Annotator Instructions

The annotators were given the following explanation how to select a sentiment class (translated from the original instructions in German; examples reduced to the most informative ones; added translations to English):

Categorized should be the sentiment expressed in a tweet, but not the sentiment felt when reading the tweet.

**Neutral**
A Tweet is neutral if it’s entirely objective, or subjective but without a polarity.
Example objective statement: “Ich gehe nach Hause.” [“I am going home.”]
Example subjective opinion: “Ich glaube er kommt um 3 Uhr.” [“I believe he will arrive at 3 o’clock.”]

**Positive/Negative**
Most other tweets that are subjective are either positive or negative.
Example: “Ich werde Vater :)” [“I’m going to be a father :)”] - > Without emoticon, this sentence would be objective, thus neutral. However, the emoticon indicates that the person is looking forward to becoming a father. This is why the whole tweet is positive.

**Mixed**
The mixed cases are where both feelings are expressed in different parts in the tweet or a “bittersweet” feeling is expressed.
Example: “Schade, dass du nicht kommen kannst, aber dafür kannst Du ja den Abend mit deinen Freunden geniessen.” [“It’s a shame that you won’t be able to attend. But instead you’ll be able to enjoy the evening with friends.”] - > The user is sad that their friend is not able to attend some event which is a negative feeling but is happy for them that they’ll be able to enjoy their evening with friends.

**Unknown**
Tweets should be annotated as unknown when the annotators knowledge is insufficient to judge the feeling. This could be because the tweet is not German, or if it contains slang or other specific vocabulary unknown to the annotator.
Example: “@RudeandYoung Tmte hein.” [no translation available] - > We have no idea what “Tmte” and “hein” means; this is probably not even German.