“My Mother is Mama”

Transcribed by: Martin Porcheron <porcheron@acm.org>
Fragment: S2.G3.F9
Length of fragment: 0 mins 51 secs

Recorded in a neighbourhood café in a park as the friends are socialising. They have been asked to use the conversational agents on their mobile devices instead of typing, where appropriate (i.e. if they wish to use type for personal matters, that is fine).


The group are seated around a rectangular table in the following order: the Researcher, Gary, Karl, Lilly, and Antonius. Names are anonymised, and words spoken to the conversational agent on the device are in **bold**, words spoken by conversational agents are in *italics*.

00:30:01-0#

01 R doesn’t want to rename you
02 G no::
03 K it doesn’t all the (.u-h (.7) all the commands aren’t in there (1.1) there’s only a *certain* number of things
04 <‘cos> natural language processing is hard!
05 G I’m curious if I say in Romanian (.a) to call my mother
06 (0.7)
07 it will actually find the contact for my mother is (.a) mama in Romanian (.a) If I say call my mum will it actually
call my mother which is in a contact as mama (0.7) will it make the connection between mama and mum
09 R ‘cos you can also tell people who they- er- (.a) like (.a) you can say like
10 G **hey Siri**
11 R =my mother is this person
12 (0.8)
13 G **hey Siri**
14 (1.0)
15 R I’d press the button
16 (1.2)
17 G **hey Siri**
18  (2.4)
19  call my mother
20  (5.9)
21  ((holds phone in between R and G))
22  ((device asks “what is your mother’s name?” on screen))
23  R  yeah but then-
24  (0.9)
25  G  my mother is mama
26  (4.7)
27  ((device says “I can’t find anyone called mamma”))
28  not double em

#00:30:52-0#