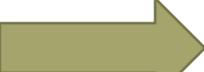# TEAM US2A

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1. We asked, "How do high school students feel about the return to pre-pandemic life?"

2. We used dataset #6. We scraped ~300 comments including occasional threaded replies. We coded them inductively.

3. Ours is a collaborative enterprise. As others using the same dataset as us noted, *a priori* groups were hard to define, and when defined, were hard to find clear qualitative differences between. As others using different data tried, *ex post* groups can be defined as clusters.

4. We used ENA to model discourse. We used K-Means Clustering to find K=2 groups in the high dimensional ENA space. We used an SVD rotation to visualize results.

5. One group is excited to get back to "normal" and is thinking about how we can make that happen. The other group is pessimistic about returning to in-person schooling and feels they are losing out on personal freedoms.

Label	Code
NegativeVE	A negative emotional excitement caused by or expected from the return, such as nervousness, apprehension, caution, anxiety, and exhaustion. *Eg.* "I am nervous about returning to a normal life like being back in school."
PositiveVE	A positive emotional excitement caused by or expected from the return, such as relief, joy, and eagerness. *Eg.* "I look forward to a time where all of this is over."
Normalcy	A sense of normalcy, either interrupted or reshaped by the pandemic. *Eg.* "I would love to get back to a normal life, and going to school and interacting with people really gives me a sense of normalcy."
Safety	An appeal to safety from catching COVID-19, either improved, worsened, changed, or unknown in the return. *Eg.* "the emergence of new covid variants adds to the ambiguity surrounding a step toward pre-pandemic life."
SharedSpace	A reference to shared physical spaces that have not been shared with others outside one's immediate family since the pandemic, either not shared at all or not shared in the extent expected after the return. *Eg.* "I miss spending time in my school library."
ComingOfAge	An appeal to coming of age milestones and identity formations that have been interrupted or reshaped by the pandemic. *Eg.* "I'm a senior and wanted to experience my last few months of high school."
Friends	A reference to friendship as impacted by the pandemic, such as friends missed, friends made, or the idea of making friends. *Eg.* "During the pandemic, after quarantine, I was able to see my friends so I feel it won't be hard for me socially but I will definitely not be used to it."
Learning	An appeal to one's own education, either improved, worsened, or changed by the pandemic or the return. *Eg.* "When covid hit I was in math 1, but didn't really learn anything because of covid."
Mental	An appeal to mental health in relationship to the return, whether framed from the perspective of pre-, in-, or post-pandemic. *Eg.* "Knowing that the pandemic is hopefully coming to an end is so relieving and good for our mental and physical health."
Technology	An appeal to the technologies that have structured life during the transition and whose structuring may change after the return. *Eg.* "Being on a Zoom or Google Meet makes me feel like I am stuck in a box."
Policy	A reference to the policies that are being made or will need to be made in order for the return to happen, either to the policies, the solutions, the approach, or the policymakers. *Eg.* "my school will be offering an option for students to come in 4 days per week" and "I am hopeful that countries' leaders and scientists continue taking the right steps necessary to ensure a safe transition."
Management	An appeal to the management of one's own daily schedule, such as the agency lost, agency affirmed, or burden lifted by the return. *Eg.* "Now that I have my schedule back in place my anxiety levels are going down and I am feeling more like myself" and "I will miss having the time to go for walks in my neighborhood and being able to sleep in."
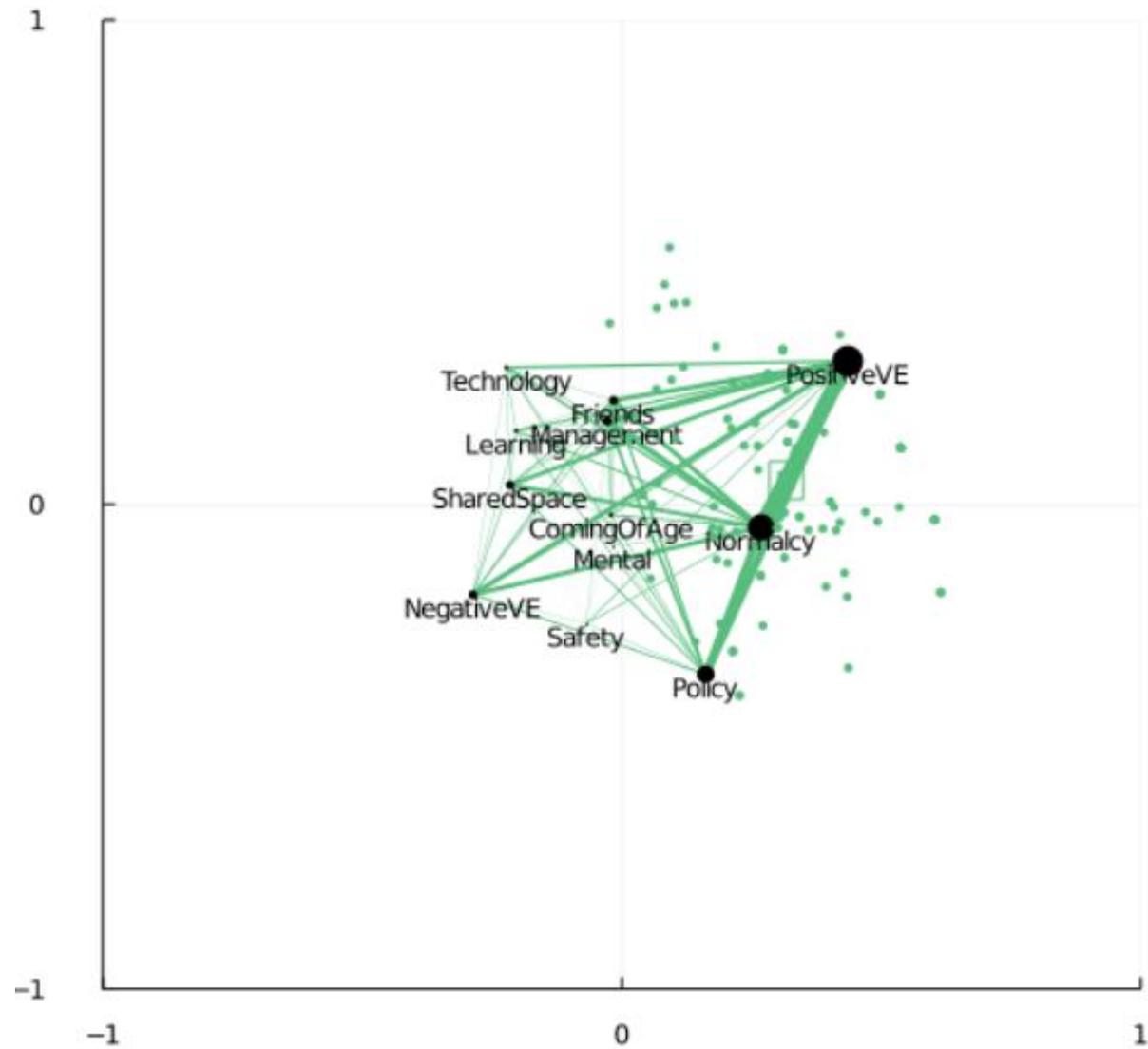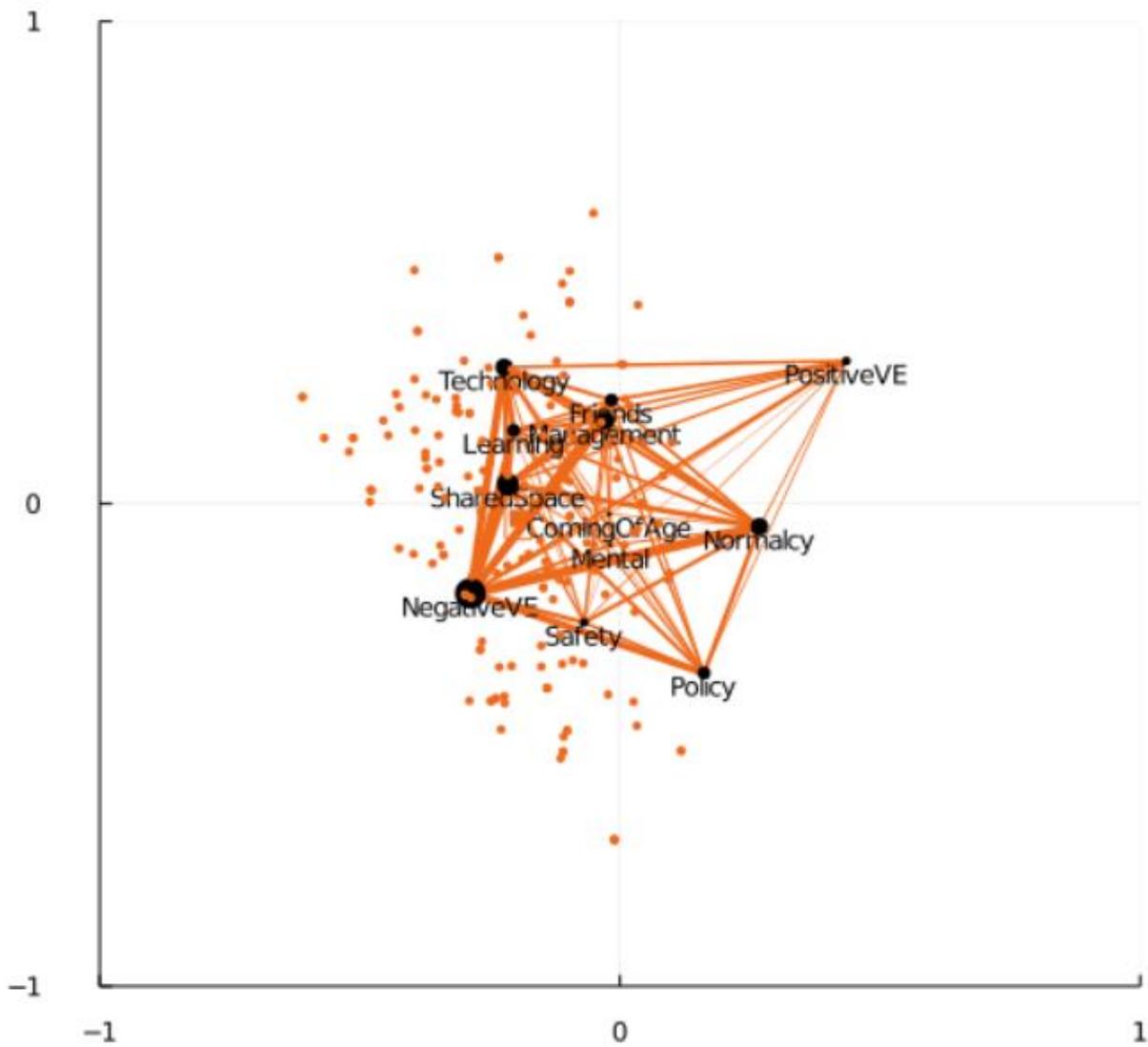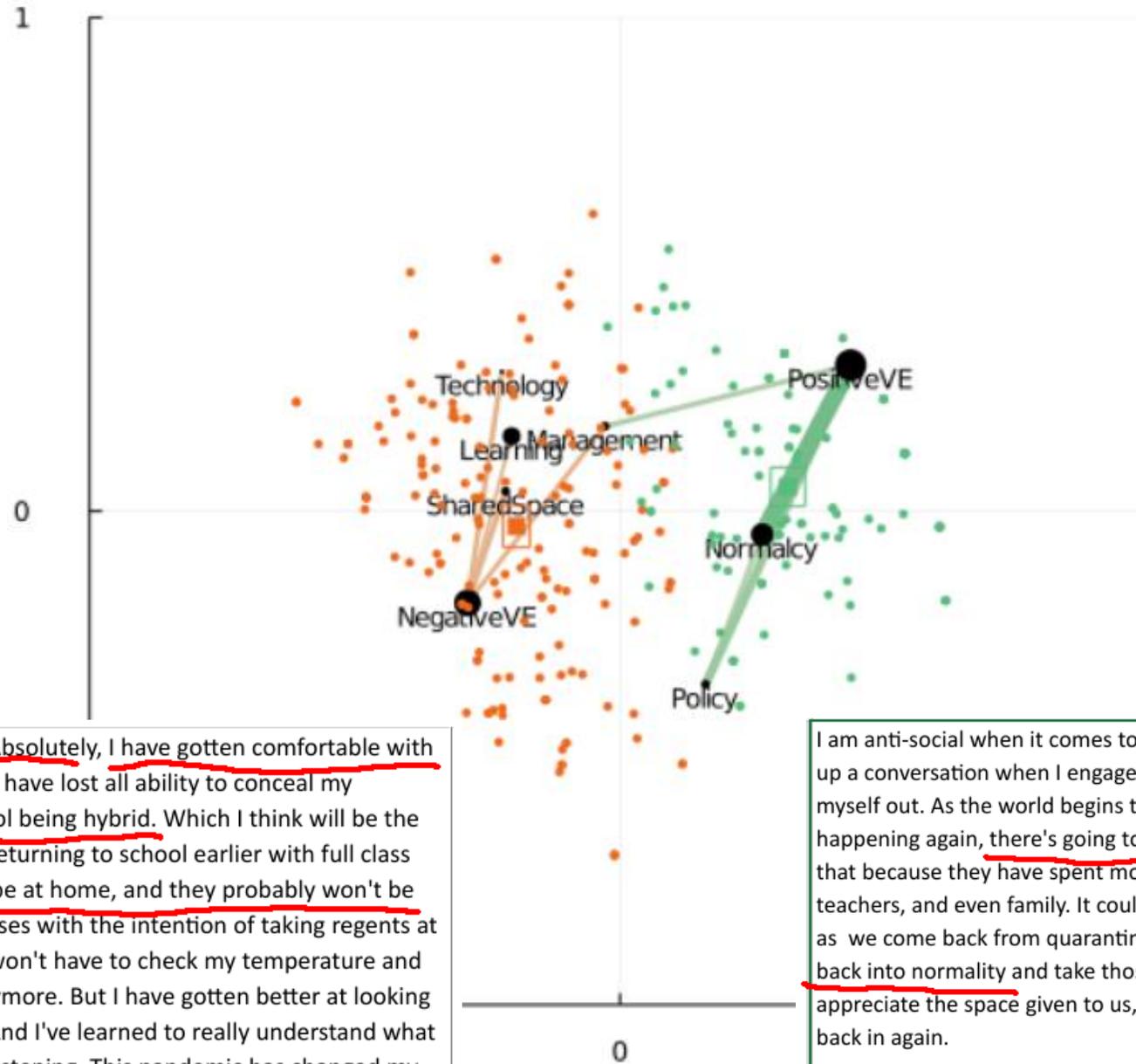
Am I nervous about returning to normal life? Absolutely, I have gotten comfortable with constantly covering half my face and therefore have lost all ability to conceal my reactions to things. I have gotten used to school being hybrid. Which I think will be the most difficult to return to normal. We will be returning to school earlier with full class sizes. When we take tests and quizzes I won't be at home, and they probably won't be open notes anymore. We will have to take classes with the intention of taking regents at the end of year. Work will also be different. I won't have to check my temperature and tell my manager I have no covid symptoms anymore. But I have gotten better at looking people in their eyes when they are speaking. And I've learned to really understand what someone is saying. You have to be constantly listening. This pandemic has changed my

I am anti-social when it comes to socializing with random people, even though I can pick up a conversation when I engage, I still feel myself pulling out of the group and closing myself out. As the world begins to open up again ,and there's more social interactions happening again, there's going to be people who would need some time to get used to that because they have spent most of their quarantine being locked away from friends, teachers, and even family. It could be overwhelming trying to keep a conversation going as we come back from quarantine. With that being said, we should just ease our way back into normality and take those baby steps to reassure ourselves: not only would we appreciate the space given to us, but also allow our senses of social interaction to kick back in again.
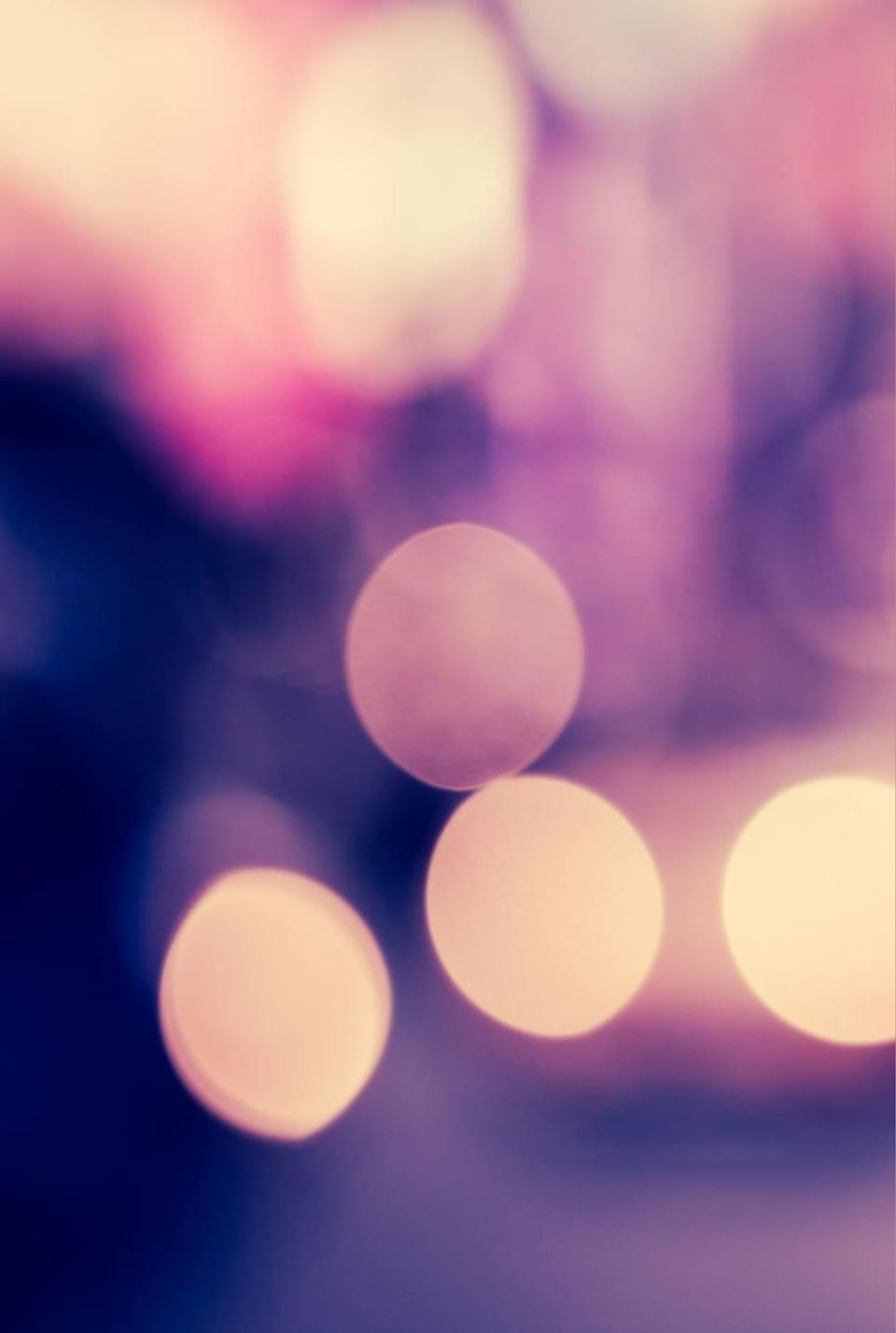
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