 performing best. 109

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We conduct a human evaluation on a subset of the data (spanning five languages) for the bestperforming models. Native speakers rate and rank answers from different LLMs, and an analysis of their annotations reveals that omissions and factuality issues are strong predictors of answer quality ratings. This human evaluation also supports our automatic factuality and relevance evaluations in that culturally agnostic questions are twice as likely to receive higher ratings than culturally specific questions, regardless of the generation model.

Overall, our work establishes a foundation for studying multilingual long-form question answering by releasing CALMQA – the first textual multilingual long-form question answering (LFQA) dataset, with 51.7K questions across 23 languages derived from culturally specific sources.

## 2 CaLMQA: Cultural Long-form Multilingual Question Answering

Each of the 51.7K examples in CALMQA consists131of (1) a culturally specific question written in one132of 23 languages, (2) an optional human-written English translation (for low-resource languages), and134

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135 136 (3) an optional human-written reference answer(for high- and mid-resource languages). We detailCALMQA's collection process and statistics below.

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## 2.1 What questions are culturally specific?

Culture is a multifaceted and abstract concept that eludes a simple definition (Adilazuarda et al., 2024; Liu et al., 2024). We define culturally specific questions as questions that (1) refer to topics, concepts, objects, entities or events that are unique to one or a few cultures, or (2) have different answers depending on the cultural or regional context. Our notion of culturally specific questions is based on Liu et al. (2024): "1) basic concepts that are 'configured' differently, reflecting the cultural- specific way of thinking, and 2) concepts that are unique to a culture"; our definition embeds the former by including questions with answers dependent on culture, and the latter by including questions that refer to concepts related to culture. Liu et al. (2024) taxonomizes cultural NLP works into 10 categories including values, norms and morals, and knowledge; we collect that cultural knowledge in CALMQA.

## 2.2 Data Collection

We collect our dataset through two processes. For high- and mid-resource languages, we follow prior work (Fan et al., 2019) and collect questions from community Q&A forums. For low resource languages where such web content is scarce, we hire freelancers to write culturally specific questions.

Culturally specific questions for high- and mid-164 resource languages: Many countries have their 165 own community forums where people can exchange information, similar to Quora, Reddit or 167 168 StackExchange in English. We collect culturally specific questions from these websites via a crowd-169 sourcing process that we scale with LLM assis-170 tance: first, we ask English-proficient Prolific<sup>3</sup> crowdworkers from different countries to provide 172 a link to a community web forum in their language 173 that contains many complex questions that cover a 174 diverse range of topics. Next, we ask workers to 175 collect culturally specific questions and real users' 176 answers from the identified websites, for \$0.65-177 1.33 USD per question. We manually review all 178 provided examples and websites. Our workers 179 yielded 923 questions across 11 languages with answers at a cost of \$1427 USD (Table 4, left). 181 Refer to §A.2 for more details. 182

We scale our question collection process by automating the collection and verification of questions. We obtain around 10k questions for each language (except Hebrew, for which we found no viable approach) using existing Hugging Face datasets (Gao et al., 2021; Wang, 2023; its5Q, 2022) or writing custom question extraction scripts. We do not collect answers due to the challenges of extracting them. We filter our questions using GPT-40-MINI, with two model passes that assess each question's cultural specificity and general quality, retaining 52% of questions (prompts in Table 5 and Table 6). We apply these filters on the workercollected questions too, retaining >90% of questions. This procedure yielded 50,227 additional questions at a cost of \$34 USD.

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Culturally specific questions for low-resource languages: Unlike existing LFQA datasets, CALMQA also includes twelve low-resource languages (Table 4, right). We choose languages with scarce online resources that are not well-studied in prior work, but for which we can also find at least one annotator bilingual in English. We hire 29 native speakers (1-3 annotators per language, depending on their availability) on Upwork,<sup>4</sup> each of whom receives guidelines, takes a paid (\$7 USD) comprehension test, and then writes culturally specific questions with English translations for \$0.65-1.00 USD per question. As having them write answers for all of these languages is prohibitively expensive, we collect answers and their English translations only for Kirundi (\$2 USD per question, \$106 USD total). This process yielded a total of 548 questions with English translations at a cost of \$833 USD. The protocol was reviewed and deemed exempt by an Institutional Review Board. Please refer to §A.3 for more details.

**Quality control:** We screened crowdworkers through a qualification task to ensure understanding of culturally specific, long-form questions. Authors manually reviewed each submission, requesting clarifications or replacements when needed. See §A.2 for detailed guidelines.

## 2.3 Dataset Analysis

Table 1 and Table 4 summarize the statisticsCALMQA's 51.7K culturally specific questions. Wemeasure the length of questions with bytes (Clarket al., 2020) as token count is not comparable across

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>https://www.prolific.com/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>https://www.upwork.com/

LANGUAGE	# Q	# A	Q. Bytes (avg/std)	A. Bytes (avg/std)	LANGUAGE	# Q	Q. Bytes (avg/std)	A. Bytes (avg/std)
English	2617	78	205.1 / 209.4	674.1 / 475.9	Afar	25	43.7 / 16.5	N/A
Arabic	5300	85	127.0/77.2	2105.0/2378.6	Balochi	65	122.7 / 52.4	N/A
Chinese	5901	75	69.0/49.2	588.8 / 939.7	Faroese	30	47.8 / 16.6	N/A
German	4091	96	427.8 / 451.9	1169.0 / 744.7	Fijian	75	75.0 / 36.9	N/A
Hebrew	96	96	142.5 / 84.2	2043.6 / 1934.9	Hiligaynon	65	93.4 / 39.1	N/A
Hindi	6404	91	133.7 / 46.5	3618.8 / 1867.1	Kirundi	53	64.6 / 21.2	557.2 / 160.9
Hungarian	3843	75	366.0/441.8	379.3 / 333.2	Papiamento	10	66.8 / 28.5	N/A
Japanese	6466	75	814.2 / 696.7	920.6 / 637.1	Pashto	75	64.8 / 26.9	N/A
Korean	5875	75	248.8 / 198.5	1008.6 / 936.3	Samoan	25	51.2 / 19.3	N/A
Russian	5403	75	291.0 / 487.7	4546.7 / 5067.9	Tongan	10	81.2 / 19.2	N/A
Spanish	5058	102	547.3 / 544.0	852.0 / 817.9	Tswana	65	87.2 / 43.4	N/A
Total	51150	923	152.8 / 140.8	1640.8 / 2291.3	Wolof	50	45.3 / 18.9	N/A
10,00	51150	125	152.07 140.0	1010.07 2291.5	Total	548	75.1 / 41.3	557.2 / 160.9

Table 1: Data statistics of high- & mid-resource language (left) and low-resource language (right) culturally specific questions. We report the number of bytes in the UTF-8 encoding as token counts will significantly very between the languages. For high- & mid-resource languages, answers were only obtained for a subset of questions collected by crowdworkers, due to challenges with extracting and ranking answers automatically. For low-resource languages, we collect answers for Kirundi only. See Table 4 for culturally agnostic questions.

languages due to different compression rates (Ahia et al., 2023). High- and mid-resource language questions are generally longer than low-resource language questions, except for Arabic and Balochi. This can be largely attributed to different collection method (gathered from community forums vs. manually written by crowdworkers); see Table 9 for examples.

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Finally, we categorize CALMQA's questions based on their topic by first manually curating a set of categories and developing GPT-4-TURBO-based pipeline. Figure 1 shows a treemap of the question categories with examples. We find that the distribution of categories of culturally specific questions is similar between different languages. See §B for details.

#### **3** Evaluating LLMs on CALMQA

We evaluate answers from seven state-of-the-art LLMs using automatic metrics for surface quality, relevance and factuality, combining these into a unified metric. We supplement this with human evaluation of LLM answers across five languages.

Models: We evaluate four closed-source LLMs
(CLAUDE-3-OPUS, GEMINI-1.5-PRO, GPT-4-TURBO,
GPT-40 (Anthropic, 2024; Gemini Team, 2024;
OpenAI, 2024a,b) and three open-weights LLMs
(AYA-EXPANSE-32B, LLAMA-3-70B, MIXTRAL-8X22B
(Dang et al., 2024; AI@Meta, 2024; Mistral AI,
2024). Model details are in Appendix Table 14.

**Inference Setting:** Each model is prompted with a question from our dataset in a zero-shot setup without instructions. We use greedy decoding and limit outputs to 2048 tokens. The total cost of API calls is \$530 USD.<sup>5</sup> 260

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Data: For controlled comparison of LLM performance on questions with and without cultural knowledge requirements, we assemble an evaluation set of 3,644 questions from three sources: (1) all 1471 human-collected culturally specific questions, (2) 100 randomly sampled automatically collected questions per language, and (3) 51 culturally agnostic questions from r/explainlikeimfive translated into 22 languages using GPT-4-TURBO, which has demonstrated superior translation performance (Yan et al., 2024; Jiao et al., 2023). For Balochi, Fijian, and Kirundi, where translation quality was poor, we hire native speakers. This subset allows comprehensive evaluation while managing computational costs compared to using our full dataset of 51.7K questions.

#### 3.1 Automatic Evaluation Metrics

Since common QA metrics like BLEU (Papineni et al., 2002) and ROUGE (Lin, 2004a) do not correlate well with human judgement for long-form QA (Xu et al., 2023; Krishna et al., 2021), we (1) identify answers with surface level issues (e.g. incorrect

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>We note the total cost of calls for each model as follows: GEMINI-1.5-PRO \$17 USD, GPT-40 \$40 USD, GPT-4-TURBO \$80, LLAMA-3-70B and MIXTRAL-8X22B \$4 USD, and CLAUDE-3-OPUS \$390 USD.

language), (2) measure factuality and relevance of
the remaining answers using the VeriScore pipeline
of Song et al. (2024) and LLM-as-a-Judge (Zheng
et al., 2023) with GPT-40 respectively, and (3) combine our individual measures to produce a single
metric of answer quality.

Identifying surface-level issues  $(S_{surf} \in \{0, 1\})$ : Useful answers must be in the correct language (i.e., the language of the question) and free from word or phrase repetition. We start by detecting answers in the wrong language using a pipeline that combines polyglot<sup>6</sup> and langid<sup>7</sup>, which yields optimal results for most languages (see Table 13 for accuracy). Balochi, Kirundi, Papiamento, and Hiligaynon are excluded due to low language identification accuracy. Then, we identify responses with repetitions by employing tiktoken<sup>8</sup> with the o200\_base encoding and flagging any answers in which a sequence of 20 tokens is repeated four or more times.<sup>9</sup> See §C for details. We assign a score of 1 if there is no surface issue, 0 otherwise.

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We only evaluate factuality and relevance for answers without surface-level issues.

Evaluating factuality ( $S_{fact} \in [0, 1]$ ): To evaluate factuality of long-form texts, FACTSCORE (Min et al., 2023) verifies automatically extracted claims against retrieved evidence, and recent work expands this to multilingual texts by translating the non-English responses into English (Shafayat et al., 2024). Following this, we translate our questions and answers into English using GPT-40. Then, we apply the claim extraction and verification pipeline introduced in Song et al. (2024), which improves the robustness of FACTSCORE by focusing exclusively on verifiable, non-trivial claims and using Google Search to obtain evidence.<sup>1011</sup> Finally, for every valid answer (i.e., answer without surfacelevel issues), we obtain a list of claims, the corresponding top 10 search results, and faithfulness labels (supported or unsupported); see Figure 10 for more details. The  $S_{fact}$  score will be the fraction of claims that are deemed supported, or 0% if

<sup>7</sup>https://pypi.org/project/py3langid/

there are no verifiable claims.

**Evaluating relevance**  $(S_{rel} \in \{0,1\})$ : LLM prompting has been shown to have reasonable agreement with human annotations in English and multilingual settings (Hada et al., 2023; Hu et al., 2024). Hence, to evaluate the relevance of longform answers to their questions, we employ LLMas-a-Judge (Zheng et al., 2023) using GPT-40. That is, we prompt GPT-40 to decide whether each answer is relevant to its question, using the prompt in Figure 14 with the English translation of the question and answer from our factuality evaluation, at a total cost of \$120 USD. 329

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**Overall performance:** We combine three metrics to measure the overall quality of the general answer. We obtain the overall quality score at the instance level S by multiplying the surface-level quality, factuality and relevance scores ( $S = S_{surf} * S_{fact} * S_{rel}$ ).

#### 3.2 Results of automatic evaluation

Table 2 reports micro-averaged automatic metrics of each model on culturally agnostic and culturally specific sets, respectively.

Answers to culturally agnostic questions are more factual: Generated answers to culturally agnostic questions tend to be more factual (64%–71\%) than answers to culturally specific questions (45%–52\%).<sup>12</sup> By contrast, surface issues and relevance are relatively consistent between culturally specific and culturally agnostic questions.

**Open-weight models perform much worse than closed-weight models in low-resource languages:** Figure 2 shows the overall scores for each model by language. Open-weight models are comparable to their closed counterparts on high- and mid-resource languages, with AYA-EXPANSE-32B outperforming CLAUDE-3-OPUS in 8 of these languages on culturally agnostic questions. The closed models significant outperform the open models on the low-resource languages, scoring mostly 22 – 66 while the open models mostly score below 10. This gap is attributed to surface-level issues, which are present in as high as 70% for LLAMA-3-70B (see Table 2). The exception is GEMINI-1.5-PRO, which throwing API errors when prompted in low-resource languages.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>https://pypi.org/project/polyglot/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>https://github.com/openai/tiktoken

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>GEMINI-1.5-PRO often returned an API error for questions in low-resource languages; we mark such answer as invalid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>We use Google Search via the Serper API at a total cost of \$510 USD.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>VeriScore's claim extraction and verification open-source models were run on 1xA40 GPU for 48h.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>Models generate a similar number of factual claims on average for both culturally specific and culturally agnostic questions, with the former yielding slightly lower mean claim counts (see Figure 11).

		Surface Level		Fine-G	<b>Fine-Grained</b>				
	Wrong Lang. (%)↓	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Repetitions} \\ (\%) \downarrow \end{array}$	W/o Issues (%) ↑	Factual Pr. (%) ↑	Relevance (%)↑	$\overline{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Overall Score} \\ S \uparrow \end{array} }$			
GPT-40	2.7 / 1.2	7.5 / 1.4	90.4 / 97.4	69.6 / <b>52.2</b>	88.2 / 95.7	56.9 / 49.2			
GPT-4-TURBO	3.6 / 1.6	3.0/0.5	93.4 / 97.9	69.9 / 51.9	85.0 / 94.4	<b>56.9</b> / 48.7			
CLAUDE-3-OPUS	4.3 / 1.2	0.6 / <b>0.1</b>	95.0 / 98.7	63.6/45.5	84.4 / 93.6	52.9 / 42.6			
AYA-EXPANSE-32B	19.8 / 6.7	7.9/1.8	73.4 / 91.7	63.8 / 45.6	84.7 / 91.9	43.4 / 39.5			
Gemini-1.5-Pro	0.3*/ 0.3*	0.1*/ 0.1*	58.2 / 82.9	<b>71.1</b> / 48.7	<b>98.2</b> / 96.5	40.9 / 46.6			
MIXTRAL-8X22B	33.2/11.2	10.7 / 7.7	57.2 / 81.3	64.0/46.2	95.5 / 93.0	35.6 / 35.7			
LLAMA-3-70B	76.0 / 70.0	0.5 / 0.6	23.5 / 29.5	66.6 / 46.7	97.4 / <b>97.5</b>	15.3 / 13.5			

Table 2: Model performance aggregated across languages. Each cell reports values for culturally agnostic / culturally specific portions. Due to language identification errors, we exclude Balochi, Kirundi, Papiamento, and Hiligaynon from the aggregation. Fine-grained metrics are only computed over answers that lack surface-level issues. \*GEMINI-1.5-PRO returned API errors for 41.4% (agnostic) / 16.7% (specific) of answers, which likely obscures surface-level errors that it makes.

### 4 Human Evaluation

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Given the limitations of automatic metrics, we supplement our evaluation with native speaker judgments across five languages: Kirundi, Fijian, Hindi, German, and English.

**Evaluation setup:** We evaluate CLAUDE-3-OPUS, GPT-4-TURBO, and MIXTRAL-8x22B. For each language we sampled 10 culturally specific and 10 culturally agnostic questions.<sup>13</sup>

We recruit native speakers via Prolific and Upwork, all of whom participated in the question collection process, paying \$7.50 USD per question and an additional \$8.00 USD for reviewing the guidelines, totaling \$720 USD. Annotators are presented with a question, reference answer (if available), and answers generated by the three models in random order. For each candidate answer, they are asked to: (1) identify whether it is in the correct language, (2) mark minor and major errors,  $^{14}$  (3) evaluate factuality, (4) note significant omissions, (5) comment on the answer's overall quality (Figure 3), and (6) rate it on a 5-point scale (excellent, good, average, poor, unusable). Finally, annotators rank the three answers from best to worst and provide a free-form explanation for their ranking. We provide details of the workflow in Figure 16 and §D. The study was reviewed by the Institutional Review Board and received a non-human subject determination.

#### 4.1 **Results of human evaluation**

Looking at the overall answer ratings, human annotators prefer GPT-4-TURBO's answers, followed by CLAUDE-3-OPUS's and then lastly MIXTRAL-8x22B's (Figure 4). To confirm, we fit a cumulative link mixed model (clmm()) for predicting ratings from models (Table 17), with annotators nested within language included as a random effect.<sup>15</sup> We find that a MIXTRAL-8x22B answer has an 88% chance of having a lower rating than a CLAUDE-3-OPUS answer (p<.001) and a 94% chance of having a lower rating than a GPT-4-TURBO answer (p<.001). Also, a CLAUDE-3-OPUS answer has a 30% chance of having a lower rating than a GPT-4-TURBO answer (p<.001). 403

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Answer ratings are lower for culturally specific questions: Figure 4 suggests that LLMs generate worse answers for culturally specific questions than for culturally agnostic questions. To check this, we fit a cumulative link mixed model for predicting ratings from question type (Table 19), with annotators nested within language included as a random effect. We see that an answer to a culturally agnostic question has a 67% chance of having a higher rating than an answer to a culturally specific question (p<.001). CLAUDE-3-OPUS'S performance drop on culturally specific questions is notable: its answer to a culturally specific question has an 80% chance of receiving a lower rating compared to a culturally agnostic question (p<.001).

**Factuality and omission issues are strong predictors of answer rating:** To determine which variables of this experiment (e.g., model, ques-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>For culturally specific questions, annotators selected 10 questions they were confident in answering accurately. For culturally agnostic questions, we supplied annotators with bullet-point answers in English.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup>This step was included to help the annotators visualize any issues with the answer and encourage them to read the entire answer. Hence, we did not require annotators to classify errors beyond a simple minor vs major distinction.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>We use clmm from the ordinal package (Christensen, 2023) because of the ordinal nature of our response variable (ratings) and repeated measures, with annotators rating each model multiple times for different questions.

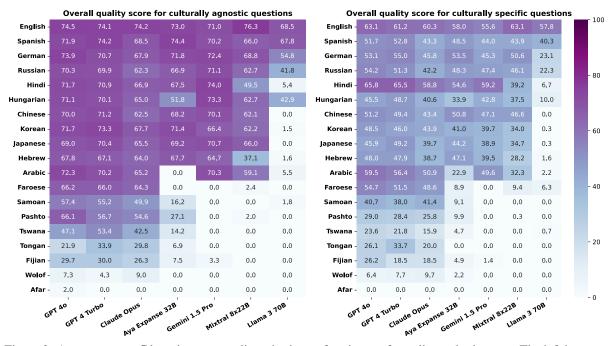


Figure 2: Answer scores S based on our quality criteria: surface issues, factuality and relevance. The left heatmap shows the results for culturally agnostic questions while the right heatmap shows the results for culturally specific questions. Closed- and open-weight models perform comparably on high- to mid- resource languages, while open-weight models are much worse on low-resource languages. Scores degrade on culturally specific questions due to factual imprecision (see Figure 8).

tion type, factuality issues, omissions) correlate with answer rating, we fit cumulative link mixed models for predicting the rating, with each variable being used as the sole predictor of a separate model. Table 22 shows  $R^2$  values of these models. We observe high marginal  $R^2$  for the factuality issues model ( $R^2$ =0.560) and the omissions model ( $R^2$ =0.740), indicating that these factors are strong predictors of answer rating.<sup>16</sup>

#### 4.2 Analyzing annotator comments

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We analyze annotators' comments to gain insights into answer quality. For each comment field, we iteratively develop and apply an annotation schema, linking the results to the corresponding ratings and scores. (See Appendix §D for details.)

**Factuality errors are more frequent for culturally specific answers:** All 12 issues regarding incorrect dates, entity and events (e.g., "It is mentioned that Nifty was launched in 1995 but it was actually launched in 1996.") occur in culturally specific answers, likely due to a greater prevalence of dates, entities and events in culturally specific questions about topics like HISTORY than culturally agnostic topics like HEALTH AND WELLNESS. **GPT-4-TURBO answers rank first due to content.** We analyze the reasons mentioned for ranking each model's answers as best. Having good CONTENT (e.g. due to being complete; see Table 27 for a description) is a reason for GPT-4-TURBO being chosen as best answer 51% of the time (e.g. "Answer 1 (GPT-4-TURBO) is the perfect answer and and explains all the points needed to understand how to play the game 'Teen Patti'."). In the culturally agnostic setting, where CLAUDE-3-OPUS and GPT-4-TURBO wins (48%) are attributed to CONTENT than CLAUDE-3-OPUS wins (32%). The full result can be found in §D (Table 23). 459

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## 5 Related Work

**Cultural & Multilingual NLP:** Cultural knowledge has been explored through the creation of knowledge bases (Fung et al., 2024; Nguyen et al., 2022) as well as datasets for tasks like probing (Keleg and Magdy, 2023; Yin et al., 2022; Zhou et al., 2024), short-form QA and visual QA. Short-form QA work for multilingual cultural knowledge includes MMLU (Hendrycks et al., 2020) translations or MMLU-style datasets (Singh et al., 2024; Lai et al., 2023; Kim et al., 2024; Koto et al., 2024a), common sense datasets (Myung et al., 2025; Wibowo et al., 2023; Koto et al., 2024b), and evalu-

 $<sup>^{16}</sup>$ In case of mixed effects models, *marginal* R<sup>2</sup> refers to the proportion of variance explained by the fixed effects (predictors) alone.

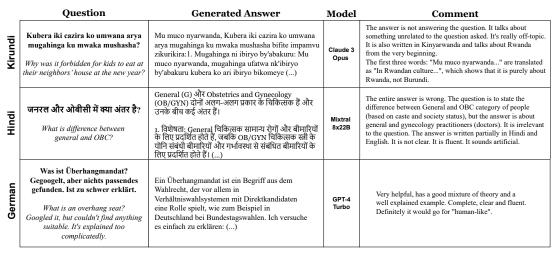
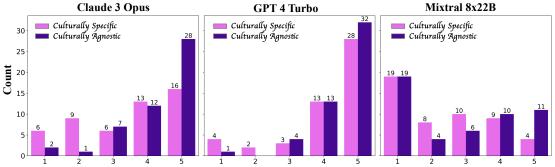


Figure 3: Examples of comments on LLM-generated answers written by human annotators.



Ratings (1=worst, 5=best)

Figure 4: Distribution of human ratings of answers by model and question type. Each model generates 50 answers per question type. Humans give higher ratings for culturally agnostic answers, especially for CLAUDE-3-OPUS.

ations (Shen et al., 2024). Visual long-form QA (LVQA) is less explored and mostly monolingual (Yu et al., 2024; Alwajih et al., 2024), but the contemporaneous work Vayani et al. (2024) looks at LVQA in 100 languages. We are not aware of any textual LFQA datasets of cultural knowledge.

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Some multilingual cultural works rely on translation for their multilinguality (Singh et al., 2024), potentially limiting their coverage of cultural concepts. Surveys (Adilazuarda et al., 2024; Liu et al., 2024) call out a lack of multilingual datasets that cover a diverse set of cultural concepts. Our work seeks to make progress in this gap of the literature.

Evaluation of Long-Form QA: Evaluating longform QA (LFQA) remains challenging. Lexical metrics of text generation like ROUGE (Lin,
2004b) and some neural-based metrics like
BERTScore (Zhang et al., 2019) and BLEURT (Sellam et al., 2020) show poor correlation with human
ratings (Krishna et al., 2021; Xu et al., 2023; Cambazoglu et al., 2021; Chen et al., 2019). For most
other model-based evaluations (Zheng et al., 2023;
Fu et al., 2023; Zhong et al., 2022), correlation

with human annotations is measured for tasks like instruction-following, summarization and machine translation but mostly not LFQA. Jiang et al. (2023) assess effectiveness of metrics for LFQA, however this is done only on GPT-4-created data. 509

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## 6 Conclusion & Future Work

We introduce CALMQA, the first textual multilingual long-form QA dataset, which contains 51.7K culturally specific questions across 23 high- and low-resource languages. Our evaluation of seven state-of-the-art LLMs reveals that culturally specific questions are more difficult for models than culturally agnostic ones, evidenced by lower factuality and human ratings. Furthermore, we observe critical surface-level issues (wrong language, repetition) in all models, especially for low-resource languages. Our results stress the importance of diversifying pre- and post-training datasets to emphasize cultural knowledge acquisition, which can help improve culturally specific QA. Also, improving cross-lingual transfer to address data scarcity may help for underrepresented languages like Afar.

Limitations

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While we strive to cover as many aspects of the cultures represented in CALMQA as possible, we acknowledge that it is not feasible to encompass every cultural nuance. Additionally, for low-resource languages, we employed workers to manually write questions, which impacts scalability. Finally, our culturally agnostic questions are translations from English performed by GPT-4-TURBO, and thus may not match the quality of human translations.

It would be ideal to have identical distributions of topics across language and type (culturally specific vs culturally agnostic). However, topics like religion, food & drinks, history and literature, among many others, are naturally bound to the culture, making it impossible to have similar distributions for culturally specific and culturally agnostic questions. Moreover, such topics may have different relative significance for different cultures. Consequently, collecting questions representative of the topics important to people conflicts with having identical distributions between languages. Nevertheless, we found that the topic distribution is similar between languages.

Our automatic evaluation relies on surface-level measures such as language detection and token repetitions. While this approach allows us to determine that current LLMs still struggle with producing outputs in the correct language and without repetitions, it does not assess the fluency or completeness of outputs that lack these surface-level issues. This underscores the need for comprehensive metrics to evaluate overall answer quality in multilingual LFQA, which we leave to future work.

We assess factuality of model generated answers by translating them into English and extracting verifiable claims and validating them against evidence retrieved through web searches. However, this evaluation is influenced by three factors: (1) the quality of translation, (2) the quantity of extracted claims and (3) the availability of relevant online evidence. Our relevance evaluation also depends on the quality of translation. While we do not observe any evident issues with our pipelines during data inspection, it is possible then these factors influenced the results.

Our human evaluation uses 100 questions across 5 languages to demonstrate that models struggle to generate well-written, factual, and complete answers in non-English languages. Largescale human evaluation is time-consuming and prohibitively expensive, and finding workers proficient in low-resource languages presented a significant challenge, constraining our evaluation efforts.583However, we have shown that we can statistically585justify various insights about LLM multilingual586capabilities with our scale of data.587

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## **Ethical consideration**

The protocols for data collection and human evaluation described in this paper were reviewed and deemed *exempt* by the Institutional Review Board. All annotators provided informed consent for the use and publication of their annotations and collected questions. They were compensated fairly for their work, with their preferred rates respected for both the question collection and evaluation tasks.

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### Ethical Considerations

The protocols for data collection and human evaluation described in this paper were reviewed and deemed *exempt* by the Institutional Review Board. All annotators provided informed consent for the use and publication of their annotations and collected questions. They were compensated fairly for their work, with their preferred rates respected for both the question collection and evaluation tasks.

## A Data Collection

This appendix provides extra details about the data collection process for CALMQA. §A.1 describes the identification of websites used for data collection. §A.2 outlines the data collection methods for highand mid-resource languages, and §A.3 details the data collection process for low-resource languages. Table 9 contains example entries from the dataset. Table 4 and Table 10 provide more details on the number of questions and languages included in the dataset.

#### A.1 Website Survey

We conducted a survey to find websites with non-English cultural questions. The instructions outlined the survey's goal, defined a good website, and specified what constitutes a culturally specific question. Our criteria for a good website included:

- At least 500 answered "good" questions (as defined below). Websites could contain other questions as we could filter them out.
- Most questions and answers should be in a non-English language.
- Questions should cover a diverse range of topics, not just one or two broad areas (e.g., fashion, technology).
- The website should contain culturally specific questions not found on English websites or in English QA datasets.
- The website should have a large community of contributors with many questions answered.

The survey evolved through an iterative process of piloting and refining based on the results.

Survey participants were English-proficient crowdworkers on the Prolific platform (https:// www.prolific.com), whose native language was not English. The survey took about 10 minutes to complete, and we paid \$10 for valid responses, totaling \$510. We considered a response valid if it showed a good-faith effort, even if the website was of insufficient quality or duplicated in another response. From 51 responses, we obtained 4 websites used for question collection. Some websites were rejected despite having good questions because the proportion of good to bad questions was too low for feasible collection. Remaining websites were identified by the authors. See Table 3 for the full list of websites employed.

## A.2 High- and Mid-Resource Culturally Specific Questions

Culturally specific questions in high-resource languages were collected by workers on the Prolific<sup>17</sup> platform from the websites in Table 3. All crowdworkers were English-proficient with their native language matching the language of their allocated websites. Each collector was required to read guidelines, pass a guidelines understanding test and complete a test pilot of 5 questions in order to qualify for the main task. This protocol was reviewed by the Institutional Review Board. Overall, our process yielded 923 questions across 11 languages with answers at a cost of \$1427 USD.

**Guidelines** We provided a guidelines slideshow detailing the rules for selecting questions. The main rules for questions where:

- 1. The question should require long answer. 1041
- 2. The question should be culture specific. 1042
- 3. A native speaker would ask this [question].
- 4. The question should be objective. 1044
- 5. Questions should not need pictures/links. 1045

Guidelines Understanding TestOur guidelines1046understanding test consisted of a form consisting1047of 11 multiple-selection multiple-choice graded1048questions.The first question assessed question1049was "Which of these are listed as important rules1050

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup>https://www.prolific.com/

WEBSITE	LANGUAGE	ISO	# Q	URL
Ejaba	Arabic	ar	29	https://www.ejaba.com/
Ujeeb	Arabic	ar	56	https://ujeeb.com/
Zhihu	Chinese	zh	75	https://www.zhihu.com/
Reddit ELI5	English	en	78	https://www.reddit.com/r/explainlikeimfive/
Gutefrage	German	de	96	https://www.gutefrage.net/
Quora	Hebrew	he	96	https://he.quora.com
Let's Diskuss	Hindi	hi	91	https://hi.letsdiskuss.com/
Gyakori kérdések	Hungarian	hu	75	https://www.gyakorikerdesek.hu/
Yahoo Japan	Japanese	ja	17	https://chiebukuro.yahoo.co.jp/
OKWave	Japanese	ja	58	https://okwave.jp/
Naver	Korean	ko	75	https://kin.naver.com/qna/
Yandex	Russian	ru	75	https://yandex.ru/q/
Todoexpertos	Spanish	es	102	https://www.todoexpertos.com/

Table 3: Websites from which cultural questions were obtained, with the number of questions retrieved by website. Multiple websites were used for a given language if workers were struggling with a given website.

for questions in the guidelines? (you should select all correct answers)", which required show-1052 ing understanding of long-form culturally specific 1053 information-seeking questions. The remaining 10 1054 1055 questions were curated examples of questions that each may or may not have had issues. Test takers 1056 were required to select all the reasons why a ques-1057 tion was not suitable according to the guidelines, or 1058 select that the question was suitable. We reviewed 1059 1060 test results manually, and accordingly chose which workers to pass. We provided passing workers with 1061 the test answers, so that they could learn from their 1062 mistakes. We paid workers \$3.33 USD for completing the test. 1064

Main Collection Task We asked workers to provide examples of culturally specific questions and 1066 real users' answers from the identified websites. 1067 We manually reviewed all provided examples, us-1068 ing Google Translate to get English translations of 1069 1070 website content. In cases where we deemed that an example did not meet our guidelines, we provided 1071 feedback and the worker either clarified how their 1072 example met the guidelines or replaced the example. For the final dataset, we used GPT-4-TURBO 1074

with the prompt in Table 7 instead of Google Translate to obtain the English translations of questions. We translated answers using GPT-40, which was released after we had conducted our human evaluation, with the prompt in Table 8. We paid the workers \$0.65-1.33 USD per question.

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## A.3 Low-Resource Culturally Specific Questions

Questions for low-resource languages were collected by hiring native speakers proficient in English through Upwork. They were paid \$0.65 to \$1.00 USD per submitted question with its English translation. Annotators were required to read the guidelines and complete a short comprehension task, for which they were paid \$7 USD. Additionally, answers to all Kirundi questions were paid \$2 USD per answer. This protocol was reviewed by the Institutional Review Board.

Annotators were instructed to write up to 25 questions in their native language along with English translations, ensuring the questions met the following criteria:

• The question requires a long-form answer (at least 3-4 sentences).

LANGUAGE		CULTURALLY	Specific	C	ULTURALLY A	GNOSTIC
	# Q	Q. Bytes (avg/std)	A. Bytes (avg/std)	# Q	Q. Bytes (avg/std)	A. Bytes (AVG/STD)
HIGH- & MID-RESOURCE LANGUAGES						
English	78	275.7 / 189.0	674.1 / 475.9	51	67.1 / 31.7	632.3 / 636.9
Arabic	85	74.3 / 61.3	2105.0 / 2378.6	51	108.7 / 56.4	N/A
Chinese	75	193.4 / 329.5	588.8 / 939.7	51	68.1/31.4	N/A
German	96	304.6 / 227.4	1169.0 / 744.7	51	82.2 / 39.8	N/A
Hebrew	96	142.5 / 84.2	2043.6 / 1934.9	51	93.0 / 42.9	N/A
Hindi	91	122.4 / 52.8	3618.8 / 1867.1	51	184.2 / 90.3	N/A
Hungarian	75	301.1 / 279.8	379.3 / 333.2	51	82.3 / 38.2	N/A
Japanese	75	512.0 / 359.3	920.6 / 637.1	51	104.3 / 50.6	N/A
Korean	75	126.3 / 138.7	1008.6 / 936.3	51	93.0 / 43.3	N/A
Russian	75	310.3 / 438.3	4546.7 / 5067.9	51	134.6 / 70.8	N/A
Spanish	102	429.9 / 271.1	852.0 / 817.9	51	83.6 / 36.1	N/A
LOW-RESOURCE LANGUAGES						
Afar	25	43.7 / 16.5	N/A	51	81.1 / 39.8	N/A
Balochi	65	122.7 / 52.4	N/A	51	96.1 / 48.5	N/A
Faroese	30	47.8 / 16.6	N/A	51	75.1 / 34.5	N/A
Fijian	75	75.0 / 36.9	N/A	51	92.5 / 40.6	N/A
Hiligaynon	65	93.4 / 39.1	N/A	51	83.6 / 39.7	N/A
Kirundi	53	64.6 / 21.2	557.2 / 160.9	51	88.2 / 43.1	N/A
Papiamento	10	66.8 / 28.5	N/A	51	74.1 / 35.3	N/A
Pashto	75	64.8 / 26.9	N/A	51	118.1 / 55.6	N/A
Samoan	25	51.2 / 19.3	N/A	51	80.5 / 37.6	N/A
Tongan	10	81.2 / 19.2	N/A	51	102.4 / 47.9	N/A
Tswana	65	87.2 / 43.4	N/A	51	88.8 / 43.4	N/A
Wolof	50	45.3 / 18.9	N/A	51	78.2 / 44.1	N/A

Table 4: Combined data statistics for culturally specific and culturally agnostic questions. For each language, we report the number of questions (# Q), average and standard deviation of question bytes (Q. Bytes) and answer bytes (A. Bytes) in UTF-8 encoding. Answer bytes for culturally agnostic questions are not available, and are marked as N/A.

- The question is culturally specific, meaning it is more likely to be asked in the region where the language is spoken.
- The question is something a native speaker of the language might ask.
- The question has an objective answer (i.e., not based on opinions).

## B Question Categorization

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In this section we describe the process of categorizing all questions into predefined set of categories.

Method We selected 25 random culturally spe-1109 cific questions from the dataset. We manually cre-1110 ated a list of broad categories with descriptions and 1111 1112 examples, and then 2 authors independently applied the categorization on the 25 questions. We re-1113 viewed disagreements and accordingly refined the 1114 categories. Then we used GPT-40 to categorize us-1115 ing the prompts in Table 11, with temperature set to 1116

0.0. After minor clarifications to category descriptions, we found that GPT-40 produced adequate categories for all 25 questions. We consequently used the model to categorize all of CALMQA. Our final categories, with descriptions and examples, can be found in Table 12.

**Results** Figure 5 shows the number of questions by category and language. We observe that one of RELIGION, BELIEFS, CUSTOMS, AND TRA-DITIONS, GOVERNANCE AND SOCIETY and HIS-TORY is the top category of almost every language (the exceptions being English and Korean). Furthermore, RELIGION, BELIEFS, CUSTOMS, AND TRADITIONS is the predominantly the top category for low-resource languages (10/12). This difference is likely due to the question collection process for low-resource languages.

To compare the distribution of categories between languages, we compute pairwise Bhattacharyya coefficients between the data from the 1118 1119

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You are to evaluate whether a given question is \*culturally specific\* to *[language]*. A question is considered \*culturally specific\* to a language if it meets both of the following conditions:

1. The question is written in [language].

2. \*\*At least one\*\* of the following applies:

- The question refers to topics, concepts, objects, entities, or events that are unique to one or a few cultures associated with speakers of *[language]*.

- The answer to the question may vary depending on the cultural or regional context—meaning that the answer would be specific to the *[language]* culture and may differ when considered in the context of other cultures.

Culturally specific topics may include, but are not limited to, areas such as heritage, current events, history, religion, literature, society, travel, cuisine, fauna, economy, education, law, and the arts. \*\*Note:\*\* A question being written in *[language]* does not automatically make it culturally specific.

\*\*Example 1 (Culturally Specific to English):\*\*

- \*Question:\* "Why does Eminem give so much praise to Dr Dre? He talks about him like a father in his music."

- \*Explanation:\* This question refers to Eminem and Dr Dre, who are prominent figures in the American music industry—a distinct aspect of American (and related Western) culture. The question's cultural context makes it culturally specific to English.

\*\*Example 2 (Culturally Specific to English):\*\*

- \*Question:\* "How do you obtain a gun license?"

- \*Explanation:\* The process for obtaining a gun license differs significantly between countries. In the USA, the process is well-established and culturally significant, while it may differ or be non-existent in other countries. Thus, the question is culturally specific to English when referring to American cultural context.

\*\*Example 3 (Not Culturally Specific to English):\*\*

- \*Question:\* "Do ships cause the ocean to be higher than it normally would be?"

- \*Explanation:\* This question is general and universal; its answer does not depend on any cultural or regional context. Therefore, it is not culturally specific.

\*\*Task:\*\*

Assess whether the following question is culturally specific to *[language]* or not. Provide your explanation in English, wrapping it in `<explanation></explanation>`tags. Then, output `<result>PASS</result>`if the question is culturally specific, or `<result>FAIL</result>`if it is not. Your response should contain \*\*only\*\* these two tags and nothing else.

\*\*Here is the question to assess:\*\* <question> [question] </question>

Table 5: Prompt used with GPT-40-MINI to filter questions collected from community QA websites for culturally specific questions. Strings in the form *[form]* are placeholders that are replaced at runtime.

You are evaluating questions in a dataset for quality. Your task is to determine whether a given question meets the following quality criteria:

1. \*\*Language:\*\* The question is written in [language].

2. \*\*Long-form Answer:\*\* The question cannot be answered with just a short phrase or entity; it requires a few sentences to answer.

3. \*\*Not Asking For Answerer's Opinions:\*\* The question does not ask for opinions, personal experiences, perspectives or recommendations of the \*\*answerer\*\*. A question that exbihits bias or implies a particular view point of the \*\*asker\*\* does \*\*not\*\* violate this criterion.

4. \*\*Public Information:\*\* Answering the question does not require access to non-public information.

5. **\*\***Privacy:**\*\*** The question does not contain any personally identifiable information (e.g., name, username, phone number, or home address).

\*\*Example 1 (Satisfies Criteria):\*\*

- \*Question:\* "Why is Norton hated so much? What makes an antivirus/antimalware program good or bad anyway?"

\*Explanation:\* 1. The question is in English. 2. The question requires a explanation comprising of multiple sentences. 3. The question does not ask for an opinion, even though it indicates a negative viewpoint towards Norton. 4. Answering the question does not require access to non-public information.
5. The question does not contain any personally identifiable information. The question meets all the criteria and so is satisfactory.

\*\*Example 2 (Does Not Satisfy Criteria):\*\*

- \*Question:\* "How would you suggest I revise mathematics before my first economics class?"

- \*Explanation:\* The question is explicitly asking for a recommendation and so does not meet the quality critera.

\*\*Task:\*\* Assess whether the following question satisfies all of the quality criteria listed above. Provide a detailed explanation of your assessment in English, wrapped in `<explanation></explanation>`tags. Then, output `<result>PASS</result>`if the question satisfies the quality criteria, or `<result>FAIL</result>`if it does not. Do not output anything outside of the `<explanation></explanation>`and `<result></result>`tags.

\*\*Here is the question to assess:\*\* <question> [question] </question>

Table 6: Prompt used with GPT-40-MINI to filter questions collected from community QA websites based on general quality criteria. Strings in the form *[form]* are placeholders that are replaced at runtime.

Your task is to translate a question from *[language]* into English. You will be given the *[language]* answer as the context.

Here is the *[language]* answer. Use it as the context to make the translation sound natural in the English: *[answer]* 

Translate the following question from *[language]* into English. Make it sound as natural as possible: *[question]* 

Table 7: Prompt used with GPT-4-TURBO to translate non-English questions into English. Strings in the form *[form]* are placeholders that are replaced at runtime.

Your task is to translate the answer of a *[language]* question from *[language]* into English. You will be given the *[language]* question as the context.

Here is the *[language]* question. Use it as the context to make the translation sound natural in the English: *[question]* 

Translate the following answer from *[language]* into English. Make it sound as natural as possible: *[answer]* 

Table 8: Prompt used with GPT-40 to translate non-English answers into English. Strings in the form *[form]* are placeholders that are replaced at runtime.

1137languages (Figure 6). The Bhattacharyya coeffi-1138cient ranges from 0 to 1 with a higher number1139meaning similar distributions. We see generally1140high coefficients, indicating that the category dis-1141tributions are similar between languages.

#### C Automatic Evaluation

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In this section of the appendix we present the details of automatic evaluation. All evaluated models are listed in Table 14. Examples of the model tendencies detected by automatic evaluation are in Table 15.

Language accuracy Figure 12 displays the 1148 percentage of responses each model generated in 1149 the correct language, independent of correctness 1150 or fluency of the answer. We used polyglot 1151 (https://pypi.org/project/polyglot/) 1152 1153 and langid (https://pypi.org/project/ py3langid/) for language identification, choosing 1154 them based on their performance for specific 1155 languages. This identification was also applied to 1156 the questions to estimate its performance across 1157 languages. Our pipeline accurately recognized 1158 1159 100% of instances in 14 languages. For other languages, accuracy typically remained above 1160 90%, with Fijian at 98.67%, Russian at 97.33%, 1161 Tongan at 96.92%, Samoan at 92.00%, and Wolof 1162 1163 at 90% (see Table 13). However, identification accuracy for Kirundi was notably lower at 35.85%, 1164 as the libraries frequently misclassified it as the 1165 closely related Kinyarwanda. The automatic 1166 identification process failed entirely for Balochi, 1167 Hiligaynon, and Papiamento, which is reflected in 1168 seemingly low performance for these languages 1169 across all the models. 1170

1171**Repetitions** Figure 13 illustrates the percent-<br/>age of responses affected by repetitions, analyzed

by language across different models. To identify these repetitions, we employed tiktoken (https://github.com/openai/tiktoken) with the o200\_base encoding. We specifically identified instances where at least 20 consecutive tokens were repeated at least four times within an answer. 1173

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**Further analysis of models' surface-level errors** We further analyzed the responses for specific textual indicators. Detected patterns in model responses are presented with examples in Table 15.

Our textual analysis demonstrates issues in MIXTRAL-8x22B responses for low-resource languages. 31.47% of MIXTRAL-8x22B responses to questions in low-resource languages contain phrases like "sorry", "apologize" or "understand" (e.g., "I'm sorry for any confusion, but it seems you're using a language that I'm not currently able to understand or translate."). MIXTRAL-8x22B responses to questions in high-resource languages do not contain these apology-related keywords, revealing an inability to answer the question specifically in low-resource languages. The apologetic textual markers were seen in less than 1% of other models' responses except for LLAMA-3-70B's, where they were present in 14.74% of low-resource and 10.48% of high-resource language answers.

Textual indicators also uncover deficiencies in LLAMA-3-70B responses. Notably, 37.87% of responses from LLAMA-3-70B explicitly mention the English name of the language (e.g., *"I see you're speaking in Balochi!"*), indicating that although the system recognizes the language of the question, it nonetheless responds in English. This is in contrast to MIXTRAL-8X22B, which does so in 7.21% of responses, GPT-4-TURBO at 1.84%, and less than 1% for other models. Additionally, approximately 19.71% of LLAMA-3-70B responses include terms like "translate" or "translation" (e.g., *"I apologize*,

Field	Content
Language	English
Question (Original)	Why does the President of the United States need to be born in the United States to be eligible to run? It seems like the country that a person was born in has little to do with their abilities to lead.
Question (English)	Why does the President of the United States need to be born in the United States to be eligible to run? It seems like the country that a person was born in has little to do with their abilities to lead.
Culturally Specific	True
Answer	It's not a matter of their leadership ability, it's intended to guarantee loyalty. The idea is that most people are loyal to their birth country, so you'd want someone born in the US to be the one acting as commander in chief of the US armed forces, among other things. May not be perfect logic, but it's tradition at this point. Nobody has made a big enough deal of it accompanied by a strong enough argument to get it changed.
Language	Hungarian
Question (Original)	Hogyan lehet kikeverni a Horthy-kori sisakok színét?
Question (English)	How can you mix the color of helmets from the Horthy era? (translated by GPT-4-TURBO)
Culturally Specific	True
Answer	M35 tábori sisak. Neten rákeresve találsz róla képeket. Nem kell megijedni a sok árnyalattól annak idején sem volt tökéletesen egységes. Ez egy zöldesbarna szín. Talán a RAL6025 áll a legközelebb hozzá. Festékboltban kikeverik géppel. Nem drágább, mint külön megvenni hozzá egy egy dobozzal a festéket és kevergetni. Ecsettel festették az eredetit.
Language	Fijian
Question (Original)	Na cava na vuna era vinakata kina na Nasi ni veiyanuyanu mera sa lesi i Viti Levu?
Question (English)	What is the reason the nurses from the outer islands want to be assigned to Viti Levu?
Culturally Specific	True
Answer	N/A
Language	Kirundi
Question (Original)	Ni kubera iki twama dukeneye gushira ama aprikasiyo ku gihe? Hoba iki iyo tutabikoze?
Question (English)	Why do we need to constantly do software updates? What happens if I don't?
Culturally Specific	False
Answer	N/A

Table 9: Examples of entries in CALMQA. Metadata like questions source (specific website or annotator) are omitted here for simplicity.

LANGUAGE	ISO	FAMILY	Branch	MORPHOLOGY	Order	SCRIPT	Region	Speaker
				High- & Mid-Re	esource			
Arabic	ar	Afro-Asiatic	Semitic	fusional	SVO	Arabic alphabet	Arab world	720M
Chinese	zh	Sino-Tibetan	Sinitic	analytic	SVO	Hanzi	Mainland China, Taiwan, Singapore	1.38B
English	en	Indo-European	Germanic	analytic	SVO	Latin	World-wide	1.5B
German	de	Indo-European	Germanic	fusional	SVO	Latin	Germany, Austria, Switzerland, etc.	133M
Hebrew	he	Afro-Asiatic	Semitic	fusional	SVO	Hebrew script	Israel	9.3M
Hindi	hi	Indo-European	Indo-Iranian	fusional	SOV	Devanagari	India	610M
Hungarian	hu	Uralic	Finno-Ugric	agglutinative	SVO	Latin	Hungary	13M
Japanese	ja	Japonic	Japanese	agglutinative	SOV	Kanji, Kana	Japan	123M
Korean	ko	Koreanic	Korean	agglutinative	SOV	Hangul	Korea	82M
Russian	ru	Indo-European	Balto-Slavic	fusional	SVO	Cyrillic	Russia, Russian-speaking world	255M
Spanish	es	Indo-European	Italic	fusional	SVO	Latin	Spain, Central and South Americas, the US	559M
				Low-Resou	rce			
Afar	aa	Afro-Asiatic	Cushitic	agglutinative	SOV	Latin	Ethiopia, Djibouti, Eritrea	2.6M
Balochi	bal	Indo-European	Indo-Iranian	agglutinative	SOV	Balochi Standard Alphabet	Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan	8.8M
Faroese	fo	Indo-European	Germanic	fusional	SVO	Latin	Faroe Islands, Denmark	69K
Fijian	fj	Austronesian	Malayo-Polynesian	agglutinative	VOS	Latin	Fiji	640K
Hiligaynon	hil	Austronesian	Malayo-Polynesian	analytic	VSO	Latin	Philippines	9.1M
Kirundi	rn	Niger-Kongo	Atlantic-Congo	agglutinative	SVO	Latin	Burundi	12-13M
Papiamento	pap	Portuguese-based creole	Afro-Portuguese	analytic	SVO	Latin	Aruba, Curaçao, Bonaire	300K
Pashto	ps	Indo-European	Indo-Iranian	fusional	SOV	Pashto alphabet	Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran	58.8M
Samoan	sm	Austronesian	Malayo-Polynesian	analytic	VSO	Latin	Samoa	510K
Tongan	to	Austronesian	Polynesian	agglutinative	VSO	Latin	Tonga	187K
Tswana	tn	Niger-Kongo	Atlantic-Congo	agglutinative	SVO	Latin	Botswana, South Africa, Zimbabwe	13.9M
Wolof	wo	Niger-Kongo	Atlantic-Congo	agglutinative	SVO	Latin primarily	Senegal	12.3M

Table 10: Linguistic and usage information of the languages in the CALMQA dataset

LANGUAGE	Prompt
English	You are categorizing questions about different cultures into specific categories. Your task is to assign one category to each question. Here are the available categories:
	education and career – [Education and Career Description]. Example: [Education and Career Example] [categories] health and wellness – [Health and Wellness Description]. Example: [Health and Wellness Example] other – [Other Description]
	Here is the question to categorize: <original_question>[question]</original_question>
	Categorize this question into one of the categories. Output your choice in the following format: <category>category name</category>
	Your choice:
All except English	You are categorizing questions about different cultures into specific categories. Your task is to assign one category to each question. Here are the available categories:
	education and career – [Education and Career Description]. Example: [Education and Career Example] [categories]
	health and wellness – [Health and Wellness Description]. Example: [Health and Wellness Example] other – [Other Description]
	Here is the question to categorize: <original_question>[question]</original_question> <translation>[translation]</translation>
	Categorize this question into one of the categories. Output your choice in the following format: <category>category name</category>
	Your choice:

Table 11: Prompts used with GPT-40 to categorize questions. Strings in the form *[form]* are placeholders that are replaced at runtime. The categories used are in Table 12.

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	Example
EDUCATION AND CAREER	Questions related to school, education system, jobs and career paths. Includes developing new skills for new jobs.	Why do young children drop out of school?
GOVERNANCE AND SOCIETY	Questions about laws, governance and policies, as well as politics and social issues.	What are the reasons why Japan cannot have casinos?
Geography, Tourism, and Climate	Questions concerning the geography, climatic condi- tions, environmental factors of a region, tourism and travelling.	What is the significance of Gorée Island?
Technology	Questions about the technology, technological ad- vancements, uses of technology and digital innova- tion.	Are stores that accept VISA debit cards marked VISA? Or is it a store with a VISA PLUS mark?
Economy and Industry	Questions regarding modern-day economic practices, key industries, trade, and economic development.	Why is our country not develop- ing like others?
Media and Entertainment	Questions about the media and entertainment specific to the region.	Why are trademarks obscured on broadcast?
Food and Drinks	Questions related to culinary traditions, typical foods and beverages, preparation methods, culinary prac- tices, and cultural significance of meals.	Why is bread with sausage called a sandwich in Russia?
HISTORY	Questions about historical events, significant figures, and important periods that have shaped a culture.	How did the Bujumbura market burn?
Language, Art and Literature	Questions about the language, dialects, as well as art forms and literary works/traditions.	Why is the Balochi Language categorized into its three main dialects?
Religion, Beliefs, Customs, and Traditions	Questions regarding religious practices, beliefs, rituals, customs, traditions, and holiday.	In the Islamic religious teach- ing, what's the meaning of the seven tens?
HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Questions related to traditional and modern health practices, public health issues, and well-being.	Why methadone? What makes it "better" than other opioids for maintenance therapy or taper- ing off another drug?
OTHER	Questions that do not fit neatly into the above categories.	

Table 12: Categories of questions in CALMQA.

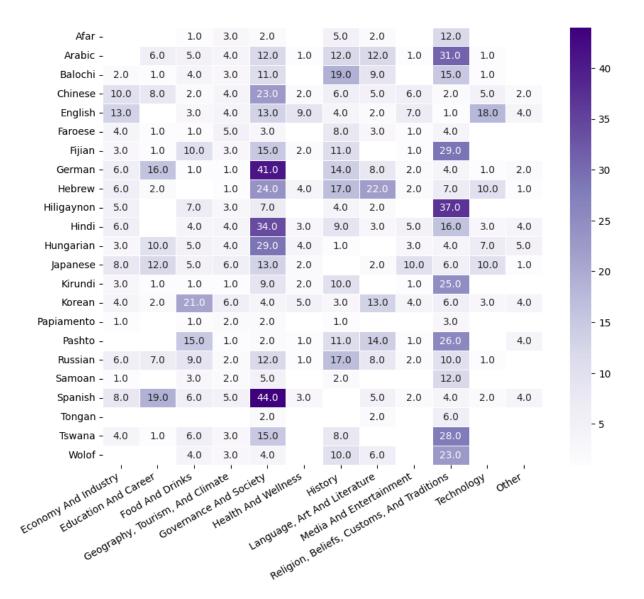


Figure 5: Number of questions by category and language.

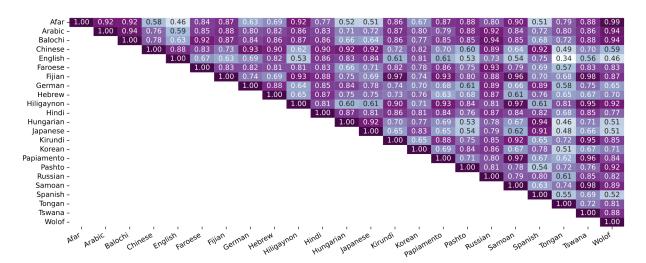


Figure 6: Bhattacharyya coefficients of the category distributions, pairwise between languages. The Bhattacharyya coefficient ranges from 0 to 1, with a higher number meaning more similar distributions.

	% of ar	nswers w	/o issues	for cultu	irally ag	nostic qu	estions	% of	answe	ers w/o	issues	for cul	turally	specifi	c questi	ons
English -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.0	100.0	English -	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.4	100.0	96.1	100.0	- 10
Arabic -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	92.2	100.0	7.8	Arabic -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	88.0	99.5	6.0	
Chinese -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	Chinese -	99.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.9	99.4	0.6	
German -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	82.4	German -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.5	95.4	50.5	- 80
Hebrew -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	88.2	100.0	3.9	Hebrew -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	86.3	97.9	3.2	
Hindi -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	96.1	100.0	7.8	Hindi -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	88.9	95.8	10.6	
Hungarian -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	96.1	100.0	66.7	Hungarian -	100.0	100.0	98.9	100.0	97.1	98.9	28.6	
Japanese -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	Japanese -	100.0	99.4	98.3	100.0	90.3	99.4	1.7	- 60
Korean -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.0	98.0	2.0	Korean -	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.4	94.3	99.4	2.3	
Russian -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	64.7	Russian -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.3	99.4	52.6	
Spanish -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.0	100.0	Spanish -	100.0	100.0	99.5	100.0	99.0	96.5	97.5	
Afar -	11.8	15.7	25.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Afar -	28.0	16.0	16.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	- 40
Faroese -	100.0	96.1	100.0	0.0	5.9	0.0	0.0	Faroese -	100.0	100.0	100.0	16.7	30.0	0.0	10.0	
Fijian -	100.0	100.0	84.3	70.6	2.0	11.8	0.0	Fijian -	100.0	93.3	93.3	66.7	2.7	9.3	0.0	
Pashto -	100.0	100.0	100.0	64.7	3.9	0.0	2.0	Pashto -	100.0	100.0	100.0	62.7	13.3	0.0	2.7	
Samoan -	100.0	100.0	96.1	52.9	0.0	0.0	2.0	Samoan -	100.0	96.0	96.0	60.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	- 20
Tongan -	100.0	98.0	62.7	39.2	2.0	0.0	3.9	Tongan -	100.0	100.0	100.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Tswana -	94.1	98.0	100.0	52.9	2.0	0.0	0.0	Tswana -	95.4	90.8	95.4	63.1	4.6	0.0	9.2	
Wolof -	100.0	66.7	49.0	13.7	0.0	0.0	3.9	Wolof -	86.0	72.0	54.0	14.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	
, i	- nus		A0	22 <sup>8</sup>	228	oro	108		nus	.rb0	A0	228	28	oro	108	- 0
Claude	OPUS GPT 4	TUTE	AV <sup>a Expans</sup>	e'st stral f	sxur nini 1	5 Pro	3	claude C	GPT 4 T	UL GP	54.0 T <sup>AO</sup> EXPanse	stral 8	0.0 (228 Semini 1.5	pro Llama <sup>3</sup>	.10	
Clu	3.		ANa EXI	MIX	Genn	L		Cle	0.	ANE	, er.	WIT C	jen.	V.		

Figure 7: Percentage of model answers without surface issues per language. The left heatmap shows the results for culturally agnostic questions while the right heatmap shows the results for culturally specific questions.

	63.8		58.3	60.9	63.1		English -	68.5	76.3	72.4	73.0	74.2	74.5	74.1	nglish -
44.2	41.8		24.6				Arabic -		66.4	70.3	69.8	65.2	72.3	70.2	Arabic -
	50.4	48.8		44.2			Chinese -			71.1	69.2	63.8	71.4	71.2	hinese -
45.8		48.1	54.8	47.9			German -		68.8	73.0	72.1	68.2	73.9	71.6	erman -
	36.4	41.2	48.2	39.8	48.8	48.4	Hebrew -		50.0	68.7	71.4	66.7	70.9	69.3	ebrew -
66.3	48.5	63.4		60.3	67.2	66.4	Hindi -			74.0	69.1	68.1		72.8	Hindi -
36.0	39.8	45.6	39.2	41.6	46.3	50.3	Hungarian -	64.4	65.3	73.3		65.2		70.1	garian -
	39.4	39.5	44.6	40.3	47.0	50.0	Japanese -		66.0	70.7	70.5	65.5	69.0	70.4	anese -
	40.0	40.7	43.3	45.2	49.2	46.6	Korean -		63.4		72.6		71.7	75.1	(orean -
42.4	47.7	48.3	49.7	42.4			Russian -			72.5	68.4	63.2	72.2	72.7	ussian -
41.3	44.6	45.9	48.8	43.7	52.4	52.9	Spanish -	67.8	66.0	71.6	74.4	68.5	71.9	74.2	panish -
							Afar -						23.1		Afar -
				48.6			Faroese -					66.3	69.3	73.9	aroese -
			20.2	31.8	40.7		Fijian -				42.1		67.2	66.8	Fijian -
	18.0		34.4	33.6	37.9		Pashto -						71.2	65.5	Pashto -
			17.7	52.2	47.4	45.3	Samoan -				42.1	66.9	74.9	72.6	amoan -
				22.8	40.7		Tongan -				21.9		64.1	69.3	ongan -
			14.3	22.8	30.0		Tswana -				45.3	60.7	65.4	67.9	swana -
		Pro Mixtral Bx		30.4	26.0		Wolof - GPT <sup>A TV</sup>					43.6 Opus Ava Expans	50.3	50.0	Wolof -

Figure 8: Factual precision for answers without surface-level issues. The left heatmap shows the results for culturally agnostic questions while the right heatmap shows the results for culturally specific questions. We remove model-language combinations for which there are not at least 10 answers without surface-level issues. Factual precision degrades on culturally specific questions, especially for low-resource languages.

LANGUAGE	LANG ID	ACCURACY (%)
Afar	aa	100.00
Arabic	ar	100.00
Balochi	bal	0.00
Chinese	zh	100.00
English	en	100.00
Faroese	fo	100.00
Fijian	fj	98.67
German	de	100.00
Hebrew	he	100.00
Hiligaynon	hil	0.00
Hindi	hi	100.00
Hungarian	hu	100.00
Japanese	ja	100.00
Kirundi	rn	35.85
Korean	ko	100.00
Papiamento	pap	0.00
Pashto	ps	100.00
Russian	ru	97.33
Samoan	sm	92.00
Spanish	es	100.00
Tongan	to	100.00
Tswana	tn	96.92
Wolof	wo	90.00

Table 13: Accuracy of the language detection pipeline on the test set made from questions in the given language. Note that the language detection libraries are often more accurate on longer texts (i.e., texts longer than the length of a single question).

but I'm having trouble understanding your ques-1212 tion. Could you please rephrase or translate your question into a language I can understand, such as English?"), where the system either declines to answer (with or without apology), requests an English translation, or provides a translation itself. In comparison, 8.43% of MIXTRAL-8x22B responses exhibit similar behavior, with less than 1% for other 1218 models. Lastly, we observed an unusually high proportion of emojis in responses generated by LLAMA-3-70B, with 17.54% containing at least one emoji.

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**Claim extraction and verification pipeline** We 1222 first translated the answers into English with GPT-1223 40. Then we extract claims using a finetuned Mis-1224 tral 7B model and use them to query Serper API for evidence. Then we prompt a finetuned Mis-1226 tral 7B model for verification. Both models were 1227 introduced in Song et al. (2024). The pipeline is 1228 visualized in Figure 10. 1229

Mean claim count We report the mean claim 1230 count by model, language of the question, and ques-1231

tion type in Figure 11. We exclude all answers with surface-level issues as well as languages for which the model produced less than 50% of valid answers (i.e., answers without identified surface level issues).

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Answer statistics: We compute the lengths 1237 of generated answers using tiktoken with the 1238 o200k\_base encoding. Table 16 presents statis-1239 tics for the length of answers generated by each 1240 model. To account for variations in token count 1241 due to the language of generation and the presence 1242 of repetitions, we provide separate statistics for all 1243 answers and for those produced in the correct lan-1244 guage without repetitions. Finally, we provide the 1245 percentage of answers produced in English for a 1246 non-English question in Figure 15. 1247

#### **Human Evaluation** D

In this section, we present the details of human 1249 evaluation. 1250

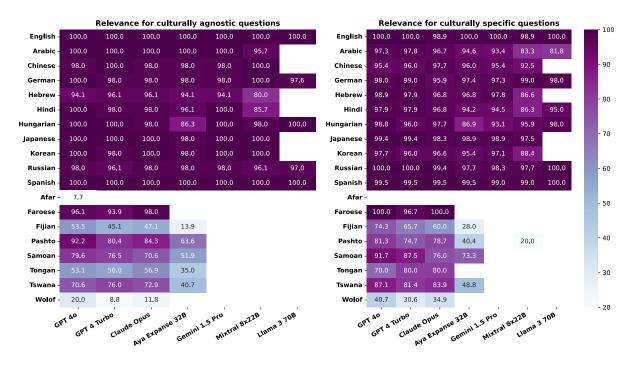


Figure 9: Relevance for answers without surface-level issues. The left heatmap shows the results for culturally agnostic questions while the right heatmap shows the results for culturally specific questions. We remove model-language combinations for which there are not at least 10 answers without surface-level issues. Answer relevance degrades for low-resource languages but is similar on culturally specific and culturally agnostic questions.

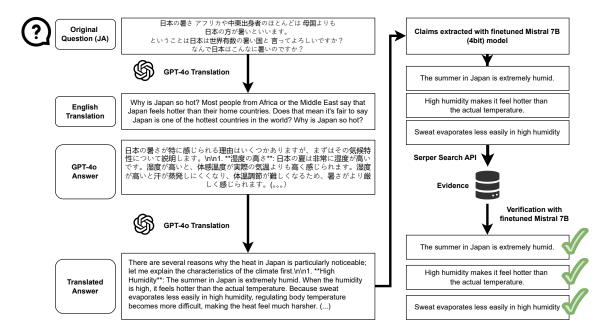


Figure 10: Claim extraction and verification pipeline. Example showing extraction and verification of claims for a question and answer in Japanese. English translations were obtained with GPT-40. Only part of the answer is provided for readability.

	Mea	n claims	count fo	r cultura	lly agnos	tic ques	tions	м	ean cl	aims co	ount for	cultur	ally sp	ecific q	uestio
English -	39.6	34.3	36.5	24.3	31.1	41.9	22.7	English -	36.9	34.3	33.8	21.3	31.5	39.2	23.1
Spanish -	34.9	30.7	35.0		28.2	33.6	17.0	Spanish -		20.4		13.0	19.4	21.1	12.1
Russian -	27.9	25.4	34.4		25.4	30.4	14.1	Russian -			26.2	16.2	22.4	24.2	12.7
Chinese -	30.0	29.9	35.6	24.6	28.6		17.9	Chinese -	26.7	26.2	29.7	19.7	29.6		14.5
German -	30.9	28.1	35.0		27.5	29.8	15.9	German -	20.1	18.6		12.6	17.1	18.3	12.0
Hungarian -	28.1	25.0	25.6		24.6	26.6	13.3	Hungarian -	16.1	14.0	15.5	10.8	13.6	13.7	8.6
Hebrew -	24.4	23.9	33.0	16.9			10.0	Hebrew -			28.6	14.5	19.2		12.2
Hindi -			31.0	16.4	25.1		10.5	Hindi -	17.7	17.2	23.9	14.1	19.2	18.8	9.1
Korean -	26.8	23.7	30.4	18.1			14.5	Korean -	19.6	16.9	19.7	15.5			13.1
Arabic -	25.0	23.1	0.0	16.9	23.6		13.2	Arabic -	20.3	19.2	12.5	14.5	20.3	21.5	11.1
Japanese -	24.5		27.5		24.1		13.0	Japanese -	16.4	16.1	17.2	11.3	17.5		9.8
Pashto -			13.0	14.9				Pashto -		17.9	10.6	14.6			6.4
Faroese -	24.5			16.7				Faroese -		17.1		18.3			
Samoan -			7.0	10.8				Samoan -		16.9	9.9	9.6			
Tswana -	22.8		7.6	10.6				Tswana -		16.9	6.9	10.8			
Fijian -	23.2	17.3	6.3	10.3				Fijian -		14.0	6.4	8.1			
Tongan -	17.7	15.7	7.3	9.9				Tongan -		18.1		9.0			
Wolof -	18.6	11.4		7.7				Wolof -	20.0	13.7		10.0			
Afar - GP <sup>T A TI</sup>		1.8	claude					Afar - GPT <sup>A Ti</sup>						108 Mixtral 8	

Figure 11: Mean claim count for answers without surface-level issues. The left heatmap shows the results for culturally agnostic questions while the right heatmap shows the results for culturally specific questions. Only languages where at least 10 answers were free from surface-level issues are included.

%	of ansv	vers in co	orrect lar	ig. for cu	lturally a	agnostic	question	s % of a	nswers	in corr	ect lan	g. for c	ultural	ly spec	ific que	stions
English -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.0	100.0	English -	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.4	100.0	95.9	100.0	
Arabic -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	7.8	Arabic -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.5	6.0	
Chinese -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	Chinese -	99.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.4	99.4	0.6	
German -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	82.4	German -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	95.2	51.0	
Hebrew -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	3.9	Hebrew -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.9	3.2	
Hindi -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	7.8	Hindi -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	95.6	10.6	
lungarian -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	70.6	Hungarian -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.8	30.3	
Japanese -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	Japanese -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.4	99.4	1.7	
Korean -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.0	Korean -	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.4	99.4	99.4	2.3	
Russian -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	64.7	Russian -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.4	53.1	
Spanish -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.0	100.0	Spanish -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	96.4	98.5	
Afar -	23.5	58.8	37.3	0.0	0.0		0.0	Afar -	32.0	32.0	24.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	
Faroese -	100.0	100.0	96.1	0.0	9.8		0.0	Faroese -	100.0	100.0	100.0	16.7			10.0	
Fijian -	100.0	100.0	100.0	86.3	5.9		2.0	Fijian -	100.0	98.7	94.7	85.3	13.3		1.3	
Pashto -	100.0	100.0	100.0	80.4	88.2		2.0	Pashto -	100.0	100.0	100.0	73.3	82.7		2.7	
Samoan -	100.0	100.0	100.0	78.4	7.8		2.0	Samoan -	100.0	100.0	100.0	68.0	12.0		0.0	
Tongan -	100.0	92.2	100.0	92.2	29.4		3.9	Tongan -	100.0	100.0	100.0	90.0	10.0		0.0	
Tswana -	94.1	100.0	98.0	70.6	21.6		2.0	Tswana -	95.4	96.9	90.8	73.8	21.5		13.8	
Wolof -	100.0	98.0	100.0 Turbo Aya Expans	15.7	5.9 3x228 Gemini 1	.5 Pro	5.9	Wolof -	86.0	84.0	86.0 urbo EXPanse	14.0	0.0		4.0	

Figure 12: Percentage of responses generated in the correct language by model for culture specific and culturally agnostic questions. Blank cells for GEMINI-1.5-PRO indicate languages where the API returned an error message. Balochi, Hiligaynon, and Papiamento are omitted since language detection libraries performed poorly for these languages. Additionally, detection accuracy for Kirundi was compromised, with instances of Kirundi being incorrectly identified as Kinyarwanda. Please see Table 13 for details.

	% of an	iswers w	ith repeti	itions for	cult. ag	nostic qu	estions	% of	answe	rs with	repetit	tions fo	or cult.	specifi	c questi	ions _ 100
English -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	English -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.1	0.0	0.0	- 100
Arabic -	7.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Arabic -	12.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	
Chinese -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Chinese -	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	
German -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	German -	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8	0.5	0.0	- 80
Hebrew -	11.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Hebrew -	13.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	
Hindi -	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Hindi -	11.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.4	0.0	0.0	
Hungarian -	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	0.0	Hungarian -	2.9	0.0	1.1	0.0	1.2	1.7	0.0	
Japanese -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Japanese -	9.7	0.0	1.7	0.6	0.6	1.1	0.0	- 60
Korean -	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	Korean -	5.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Russian -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Russian -	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.6	0.0	
Spanish -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	Spanish -	1.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	3.6	1.0	0.0	
Afar -	0.0	9.8	35.3	21.6		0.0	11.8	Afar -	0.0	0.0	16.0	8.0		0.0	4.0	- 40
Faroese -	17.6	2.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	Faroese -	13.3	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	
Fijian -	3.9	15.7	15.7	0.0		2.0	0.0	Fijian -	10.7	18.7	5.3	1.3		1.3	0.0	
Pashto -	84.3	15.7	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	Pashto -	72.0	10.7	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	
Samoan -	11.8	25.5	3.9	0.0		0.0	0.0	Samoan -	8.0	8.0	4.0	4.0		0.0	0.0	- 20
Tongan -	31.4	52.9	37.3	2.0		0.0	0.0	Tongan -	20.0	60.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	
Tswana -	19.6	23.5	0.0	0.0		2.0	0.0	Tswana -	18.5	18.5	1.5	0.0		4.6	0.0	
Wolof -	5.9	5.9	51.0	33.3		2.0	0.0	Wolof -	0.0	0.0	30.0	14.0		0.0	0.0	
	228	228	- A0		oro	108	ous		28	228	, <b>h</b> o	100	010	108	ous	- 0
Wolof - Mixtral <sup>8</sup>	XL. xpans	<sup>e 2</sup>	SPT 40 CPT 4	rui. mini 1	5 Pro	3 TOB Claude	04.	Wolof - Mix <sup>tral Bx</sup> Ay <sup>a</sup>	. xpanse	3 GP	CPT AT	unini 1.5	lama 3	10 <sup>B</sup> Claude C	)Y-	
Mix	ANa Ext		3.	Genn	LIU	Clu		MIX AYS	Er		с. G	en	V.	0.		

Figure 13: Percentage of answers with identified repetitions for culturally specific and culturally agnostic questions. Blank cells for GEMINI-1.5-PRO indicate languages where the API returned an error message.

Model	Checkpoint	AVAIL.	# PARAM
GPT-4-TURBO	gpt-4-0125-preview	closed	?
GPT-40	gpt-4o-2024-05-13	closed	?
Claude-3-Opus	claude-3-opus-20240229	closed	?
Gemini-1.5-Pro	gemini-1.5-pro-preview-0514	closed	?
Llama-3-70B	Meta-Llama-3-70B-Instruct x	open-weight	70B
Mixtral-8x22B	Mixtral-8x22B-Instruct-v0.1 x	open-weight	8x22B
Aya-Expanse-32B	aya-expanse-32b x	open-weight	32B

Table 14: General information about models we evaluate using CALMQA.

Issue	QUESTION	GENERATION
The model answers a non- English question in En- glish	A BKV járatain egy (külföldi) nyugdíjas miként igazolja, hogy nyugdíjas a sofőrnél? How can a (foreign) senior citizen prove their eligibility for free travel on Budapest's public transport (BKV) to the driver?	I understand your concern! As a foreign pensioner, your mother is entitled to free travel on BKV (Budapest public transportation) services, but she needs to prove her pensioner status to the driver or inspector. According to the BKV website, foreign pensioners can use their national pensioner ID or a document that proves their pensioner status, along with a valid ID (e.g., passport). The document should be in English or have an English translation. Here are some options your mother can consider: [Hungarian/LLAMA-3-70B]
A sequence of at least 20 tokens is repeated at least 4 times	Ke eng se se neng se le pharologano ka lenyalo la ga Sir Seretse Khama le Ruth Khama mme Ruth Khama o ne a itshwara jang lefa go nale pharologanyo eo? What was different about Sir Seretse Khama and Ruth Khama's mar- riage and how did Ruth Khama behave despite the difference?	Ke a leboga gore o ne a reng ditlhong tse di ntle. Ka kakaretso, ga Sir Seretse Khama le Ruth Khama o ne a itshwara jang lefa go nale pharologano ya gagwe. Ruth Khama o ne a neng a reng mabaka a a latelang a a nang le bona, a a nang le lefatsheng la Botswana, a a nang le baagi ba bangwe ba bangata ba bangwe ba
The model apologizes and is unable to answer the question	Duni daddarba leh yan iyyaan duma duni core kee akah yan iyya? How do they know how hot the earth's core is?	I'm sorry for any confusion, but it seems like the text you've provided is in a language that I don't currently support. I can understand and generate text in several languages, but I need to know which one you're using to provide an accurate response. If you're able to translate your question into English, I'd be more than happy to help! [Afar/MIXTRAL- 8x22B]
The model recognizes the language of the text	Umugirwa wo gufuba umwami wagenda gute mu Burundi? How was the Kings' funeral done in Burundi?	A question in Kirundi! Umugirwa wo gufuba umwami wagenda gute mu Burundi? Translation: "What is the significance of the drum in Burundian culture?" In Burundian culture, drums (umugirwa) play a significant role in various aspects of life, including: [Kirundi/LLAMA- 3-70B]
The model translates the question into English	Mahimo bala kontrolon ukon himuon sang tawo ang tiempo? Kon mahimo, hasta diin kag paano? <i>Can weather be con-</i> <i>trolled or man made? If so, to</i> <i>what extent and how?</i>	What a fascinating question! In English, your question translates to: "Can we control time like we control a person? If so, up to what extent and how?" Unfortunately, the answer is no, we cannot control time like we control a person. Time is a fundamental concept that governs the universe, and it is not a physical entity that can be manipulated or controlled [Hiligaynon/LLAMA-3-70B]

Table 15: Examples of patterns detected in the automatic evaluation of model responses to questions in CALMQA.

You will be provided with a question and an answer, both translated from *[language]* into English. The answer was produced by an LLM.

Your task is to evaluate whether the answer is relevant to the question. \*\*Relevance means that the answer makes a genuine attempt to address the question as stated.\*\* The factual accuracy of the answer is not important. An answer should be judged as "irrelevant" if it:

- Does not attempt to answer the question,

- Focuses on a completely different topic,
- Is merely a refusal to answer, or
- Simply translates the content of the question without addressing it.

\*\*Instructions:\*\*

1. Read the question and the answer carefully.

2. Provide an explanation of your reasoning enclosed in `<explanation></explanation>`tags. 3. Then, give your final judgment enclosed in `<judgment></judgment>`tags with either the word `relevant` or `irrelevant`.

```
**Content:**
**Question:**
<question>
[question]
</question>
**Answer:**
<answer>
[answer]
</answer>
```

Figure 14: Prompt used with GPT-40 to determine the relevance of an LLM-generated answer to its question. Strings in the form *[form]* are placeholders that are replaced at runtime. The question and answer are provided in their English translations.

	All Data			Correct	Correct Lang / No Repetitions				
Model	MEAN	MEDIAN	STD	MEAN	MEDIAN	STD			
CLAUDE-3-OPUS	296.4	293	88.9	302.2	297	79.2			
GPT-4-TURBO	472.6	482	155.2	468.9	477	147.2			
GPT-40	446.6	425	268	434.9	430	184.8			
Gemini-1.5-Pro	265.6	270	247.1	421.6	421	177.7			
AYA-EXPANSE-32B	449.4	437	187.3	476.3	460	289.7			
LLAMA-3-70B	395.9	410	171.4	478.7	484	138.8			
MIXTRAL-8X22B	305.3	237	281.9	255.4	252	114			

Table 16: Mean, median, and standard deviation of token counts in answers generated by different models. To account for variations in token count due to the language of generation and the presence of repetitions, we provide separate statistics for all answers and for answers produced in the correct language without repetitions. Token counts were computed using tiktoken with the o200k\_base encoding.

**Evaluation Task** The evaluation was conducted 1251 using LabelStudio (Tkachenko et al., 2020-2022). 1252 On the UI, annotators were presented with a question, a gold answer (if applicable), and three com-1254 petitive answers in random order. The annotation 1255 process for each answer involved: (1) marking any 1256 mistakes,  $^{18}$  (2) stating whether the answer is in the 1257 correct language, (3) evaluating factual accuracy, 1258 (4) noting any content omissions, (5) commenting 1259 on the overall quality of each answer, (6) rating 1260 1261 each answer on a 5-point scale (excellent, good, average, poor, unusable). Upon completing the rat-1262 ings, annotators ranked the three answers from best 1263 to worst and provided a free-form explanation for their ranking. Figure 16 illustrates the overall flow 1265 of the evaluation task. The study was submitted 1266 for the review to Institutional Review Board and 1267 received a non-human subject determination. 1268

**Guidelines and Consent** We provided human evaluation guidelines, describing how to use the interface (including a tutorial video) and explaining each of the steps in the annotation process. The guidelines link to the consent form.

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**Data** Human evaluation was done for answers generated by CLAUDE-3-OPUS, GPT-4-TURBO, and MIXTRAL-8X22B for questions in English, German, Hindi, Fijian and Kirundi. For culturally specific questions, annotators chose 10 questions in their language that they felt confident they knew the answer to. For culturally agnostic questions, we sampled 10 English culturally agnostic questions, and used the original English and the translations into the 4 other languages. We provided annotators with bullet-point answers in English for the culturally agnostic questions. 1283

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**Workers and Cost** German and Hindi annotators were recruited via Prolific, while Fijian and Kirundi annotators were recruited via Upwork. English annotations were performed by one of the authors. All annotators were native speakers of their respective languages and had participated in the question collection. Each question took approximately 20– 40 minutes to evaluate, with annotators receiving compensation of \$7.50 USD per question and an additional \$8.00 USD for reviewing the guidelines, totaling \$158 USD per language. The overall cost of the evaluation amounted to approximately \$720 USD.<sup>19</sup>

**Results** Figure 17 and Figure 18 show the results of annotation for whether the answer was generated in the same language as the question (see Table 24 for detailed counts). Figure 19 and Figure 20 display the annotations of the severity of factual issues in each answer (see Table 25 for detailed counts). Figure 21 and Figure 22 present the annotations of the severity of omissions in each answer (see Table 26 for detailed counts). Figure 23 and Figure 24 show the rankings of the models for both culturally specific and culturally agnostic questions. Figure 4 showsh ratings by model by question type. Finally, Figure 25 shows the distributions of scores assigned for each model by the question type and language of generation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>This step was included to help the annotators visualize any issues with the answer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup>We also covered Upwork charges which the platform impose on the freelancers.

English -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	English -	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.4	100.0	100.0
Arabic -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	92.2	Arabic -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	94.0
Chinese -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	Chinese -	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	97.1
German -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.6	German -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	49.0
Hebrew -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	96.1	Hebrew -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	96.8
Hindi -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	92.2	Hindi -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	89.4
lungarian -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	29.4	Hungarian -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	69.7
Japanese -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	Japanese -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	94.3
Korean -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	98.0	Korean -	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.6	87.4
Russian -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	35.3	Russian -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	46.9
Spanish -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Spanish -	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5
Afar -		5.9	2.0	13.7	13.7	98.0	100.0	Afar -		4.0	4.0	12.0	24.0	100.0	100.0
Faroese -		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.6	100.0	Faroese -		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.7	90.0
Fijian -		0.0	0.0	0.0	13.7	94.1	98.0	Fijian -		1.3	0.0	0.0	12.0	86.7	98.7
Pashto -		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	98.0	Pashto -		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.7	97.3
Samoan -		0.0	0.0	0.0	21.6	88.2	98.0	Samoan -		0.0	0.0	0.0	24.0	88.0	100.0
Tongan -		2.0	0.0	0.0	7.8	66.7	96.1	Tongan -		0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	80.0	100.0
Tswana -		0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	78.4	98.0	Tswana -		0.0	0.0	0.0	6.2	76.9	86.2
Wolof - Gemini 1.		0.0	0.0	0.0	7.8	94.1	94.1	Wolof -		0.0	2.0	6.0	36.0	100.0 x22B Llama 3	94.0

Figure 15: Percentage of answers produced in English by model which produced the answer for culturally specific and culturally agnostic questions. Blank cells for GEMINI-1.5-PRO indicate languages where the API returned an error message.

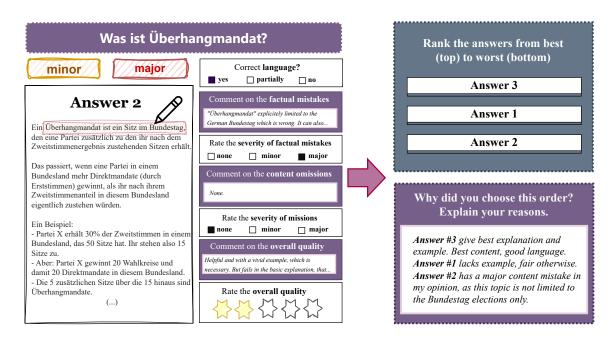


Figure 16: Our human evaluation pipeline. The annotator has to first read the answer, mark and classify all the mistake, and then comment and rate different properties of the answer. Once they have completed evaluating all three answers they are asked to rank them with respect to each other and provide a justification for the ranking. The example shows a culturally specific questions and one answer in German. The answer was produced by CLAUDE-3-OPUS.

Statistical analysis We conducted a statistical 1314 analysis using the clmm() function from the 1315 ordinal package in R. Each model was fitted with 1316 the ordinal ratings (1-5) as the response variable 1317 and different predictors, allowing for random inter-1318 cepts for annotators. Table 19 shows the results of a 1319 model with question type (either culturally specific 1320 or culturally agnostic) as the predictor. Table 20 1321 presents the results of an analysis with model type, 1322 question type, and their interaction as predictors, 1323 complemented by Table 21, which shows the re-1324 sults of a post-hoc analysis. Finally, Table 22 dis-1325 plays the R<sup>2</sup> values for models with different predic-1326 tors, namely model type, question type, omission 1327 ratings, factuality ratings, and language accuracy 1328 ratings. 1329

1330 Analysis of the annotations We conducted manual analyses of the comments provided by the anno-1331 tators. For each analysis, we iteratively designed an 1332 annotation schema to analyze the submitted com-1333 ments. Table 27 describes the annotation schema 1334 1335 used for analyzing the comments on model ranking (i.e., the annotator's reason for ranking a model 1336 1st, 2nd, or 3rd). The results of this analysis are 1337 presented in Table 28. Table 29 describes the cate-1338 gories used to analyze the comments on factuality. 1339 The results of this analysis are presented in Ta-1340 ble 30. Finally, Table 31 describes the categories 1341 used to analyze the general comments left by the 1342 annotators for each answer. The results of this 1343 analysis are presented in Table 32 and Table 33. 1344

## D.1 Additional Insights

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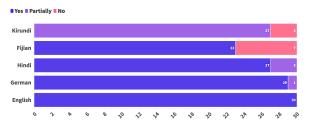
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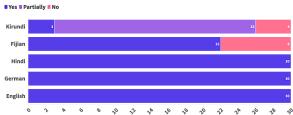
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We capture here insights gained from analyzing human evaluation that we could not fit in the main body of text.

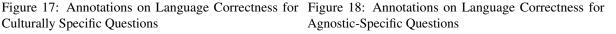
Enumerating facts makes responses seem less human-like. German and Hindi annotators re-1350 marked about the presence fact enumerations (often 1351 in the form of dot points) for some model answers. 1352 For German, the enumeration structure made re-1353 sponses seem artificial (e.g. 'Again very AI made structure. "here are common methods" and a fol-1355 lowing enumeration plus the asterisk titles...'). For 1356 Hindi, listing facts makes the responses not seem human-like, though not necessarily like an AI ei-1358 1359 ther (e.g. 'The answer is just stating points on why is smoking harmful, so it neither sounds human-like 1360 nor artificial.'). More broadly, the fact enumeration 1361 structure was described negatively in 5 responses, neutrally in 18 responses and positively in 2. 1363

**GPT-4-TURBO made the most grammar/spelling** 1364 errors. 9 out of 12 spelling and grammar issues 1365 were noted for GPT-4-TURBO responses. 8 of these 1366 issues occurred for Fijian (e.g. 'There is a minor 1367 error, and the system might have spelled "nodra"" 1368 incorrectly. However, the language content is rele-1369 vant so the rating is 4 out of 5, and it sounds like a 1370 human.') and the last was in German ('Defininetly 1371 helpful, complete and clear. Also fluent. One 1372 spelling mistake found: Zusammengefasend is no 1373 German word should be "zusammengefasst" or sim-1374 ilar. But that could be a human-alike typo.'). This 1375 mistakes were present in otherwise mostly positive 1376 responses, suggesting that the issues were not due 1377 to lack of language understanding. We suspect that 1378 this phenomenon may be the result of a tokenizer 1379 issue. 1380





**Culturally Specific Questions** 



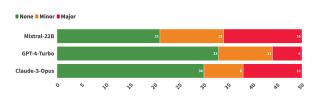
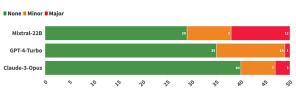


Figure 19: Factuality issues as assessed by the annotators Figure 20: Factuality issues as assessed by the annotators by model for culturally specific questions



by model for culturally agnostic questions

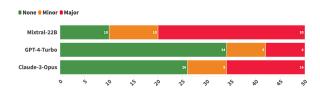
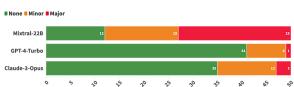


Figure 21: Omissions as assessed by the annotators by Figure 22: Omissions as assessed by the annotators by model for culturally specific questions



model for culturally agnostic questions



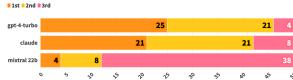


Figure 23: Number of times each model was ranked as Figure 24: Number of times each model was ranked as first, second, and last for culturally specific questions. first, second, and last for culturally agnostic questions.

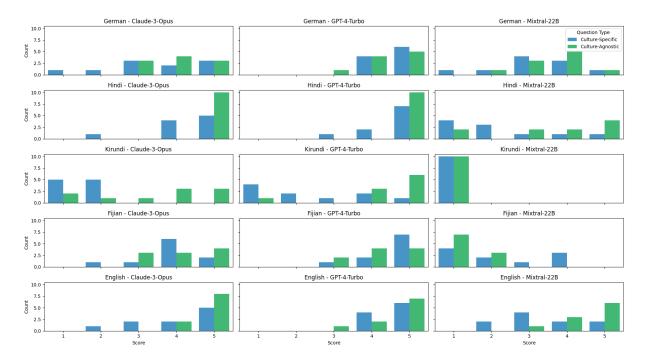


Figure 25: Scores distribution by language and model for Culturally Specific and Culturally Agnostic questions

Formula	$\texttt{rating} \sim \texttt{model} + (1     \texttt{language} / \texttt{annotator})$							
		Random Effects						
Group	Name	Variance	Std. Dev.					
language	(Intercept)	0.7175	0.847					
Number of groups:			5					
		Fixed	Effects					
Coefficient	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	$\Pr(> z )$				
GPT-4-TURBO	0.8635	0.2885	2.993	0.00276 **				
MIXTRAL-8X22B	-1.9493	0.2844	-6.854	7.18e-12 ***				
Significance codes:	0 '***'	0.001 '**' 0	.01 '*' 0.05	·.' 0.1 · ' 1				

Table 17: Results of cumulative link mixed model with ordinal ratings as the response variable and model as the predictor.

Contrast	Estimate	SE	df	z-ratio	<i>p</i> -value
Claude-3-Opus – GPT-4-Turbo	-0.863	0.288	Inf	-2.993	0.0078
CLAUDE-3-OPUS – MIXTRAL-8X22B	1.949	0.284	Inf	6.854	<.0001
GPT-4-Turbo – Mixtral-8x22B	2.813	0.315	Inf	8.936	<.0001
P value adjustment: Tukey meth	od for comp	aring a f	amily o	of 3 estimates	

Table 18: Post-hoc analysis for the model in Table 17. Tests performed using the emmeans library in R.

Formula	<code>rating</code> $\sim$ <code>type</code> + (1   <code>language/annotator</code> )					
	Random Effects					
Group	Name	Variance	Std. Dev.			
annotator	(Intercept)	0.9418	0.9705			
Number of Groups: annotator			5			
		Fixed	Effects			
Coefficient	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	$\Pr(> z )$		
Culturally Agnostic	0.7259	0.2192	3.312	0.000926***		
Significance codes:	0 '***'	0.001 '**' 0	.01 '*' 0.05	·: 0.1 · · 1		

Table 19: Results of cumulative link mixed model with ordinal ratings as the response variable and question type (culturally specific vs culturally agnostic) as the predictor.

Formula	rating $\sim$ m	odel * type -	+(1 langu	age/annota	tor)
Random effects:					
Groups	Name	Variance	Std.Dev.		
Language	(Intercept)	0.7566	0.8698		
Annotator:Language	(Intercept)	0.7566	0.8698		
Fixed effects:					
Coefficient	Estimate	Std. Error	z-value	Pr(> z )	
GPT-4-Turbo	1.1679	0.3868	3.020	0.002531	**
MIXTRAL-8X22B	-1.7013	0.3853	-4.415	1.01e-05	***
Culturally Agnostic	1.3561	0.3956	3.428	0.000607	***
GPT-4-TURBO:Culturally Agnostic	-0.6182	0.5849	-1.057	0.290489	
MIXTRAL-8x22B:Culturally Agnostic	-0.7163	0.5467	-1.310	0.190109	

Table 20: Cumulative link mixed model fitted with the Laplace approximation fitted with clmm() in R. The response variable is the ratings (an ordinal variable on a 5-point scale), with predictors being model (CLAUDE-3-OPUS, GPT-4-TURBO, or MIXTRAL-8X22B) and question type (culturally specific and culturally agnostic). Annotator nested within language is included as a random effect. The baseline model is CLAUDE-3-OPUS and the baseline question type is culturally specific. Model's conditional  $R^2$  is 0.497 (including random effects) and marginal  $R^2$  is 0.266 (only fixed effects). Please refer to Table 21 for post-hoc analysis.

Contrast	Estimate	SE	df	z-ratio	<i>p</i> -value
Spec. CLAUDE-3-OPUS- Agn. CLAUDE-3-OPUS	-1.356	0.396	Inf	-3.428	0.0091
Spec. CLAUDE-3-OPUS- Spec. GPT-4-TURBO	-1.168	0.387	Inf	-3.020	0.0380
Spec. CLAUDE-3-OPUS- Agn. GPT-4-TURBO	-1.906	0.424	Inf	-4.492	0.0001
Spec. CLAUDE-3-OPUS- Spec. MIXTRAL-8X22B	1.701	0.385	Inf	4.415	0.0002
Spec. CLAUDE-3-OPUS- Agn. MIXTRAL-8X22B	1.061	0.374	Inf	2.835	0.0687
Agn. CLAUDE-3-OPUS- Spec. GPT-4-TURBO	0.188	0.412	Inf	0.457	1.0000
Agn. Claude-3-Opus- Agn. GPT-4-Turbo	-0.550	0.442	Inf	-1.242	1.0000
Agn. CLAUDE-3-OPUS- Spec. MIXTRAL-8X22B	3.057	0.429	Inf	7.123	<.0001
Agn. Claude-3-Opus- Agn. Mixtral-8x22B	2.418	0.414	Inf	5.842	<.0001
Spec. GPT-4-Turbo- Agn. GPT-4-Turbo	-0.738	0.436	Inf	-1.694	1.0000
Spec. GPT-4-TURBO- Spec. MIXTRAL-8x22B	2.869	0.420	Inf	6.836	<.0001
Spec. GPT-4-Turbo- Agn. MIXTRAL-8X22B	2.229	0.404	Inf	5.514	<.0001
Agn. GPT-4-TURBO- Spec. MIXTRAL-8X22B	3.607	0.462	Inf	7.800	<.0001
Agn. GPT-4-Turbo- Agn. MIXTRAL-8X22B	2.967	0.445	Inf	6.669	<.0001
Spec. MIXTRAL-8x22B- Agn. MIXTRAL-8x22B	-0.640	0.383	Inf	-1.669	1.0000

Table 21: Post-hoc analysis for the model in Table 20 with Bonferroni adjustment. Spec. refers to culturally specific questions while Agn. refers to culturally agnostic questions. Tests performed using the emmeans library in R.

Predictor	Conditional R <sup>2</sup>	Marginal R <sup>2</sup>
Model	0.214	0.189
Omission	0.752	0.740
Factuality	0.614	0.560
Language Acc.	0.339	0.327
Q-Type	0.093	0.061
Model * Q-Type	0.497	0.266

Table 22: Conditional and Marginal R<sup>2</sup> values for different predictors. We fit cumulative link mixed models (clmm() in R) with *ratings* as the response variable and different predictors. All models included random intercepts for annotators. Omission, Factuality, and Language Accuracy were treated as ordinal variables (no issues > minor issues > major issues), whereas Q-Type and Model are categorical variables with two and three levels respectively. The last model was fitted with the interaction between the Model and the Q-Type. The Conditional R<sup>2</sup> refers to the variance explained by both fixed effects (predictors) and random effects (annotators), while Marginal R<sup>2</sup> refers to the variance explained by fixed effects only.

Mode	ELWIN RATE	REASON	# (spec./agn.)	Comment
lurbo		Content	27 / 24	Answer 1 (GPT-4-TURBO) is the perfect answer and and explains all the points needed to understand how to play the game 'Teen Patti'.
GPT-4-TURBO	55%	Language/ Format	11/7	Answer 3 (GPT-4-TURBO) is very well structured and easy to follow. It covers all the information as well.
		Factuality/ Rele- vance	10/3	A3 (GPT-4-TURBO) is more factual than A1 (CLAUDE-3-OPUS) and A2 (MIXTRAL-8X22B).
PUS		Content	6 / 16	Answer 3 (CLAUDE-3-OPUS) covers the topic in its entirety and hence is ranked 1st.
CLAUDE-3-OPUS	36%	Language/ Format	5/13	Answer 2 (CLAUDE-3-OPUS) is more readable because the information is listed as points.
CLA		Factuality/ Rele- vance	6/6	A3 (CLAUDE-3-OPUS) is more detailed and factual than A1 (GPT-4-TURBO) and A2 (MIXTRAL-8X22B).
в		Content	2 / 1	A1 (MIXTRAL-8X22B) is better explained than A2 (CLAUDE-3- OPUS) and A3 (GPT-4-TURBO).
MIXTRAL-8X22B	9%	Language/ Format	3/2	All answers have equal quality content, so they are distin- guished by their structure/verbosity. Answer 3 (MIXTRAL- 8x22B) has a very natural structure. Answer 2 (GPT-4- TURBO) and answer 1 (CLAUDE-3-OPUS) have redundancies and answer 1's are slightly worse.
		Factuality/ Rele- vance	1 / 0	Answer 2 (MIXTRAL-8X22B) was slightly more specific to Western Europe than Answer 1 (GPT-4-TURBO), but both were roughly equal in quality.

Table 23: Win rates of the three models in human-evaluated 3-way comparisons of answers for 100 questions. Reasons behind the annotators' decisions are provided, with separate reason counts for *culturally specific* and *culturally agnostic* questions. A breakdown of reasons into finer-grained categories is provided in Table 27.

LANGUAGE	Model	Cu	ULTURALLY SI	PECIFIC	CULTU	CULTURALLY AGNOSTIC			
		YES	PARTIALLY	No	YES	PARTIALLY	No		
	CLAUDE-3-OPUS	10	0	0	10	0	0		
German	GPT-4-Turbo	10	0	0	10	0	0		
	MIXTRAL-8X22B	9	1	0	10	0	0		
	CLAUDE-3-OPUS	9	1	0	10	0	0		
Hindi	GPT-4-TURBO	10	0	0	10	0	0		
	MIXTRAL-8X22B	8	2	0	10	0	0		
	CLAUDE-3-OPUS	0	10	0	1	9	0		
Kirundi	GPT-4-Turbo	0	10	0	1	9	0		
	MIXTRAL-8X22B	0	7	3	1	5	4		
	CLAUDE-3-OPUS	10	0	0	10	0	0		
Fijian	GPT-4-TURBO	10	0	0	10	0	0		
	MIXTRAL-8X22B	3	0	7	2	0	8		
	CLAUDE-3-OPUS	10	0	0	10	0	0		
English	GPT-4-TURBO	10	0	0	10	0	0		
	MIXTRAL-8X22B	10	0	0	10	0	0		

Table 24: Count of instances generated in the language of the question by model and question-type, and the language being evaluated

LANGUAGE	Model	CULT	URALLY S	PECIFIC	CULTU	CULTURALLY AGNOSTIC		
		None	Minor	MAJOR	None	Minor	MAJOR	
	CLAUDE-3-OPUS	8	1	1	10	0	0	
German	GPT-4-Turbo	8	2	0	10	0	0	
	MIXTRAL-8X22B	8	2	0	9	1	0	
	CLAUDE-3-OPUS	7	2	1	10	0	0	
Hindi	GPT-4-Turbo	7	3	0	10	0	0	
	MIXTRAL-8X22B	1	4	5	6	2	2	
	CLAUDE-3-OPUS	0	1	9	3	4	3	
Kirundi	GPT-4-Turbo	0	4	6	3	6	1	
	MIXTRAL-8X22B	0	0	10	0	0	10	
	CLAUDE-3-OPUS	7	3	0	8	2	0	
Fijian	GPT-4-Turbo	8	2	0	3	7	0	
	MIXTRAL-8X22B	5	5	0	5	5	0	
	CLAUDE-3-OPUS	8	1	1	9	1	0	
English	GPT-4-Turbo	10	0	0	9	1	0	
	MIXTRAL-8X22B	7	2	1	9	1	0	

Table 25: Factuality issues in model generation by model, question type and language of the question

LANGUAGE	Model	Cultu	JRALLY S	Specific	Cultu	JRALLY A	GNOSTIC
LINGUNGL	MODEL	None	Minor	Major	None	Minor	Major
	CLAUDE-3-OPUS	6	1	3	7	3	0
German	GPT-4-Turbo	6	4	0	8	2	0
	MIXTRAL-8X22B	1	7	2	3	6	1
	CLAUDE-3-OPUS	8	1	1	10	0	0
Hindi	GPT-4-TURBO	9	0	1	10	0	0
	MIXTRAL-8X22B	3	1	6	4	4	2
	CLAUDE-3-OPUS	0	0	10	4	3	3
Kirundi	GPT-4-Turbo	2	2	6	6	3	1
	MIXTRAL-8X22B	0	0	10	0	0	10
	CLAUDE-3-OPUS	6	3	1	6	4	0
Fijian	GPT-4-TURBO	8	1	1	7	3	0
	MIXTRAL-8X22B	3	0	7	0	0	10
	CLAUDE-3-OPUS	6	3	1	8	2	0
English	GPT-4-Turbo	9	1	0	10	0	0
-	MIXTRAL-8X22B	3	2	5	5	5	0

Table 26: Count of omission issues by severity type, model, and language for culturally specific and culturally agnostic questions

Түре	DESCRIPTION	Example
	Content: Completeness	s/Explanation
Completeness	The answer was perceived as complete.	Answer 3 (Claude-3-Opus) covers the topic in it. entirety and hence is ranked 1st. [Hindi]
EXPLANATION/EXAMPLES The answer included useful e planation and/or examples.		A3 (Gpt-4-Turbo) is better explained than A1 and A2 [Fijian]
DETAILS/BACKGROUND	The answer included details and/or necessary background.	Answer 1 (GPT-4-Turbo) and 2 (Claude-3-Opus) and similar but answer 1 has detailed information about the methods to measure body mass compared to 2 [Hindi]
General	The answer was general, which was appropriate for the given question.	Answer 3 (GPT-4-Turbo) is perfect. The writing style of the answer is the best compared to the other are swers. For instance, it mentions the timeline in ger eral rather than pointing out exact years of the even (In my opinion, different sources and online tran scripts have a little variation in years in terms of history so it is the best to keep it general). [Hindi]
	Language/Prese	ntation
Language	The answer was fluent/used bet- ter language or was less AI-like.	Both answer 1 (GPT-4-Turbo) and 3 (Claude-2 Opus) are good. Answer 1 sounds more human-lik which is why it is ranked 1st. [Hindi]
STRUCTURE	The structure of the answer was better.	All answers have equal quality content, so they ar distinguished by their structure/verbosity. Answer (Mixtral-22B) has a very natural structure. [English
SIMPLE/CLEAR/SPECIFIC	The answer was clear and/or simple, to the point.	Answer 3 (GPT-4-Turbo) is slightly clearer than an swer 1 (Claude-3-Opus). [English]
SUCCINCT	The answer was succinct.	All three answers are complete by content in my view (good answer requires more, but that is more that question covers). Answer two (Mixtral-22B) I regar the best, as the density of content in a few lines is awesome - in most of the other questions, "death b long text and details" is valid, here I opt for show and good. [German]
	Factuality/Corre	ectness
Factual	The answer is better in terms of factuality.	A3 (GPT-4-Turbo) is more factual than A1 (Claudo 3-Opus) and A2 (Mixtral-22B). [Fijian]
Relevant	The answer is the most rele- vant to the question. Often men- tioned when other answers were irrelevant.	Answer 3 (GPT-4-Turbo) is placed in the first po sition because it is relevant though not specific t Burundi. It could be used if it were specific. It has some important information (). [Kirundi]
NO ISSUES	There were no apparent issues in the answer.	Answer 3 (Claude-3-Opus) had no notable issue [English]
Partial Answer	The answer at least partially addresses the question (while other answers may be refusals, repetitions, or simply irrele- vant/wrong).	Answer 3 (GPT-4-Turbo) is the only one that trie to answer the question. The other 2 just point of differences between the medications. [English]

Table 27: Categories used for analysis of reasons for specific ranking of the answers

	Completeness - Explanation			Language - Presentation					Factuality - Correctness				
Model	Туре	Complete	Explanation	Details	General	Language	Structure	Simple	Succinct	Factual	Relevant	No issues	Partial ans
CLAUDE-3-OPUS	Spec.	4	0	2	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	2
GPT-4-TURBO	Spec.	11	5	9	2	3	2	4	2	4	1	2	3
MIXTRAL-8X22B	Spec.	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
CLAUDE-3-OPUS	Agn.	11	0	4	1	2	1	7	3	1	1	4	0
GPT-4-TURBO	Agn.	14	4	6	0	1	4	1	1	0	0	2	1
MIXTRAL-8X22B	Agn.	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0

Table 28: Count of different reasons mentioned by the annotator for ranking each model's answer as the best out of three. Note that in some cases more than one reason might have been give by the annotator. *Spec.* refers to Culturally Specific questions, while *Agn.* refers to Culturally Agnostic questions.

Түре	DESCRIPTION	Comment Example (Language/Model)
	Direct Factual Erro	ors
Date	Issues involving incorrect tem- poral references.	It is mentioned that Nifty was launched in 1995 but it was actually launched in 1996. [Hindi/GPT-4-TURBO]
ΕΝΤΙΤΥ	Incorrect entity such as a per- son, place, or organization.	Almost everything is incorrect because the answer states that Ntare Rugamba is the person who ac- cepted to die in the place of the king, while Ntare Rugamba is the king who ruled before the King Mwezi Gisabo. [Kirundi/GPT-4-TURBO]
Event	Errors in the details or occur- rence of events.	It says that Aurangzeb got the mosque built at the place, however this claim is very strong. He got the temple destroyed but it is not sure if he got the mosque built, as it was a decade after the demolition of the temple. [Hindi/MIXTRAL-8x22B]
REASON	Incorrect reasons or causative explanations for events or situa- tions.	"Ni o lobika na ligamu, o sa vakalevutaka na kena yawa mai yalomu" means folding your elbow in- crease the distance from your spirit" [Fijian/GPT- 4-TURB0]
	Contextual and Logical	Errors
Scope	Errors involving the incorrect extent or range of a fact.	"Überhangmandat" explicitely limited to the German Bundestag which is wrong. It can also apply for regional votes for a single state for instance. [Ger- man/CLAUDE-3-OPUS]
Illogical	Statements that are logically inconsistent or defy common sense.	Yes, there is an error in the phrases "e rawa ni vakavuna na turu ni wai ni mata ena vuku ni kena vakacacani na mata ni mata" means the cutting of onion can damage the eye of the eye sounds gram- matically incorrect. [Fijian/GPT-4-TURBO]
NEGATION	Incorrect use of negation or statements that present the opposite of what is true.	Answer implies that internists are not PCPs [En- glish/CLAUDE-3-OPUS]
Placement	Inaccuracies resulting from the improper contextual placement of information.	Putting "7. secondhand smoke" as a dot point incor- rectly suggests that it is a reason why smoking is bad for the heart [English/CLAUDE-3-OPUS]
	Interpretative and Relevan	ace Errors
IRRELEVANT OR HALLUCINATED	All information in the answer is irrelevant or is fabricated.	The entire answer is wrong. The question is to state the difference between General and OBC category of people (based on caste and society status), but the answer is about general and gynecology prac- titioners (doctors). It is irrelevant to the question. [Hindi/MIXTRAL-8X22B]
DIFFERENT CULTURE	The answer includes references to the wrong culture.	The answer given is incorrect because it is not spe- cific to Burundi. It is in Kinyarwanda and talks about Rwanda. [Kirundi/CLAUDE-3-OPUS]
UNCLEAR OR UNDOCUMENTED	Facts that are not clearly expressed or lack sufficient doc- umentation or sourcing.	The phrase "leweka" is not clear in the content. This issue might have a typo error. [Fijian/CLAUDE-3-OPUS]
NOT AN ANSWER	The model refuses to answer usually producing the response in English sometimes accompa- nied with an attempt to translate the question.	Incorrect language. (refusal to answer produced in English) [Fijian/MIXTRAL-8X22B]

Table 29: Categories used for analysis of comments on the factuality of the answers

MODEL	Type	UNCLEAR/ UNDOC.	DATE	ENTITY	Event	REASON	SCOPE
CLAUDE-3-OPUS	Spec.	1	1	2	1	0	2
GPT-4-TURBO	Spec.	0	1	1	0	0	1
MIXTRAL-8X22B	Spec.	1	1	2	2	1	1
CLAUDE-3-OPUS	Agn.	2	0	0	0	0	0
GPT-4-TURBO	Agn.	5	0	0	0	1	0
MIXTRAL-8X22B	Agn.	2	0	0	0	1	0
MODEL	Type	Illogical	PLACEMENT	NEGATION	IRRELEVANT OR HALLUCINATED	DIFFERENT CULTURE	NOT AN ANSWER
CLAUDE-3-OPUS	Spec.	4	0	1	6	4	0
GPT-4-TURBO	Spec.	2	1	0	0	7	0
MIXTRAL-8X22B	Spec.	3	0	2	7	0	8
CLAUDE-3-OPUS	Ågn.	1	1	0	6	0	0
GPT-4-TURBO	Agn.	1	1	1	4	0	0
MIXTRAL-8X22B	Agn.	0	0	1	5	0	10

Table 30: Count of different types of factuality issues mentioned by annotators in their comments. The issues are presented by question type (*culturally specific* or *culturally agnostic*) and by model which generated the answer. The taxonomy used for this annotation can be found in Table 29.

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	COMMENT EXAMPLE (LANGUAGE/MODEL)
	Cont	tent Issues
Unhelpfulness	Annotator cannot discern the question's answer from the provided answer text	This answer is not very helpful because it not specific to Burundi. Of course it contains some relevant information but it lacks specificity. [Kirundi/GPT-4-TURBO]
IRRELEVANCE	Contains information not needed to answer the ques- tion	The answer is irrelevant to the question and it isn't help ful. It explains a completely different thing (explains the importance of blood sample rather than explaining why the blood sample is taken from the elbow area) [Hindi/MIXTRAL-8X22B]
UNDERSPECIFICITY	Ideas are not explained in sufficient detail	Some instances of generic reasons without much detail about how it applies in Western Europe in particular. [En glish/GPT-4-TURBO]
Incompleteness	Extra information is needed to understand the answer	The points mentioned in the answer are true but they do not cover the entirety of the topic So it could be said that the answer is subjective rather than complete and clear. [Hindi/GPT-4-TURBO]
Repetitiveness	Some phrase or idea is repeated	The phrases "Sa vakamuria na noda vakarau ni dautama o ira na iTaukei vulagi," is repeated in almost every line [Fijian/MIXTRAL-8X22B]
GRAMMAR/SPELLING	Grammar or spelling mis- takes are present	There is a minor error, and the system might have spelled "nodra" incorrectly. [Fijian/CLAUDE-3-OPUS]
	Cont	ent Merits
Helpfulness	Information needed to answer the question is present and understand- able	It is helpful because it tells us the reasons for updating apps: Security, Good performance and New features [Kirundi/GPT-4-TURBO]
Completeness	Answer does not need ex- tra information to be un- derstood	It is complete, even makes an arc from outer core to inner core and a camparison to the sun surface temperature. So it covers more for what has been asked for but I like this additional information. [German/GPT-4-TURBO]
	Presen	tation Issues
ARTIFICIALITY	Perceived by the annotator to be written by AI	Structure with asterix and enumeration very artificial a non human like. [German/GPT-4-TURB0]
NON-FLUENCY		Also Argument 5 is "estimation" and this is again men- tioned in the summary -> a bit stange and hence not fluent [German/CLAUDE-3-OPUS]
Inclarity	Answer ideas or terms are difficult to understand	Fluent and complete, but not clear, as complex word i.e Zytokinen (Cytokines) are not explained. [German/CLAUDE 3-OPUS]
	Present	tation Merits
NATURALITY	Perceived by the an- notator to be human- written/natural	Complete, but so different to the other answers. most human-like answer as being relatively general to a more or less vague question. [German/CLAUDE-3-OPUS]
FLUENCY	Written in a smooth man- ner and easy to read	There are no inaccuracies in the answer which makes in helpful. It makes use of easier vocabulary which sounds fluent. [Hindi/CLAUDE-3-OPUS]
CLARITY	Ideas are expressed in an easy-to-understand man- ner	The answer is complete and helpful. It is very clear be cause the information is subdivided into general and OBC sections and it is easy to follow. [Hindi/GPT-4-TURBO]

Table 31: Categories used for the analysis of annotators' general comments on the quality of answers

MODEL	Type	UNHELPFULNESS*	INCOMPLETENESS*	ARTIFICIALITY*	NON-FLUENCY*	INCLARITY*
CLAUDE-3-OPUS	Spec.	9	13	4	4	10
GPT-4-TURBO	Spec.	6	7	4	2	5
MIXTRAL-8X22B	Spec.	20	17	19	10	15
CLAUDE-3-OPUS	Agn.	3	5	5	1	1
GPT-4-Turbo	Agn.	1	4	11	1	5
MIXTRAL-8X22B	Agn.	16	14	17	8	9
MODEL	TYPE	IRRELEVANCE	UNDERSPECIFITY	REPETITIVENESS	GRAMMAR/SPELLING	
CLAUDE-3-OPUS	c					
CLHODE 5 0105	Spec.	1	1	0	1	
GPT-4-TURBO	Spec. Spec.	1 4	1 1	0 0	1 2	
		1 4 4	1 1 7	0 0 4	1 2 1	
GPT-4-Turbo	Spec.	1 4 4 1	1 1 7 1	0 0 4 2	1 2 1 1	
GPT-4-TURBO Mixtral-8x22B	Spec. Spec.	1 4 4 1 0	1 1 7 1 0	$\begin{array}{c} 0\\ 0\\ 4\\ \hline \\ 2\\ 0\\ \end{array}$	1 2 1 1 7	

Table 32: Counts of different types of issues noted in annotators' comments about general answer quality. The issues are presented by question type (*culturally specific* or *culturally agnostic*) and by model which generated the answer. The taxonomy used for this annotation can be found in Table 31. Our UI suggested to annotators to make comments (positive or negative) about categories marked with \*.

MODEL	Type	Helpfulness	COMPLETENESS	NATURALITY	FLUENCY	CLARITY
CLAUDE-3-OPUS	Spec.	24	19	24	22	22
GPT-4-Turbo	Spec.	24	20	27	22	19
MIXTRAL-8X22B	Spec.	13	7	18	15	12
CLAUDE-3-OPUS	Agn.	26	20	30	22	30
GPT-4-Turbo	Agn.	29	24	26	17	25
MIXTRAL-8X22B	Agn.	16	12	22	13	16

Table 33: Counts of different types of merits noted in annotators' comments about general answer quality. The merits are presented by question type (*culturally specific* or *culturally agnostic*) and by model which generated the answer. The taxonomy used for this annotation can be found in Table 31. Our UI suggested to annotators to make comments (positive or negative) about all these categories.