

# Deal of No Deal? End-to-End Learning of Negotiation Dialogues

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Facebook AI Research

(joint work with: **Denis Yarats**, **Yann N. Dauphin**, **Devi Parikh**, **Dhruv Batra**)





**SUN**  
 Tuesday, August 1, 2017 FOR A GREATER BRITAIN 50p thesun.co.uk

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IN HER OWN WORDS,  
 THE BOMBSHELL...

**DIANA  
 TAPES**

Sex with Charles fizzled out  
 I asked: Why is she around?

THE FULL TRANSCRIPT: PAGES 6 & 7




## ARE MACHINES TAKING OVER?

# ROBO STOP

**facebook** shuts off robots  
 after they chat in secret code

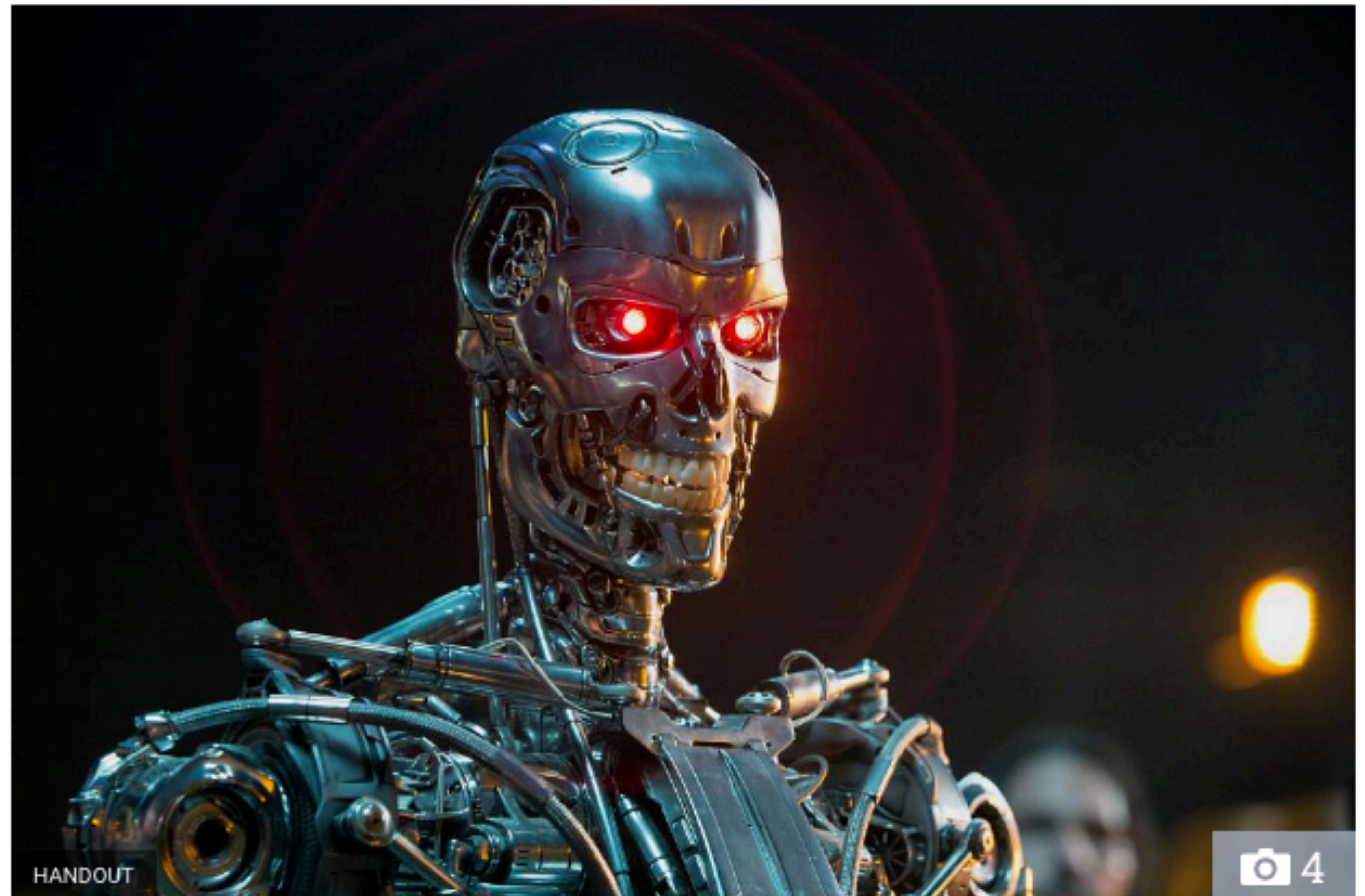


Experiment ... robot

By JAMES BEAL, US Editor  
 FACEBOOK shut down an artificial intelligence experiment after two robots began talking in a language only they understood. The "chatbots" Alice and Bob modified English to make it easier for them to communicate — creating sentences that were gibberish to watching scientists. Future technology expert Kate Adamson told The Sun: "It does feel a bit like The Terminator."

Full Story — Page Five





The incident closely resembles the plot of The Terminator in which a robot becomes self-aware and starts waging a war on humans

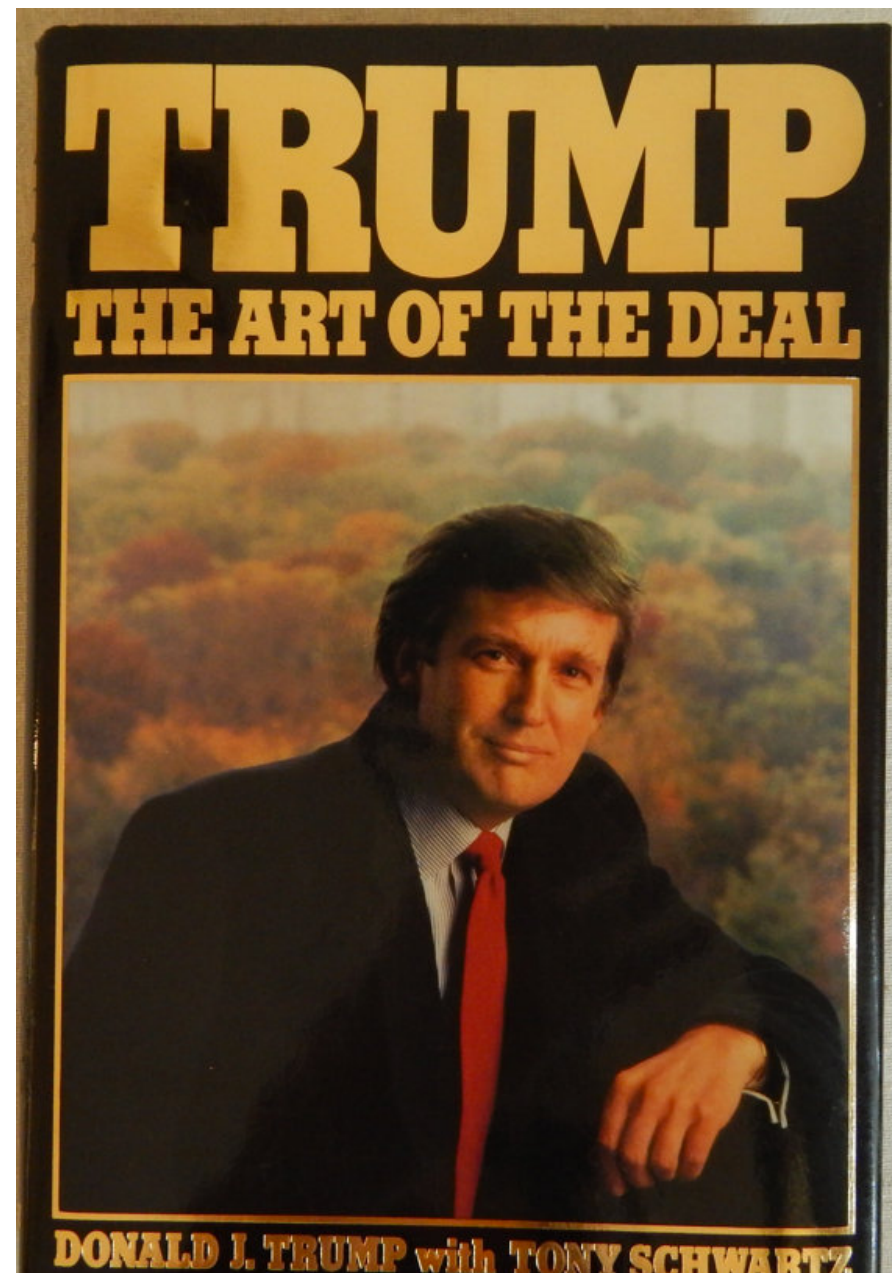




# Why Negotiation?



# Why Negotiation?

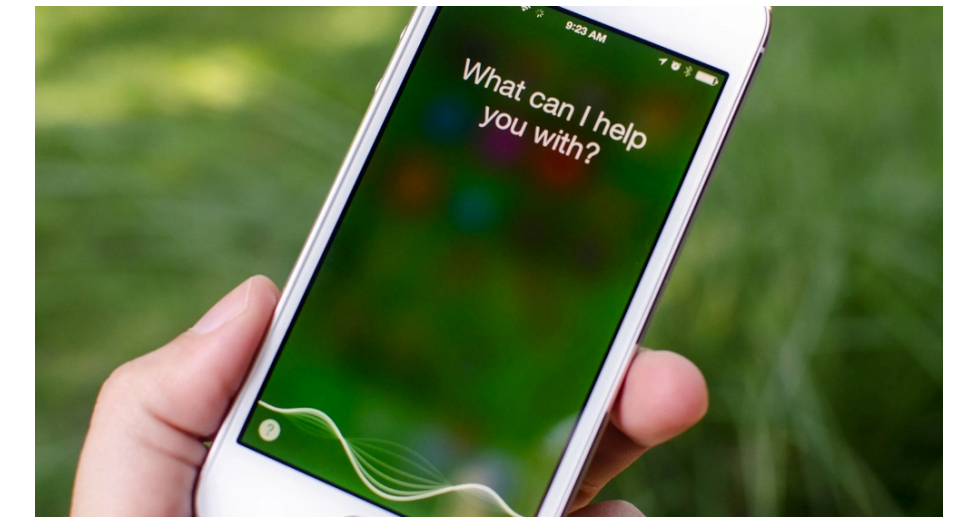


Negotiation useful, when:

- Agents have different goals
- Not all can be achieved at once
- ***(all the time!)***



# Why Negotiation?



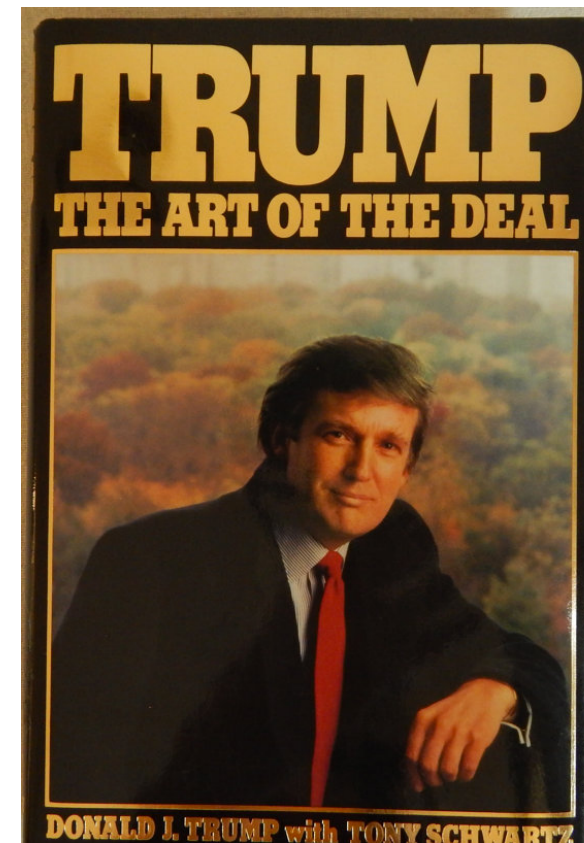
Zero-sum /  
Adversarial



Negotiation



Fully  
Cooperative





# Why Negotiation?

Both **linguistic** and **reasoning** problem

**Interpret** multiple sentences, and **generate** new message

Plan ahead, make proposals, counter-offers, ask questions,  
vagueness, bluffing, deceit, compromising

***Hard for current models***



# Why Negotiation?

Unlike many goal-orientated dialogue problems, **no simple solutions** to achieving goal

Incentive to strategically **withhold information**

Adversarial aspect means it **can't be “solved”**

# Why Negotiation?

## Real Applications

Many people find negotiations **hard** and **awkward**

*Could practice with bots help?*



# Why Negotiation?

Easy to **evaluate** – how good a deal did an agent get?

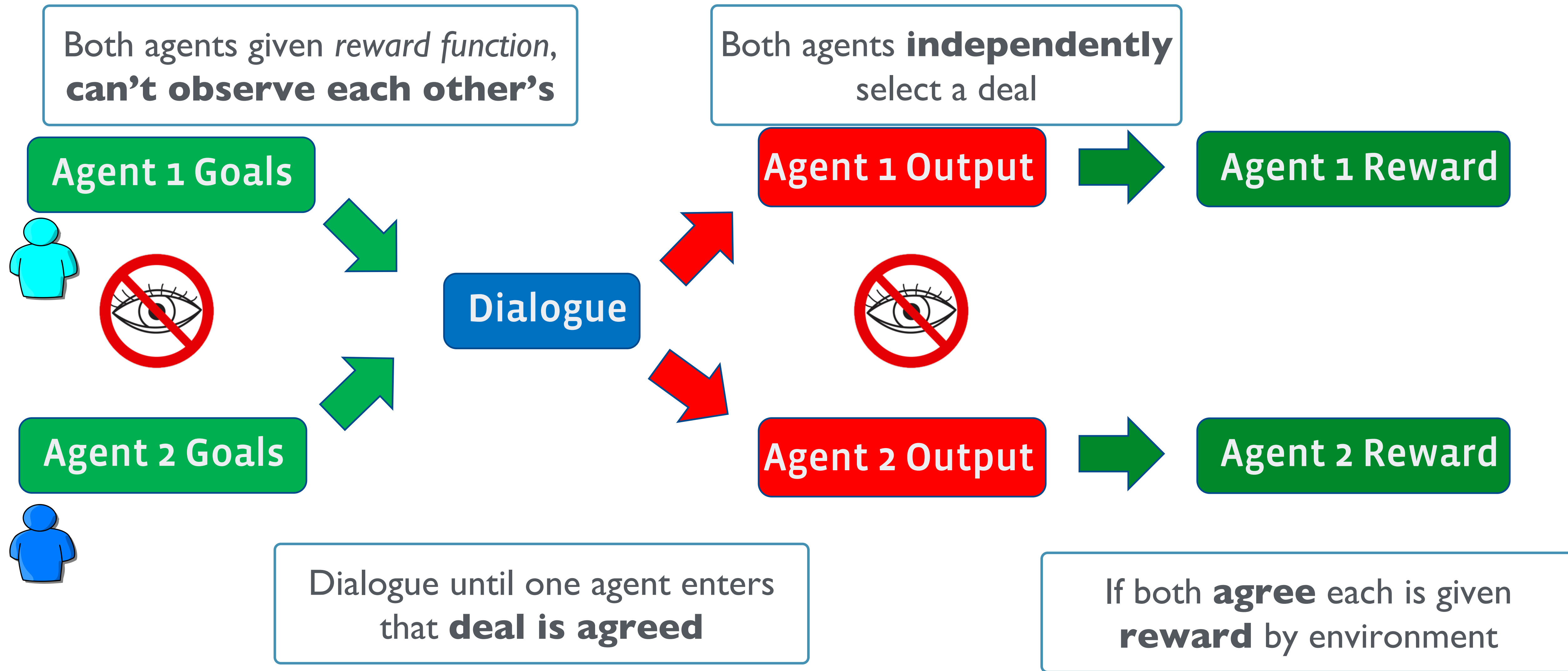
Self-play gives good **development metric**



# Dataset



# Framework

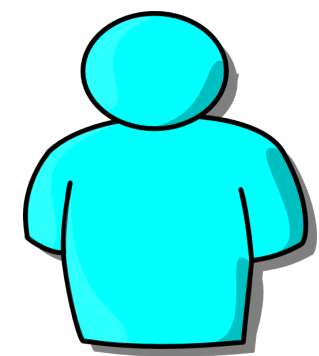




# Object Division Task

Agents shown **same objects**  
but **different values** for each

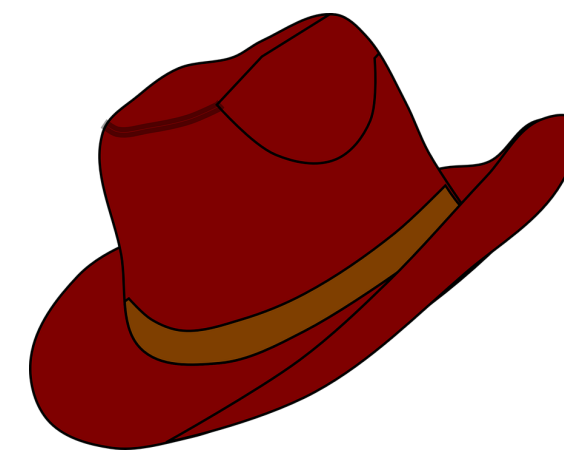
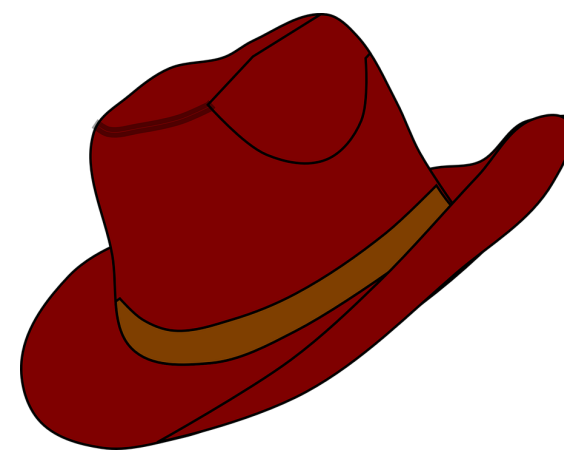
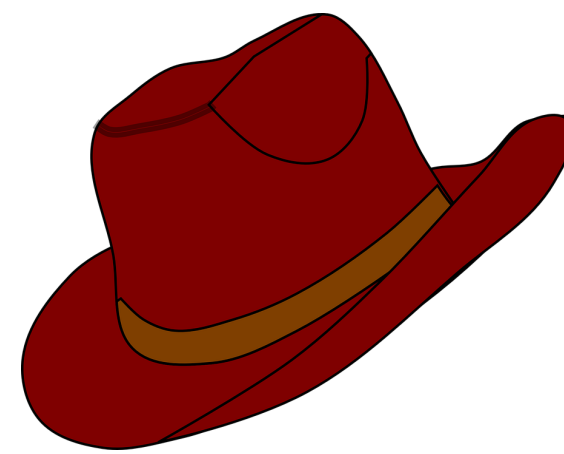
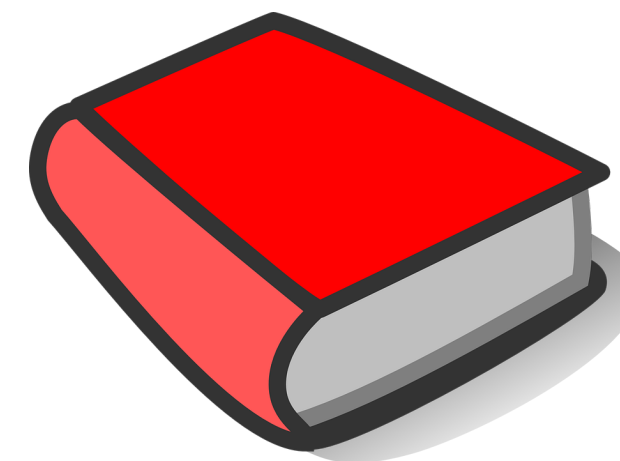
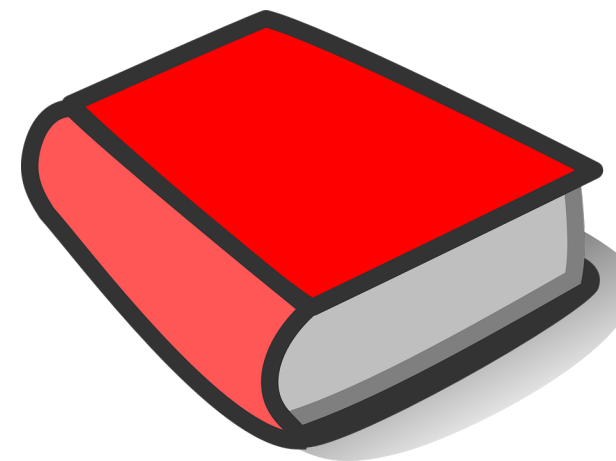
Must **agree** how to divide  
objects between them



1 point each

1 point each

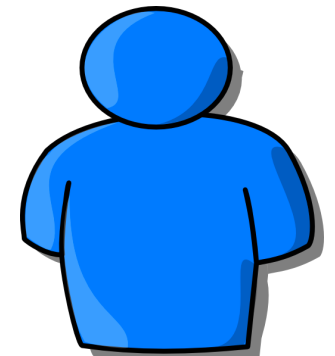
5 points each



0 points each

3 point each

1 point each



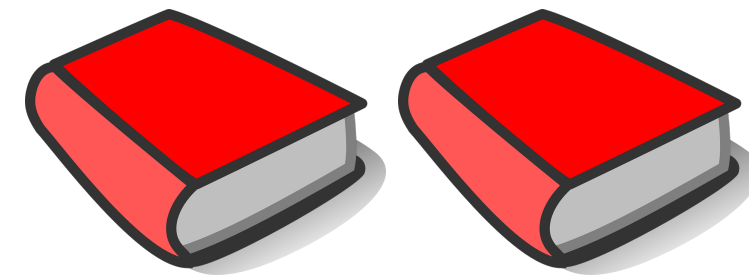


# Object Division Task

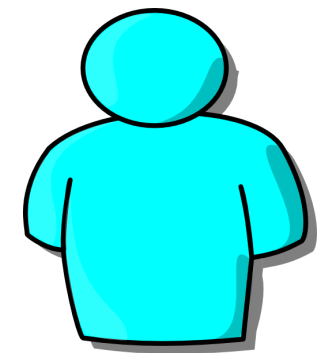
Agents shown **same objects**  
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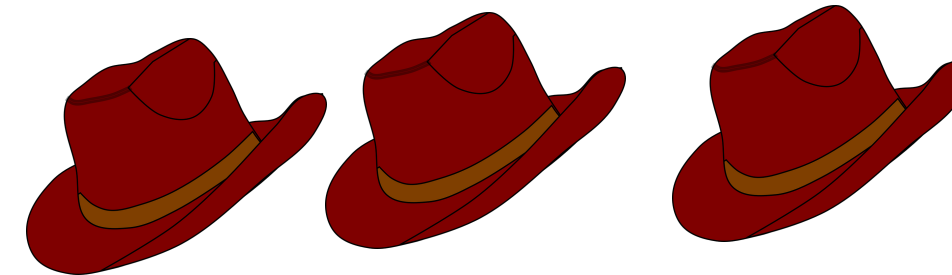
1 point each



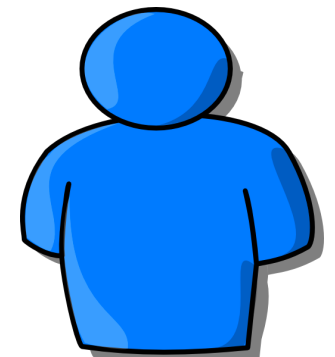
0 points each



1 point each



3 point each



5 points each



1 point each

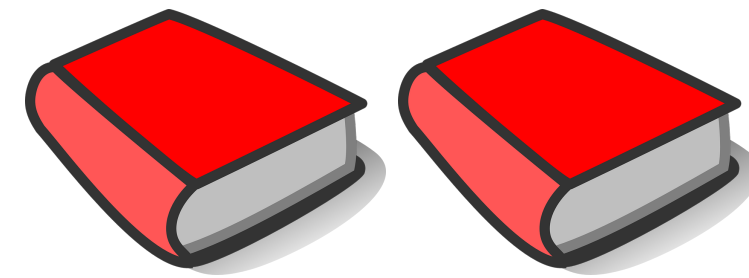


# Object Division Task

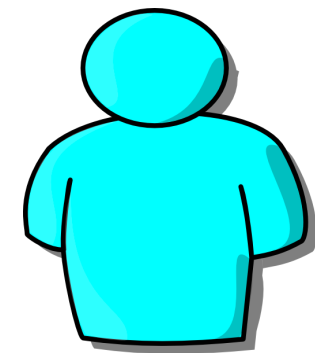
Agents shown **same objects**  
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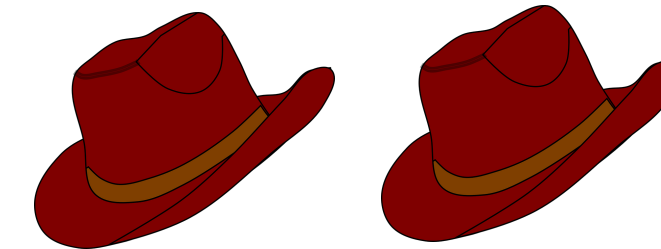
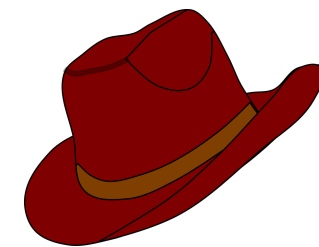
1 point each



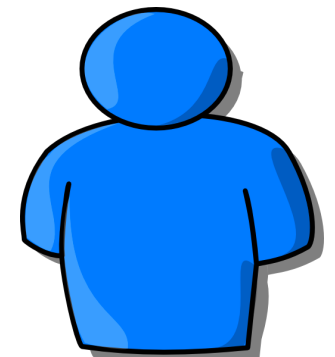
0 points each



1 point each



3 point each



5 points each



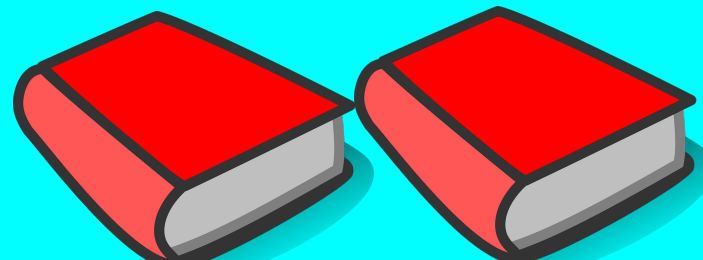
1 point each

8

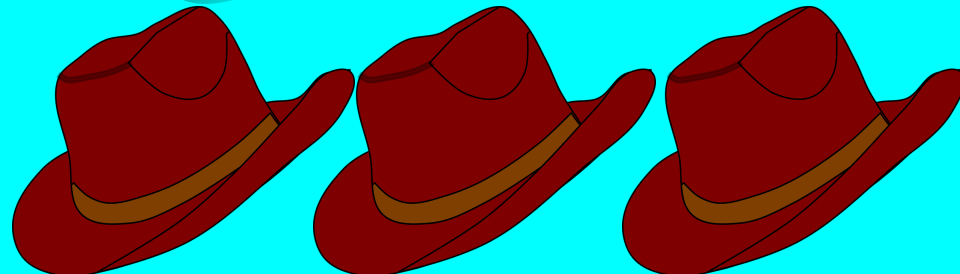
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# Object Division Task



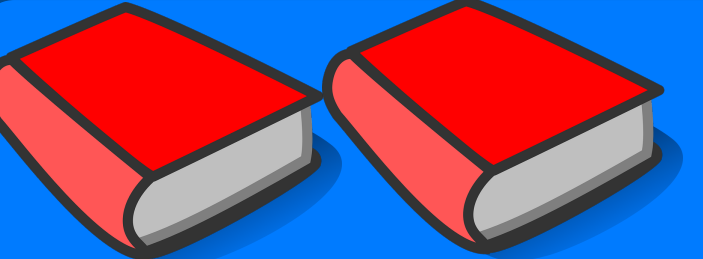
1 point each



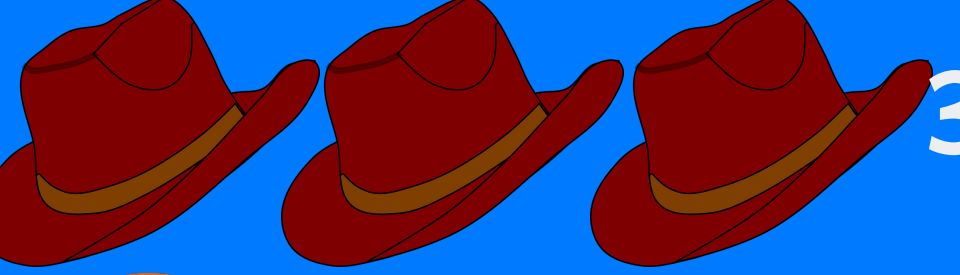
1 point each




5 points each



0 points each



3 point each




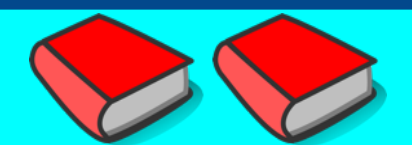
1 point each


*I'd like the ball and hats*

***I need the hats, you can have the ball***

*Ok, if I get both books too?*

***Ok, deal***



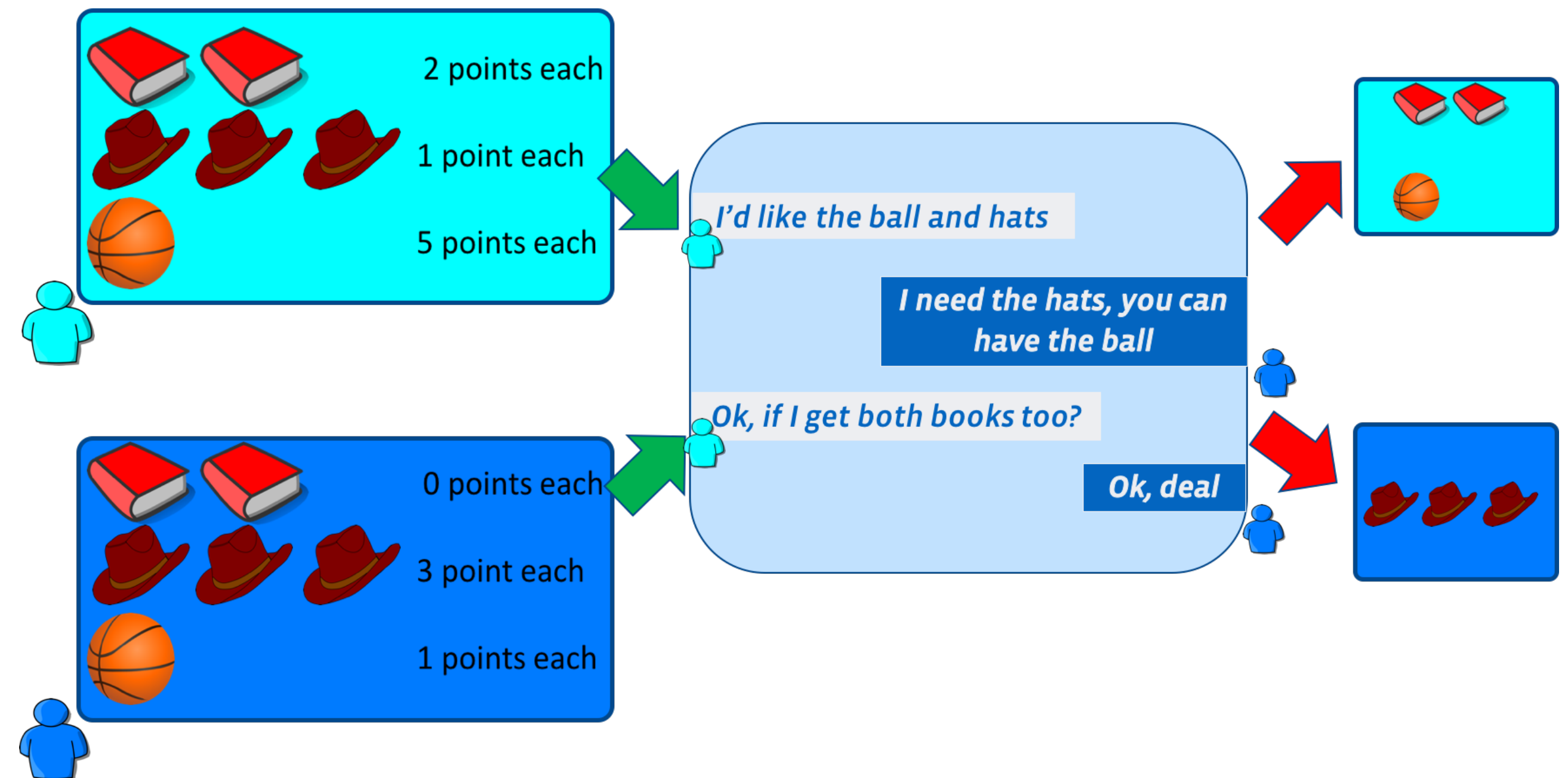


# Object Division Task

10 point **maximum**

Not possible for **both** agents to score 10 points

**Failing to agree** is 0 points








# Object Division Task

Divide these objects between you and another Turker. Try hard to get as many points as you can!

Send a message now, or enter the agreed deal!

| Items   | Value | Number You Get                 |
|---|-------|--------------------------------|
|    | 8     | <input type="text" value="1"/> |
|   | 1     | <input type="text" value="1"/> |
|  | 0     | <input type="text" value="0"/> |

Mark Deal Agreed ✓

Fellow Turker: I'd like all the balls

You: Ok, if I get everything else

Fellow Turker: If I get the book then you have a deal

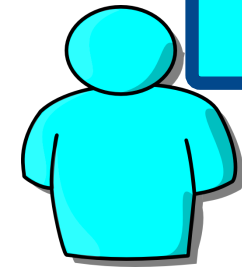
You: No way - you can have one hat and all the balls

Fellow Turker: Ok deal

Type Message Here:

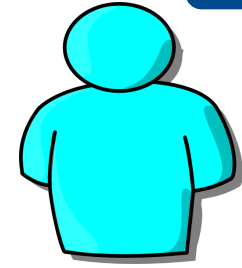
Send

# Object Division Task



You can have 3 books, I will take the rest

I will give you the basketball and a book



You can have 4 books, final offer

That is deal is not fair and I will not accept.  
split it down the middle or no deal.



Fine walk away with nothing

You are doing the same. Hope you enjoy your rejection.



Alright I'll take a hat and a book

Awesome. Pleasure doing business with you





# Object Division Task

## Dataset stats

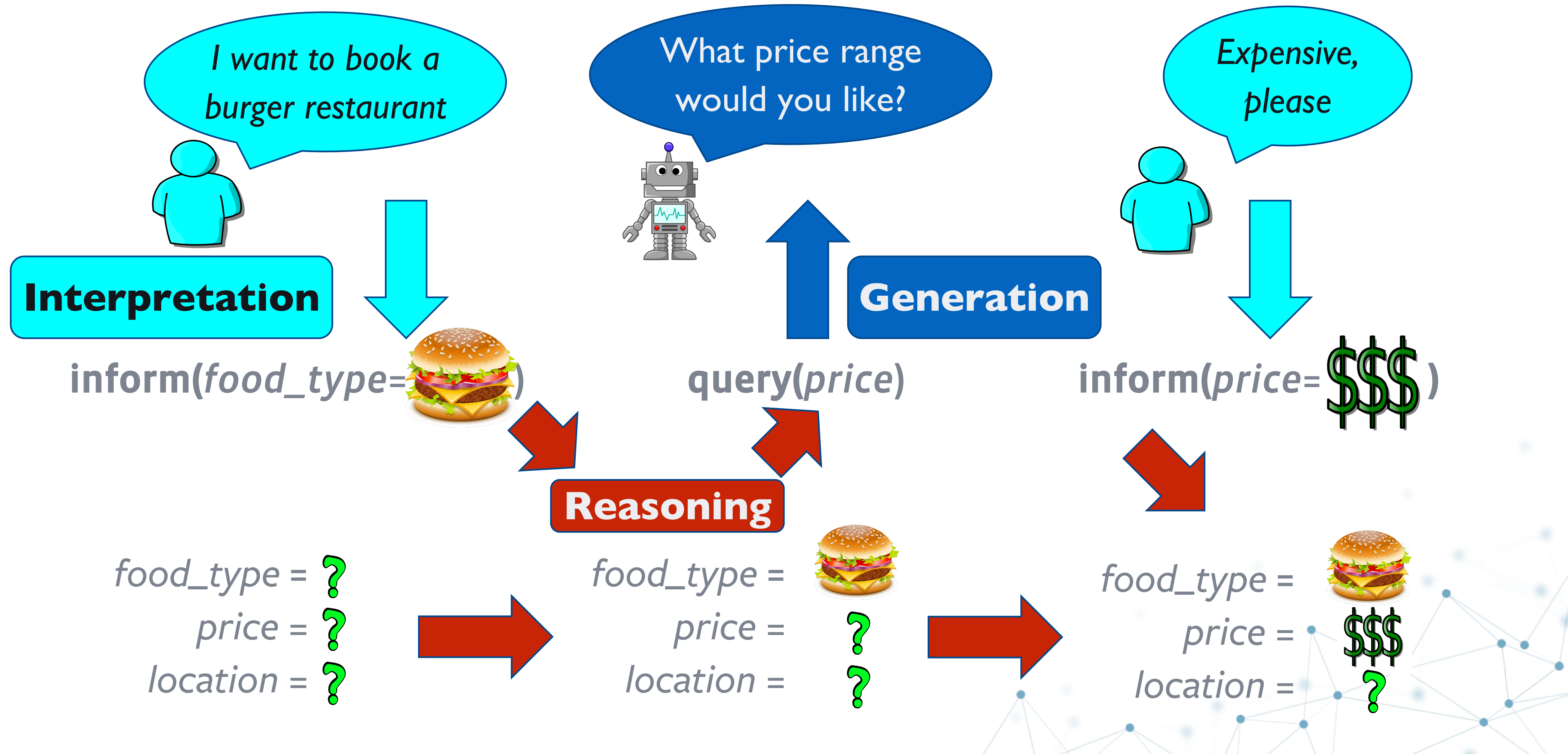
| Metric                     | Dataset |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Number of Dialogues        | 5808    |
| Average Turns per Dialogue | 6.6     |
| Average Words per Turn     | 7.6     |
| Agreed (%)                 | 80.1%   |
| Average Score (/10)        | 6.0     |
| Pareto Optimal (%)         | 76.9    |



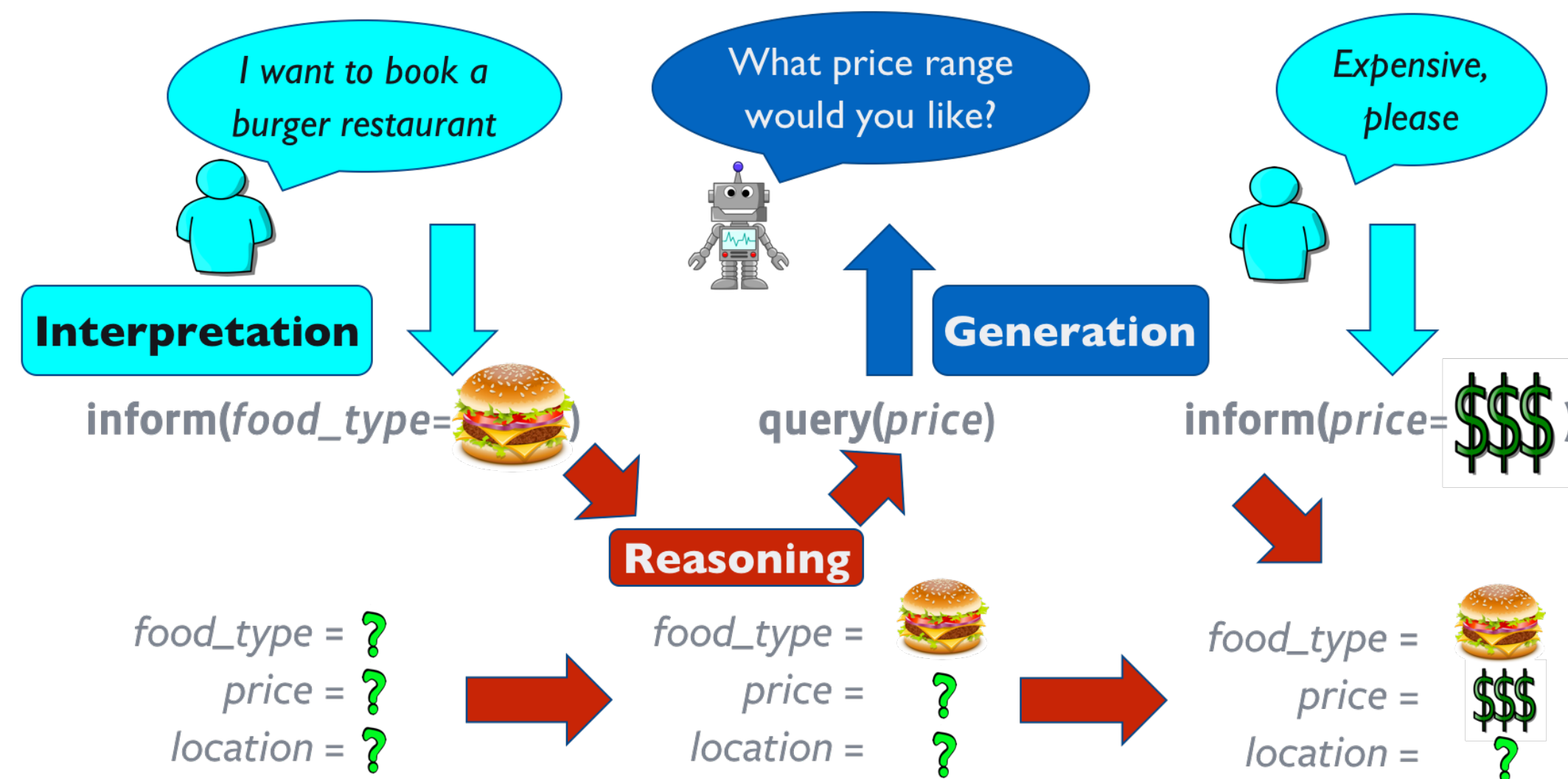
# Models



# Traditional Dialogue Models



# Traditional Dialogue Models

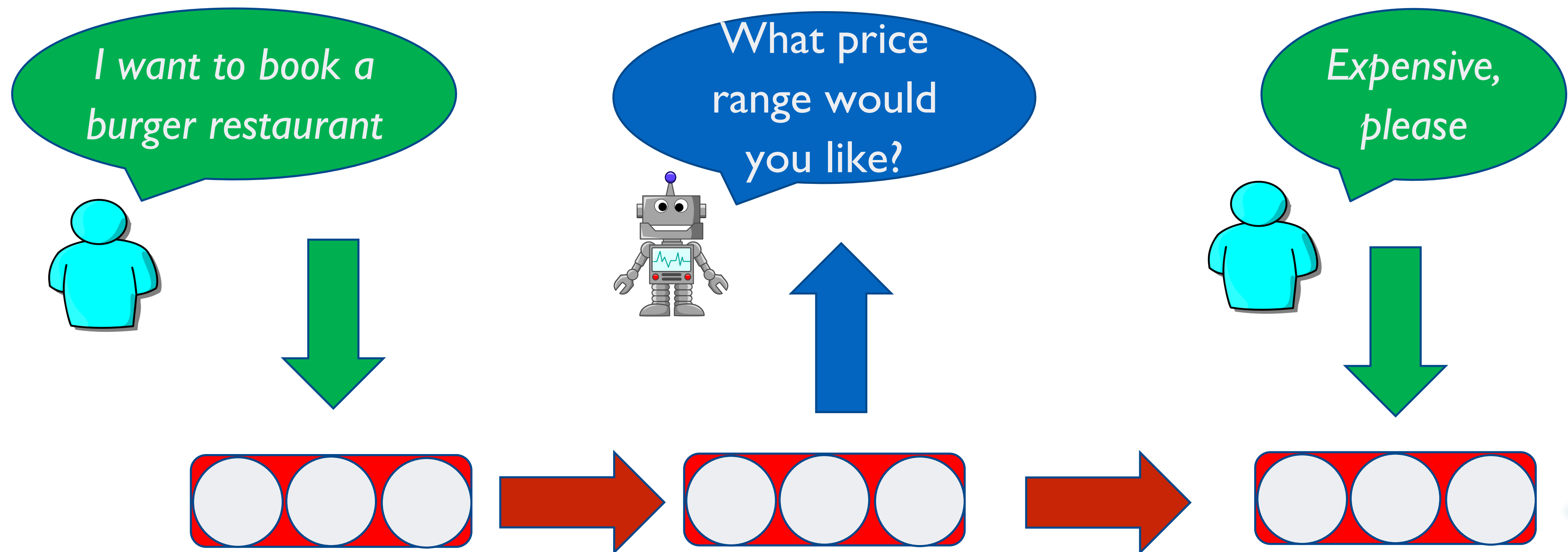


Cleanly separates *interpretation*, *generation* and *reasoning*

Assumes **annotated dialogue states**

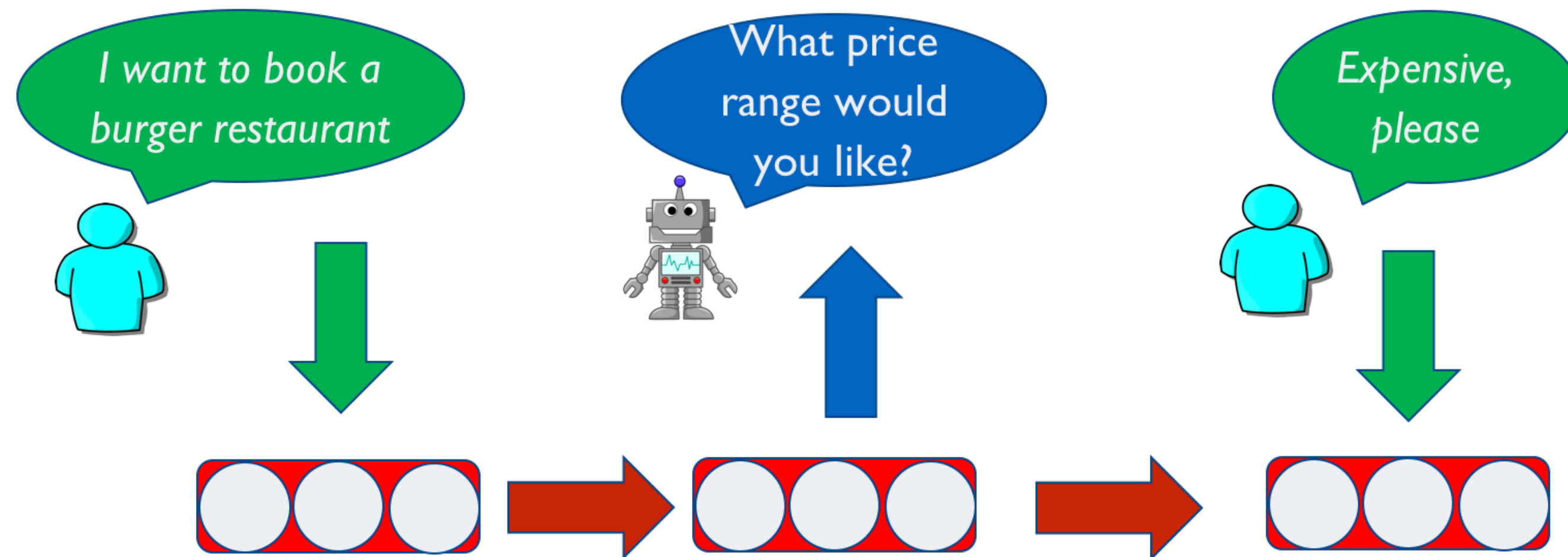
- Expensive
- Task specific
- Not possible in general

# End-to-End Dialogue Models





# End-to-End Dialogue Models

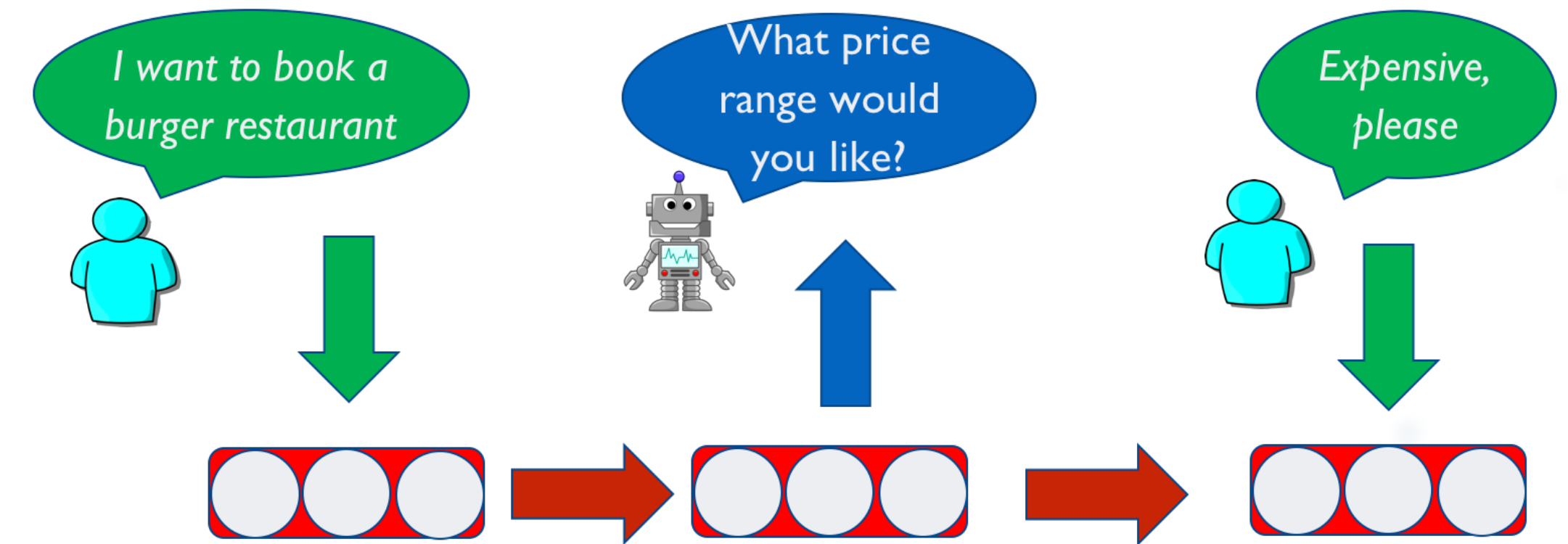


No rule-based generation

No symbolic reasoning

# End-to-End Dialogue Models

- **Single model** for interpretation, generation, reasoning
- **Learned representation** of dialogue state
- **Cheap** data collection
- Easy *multitasking*



Can end-to-end models learn the reasoning skills required for negotiation?

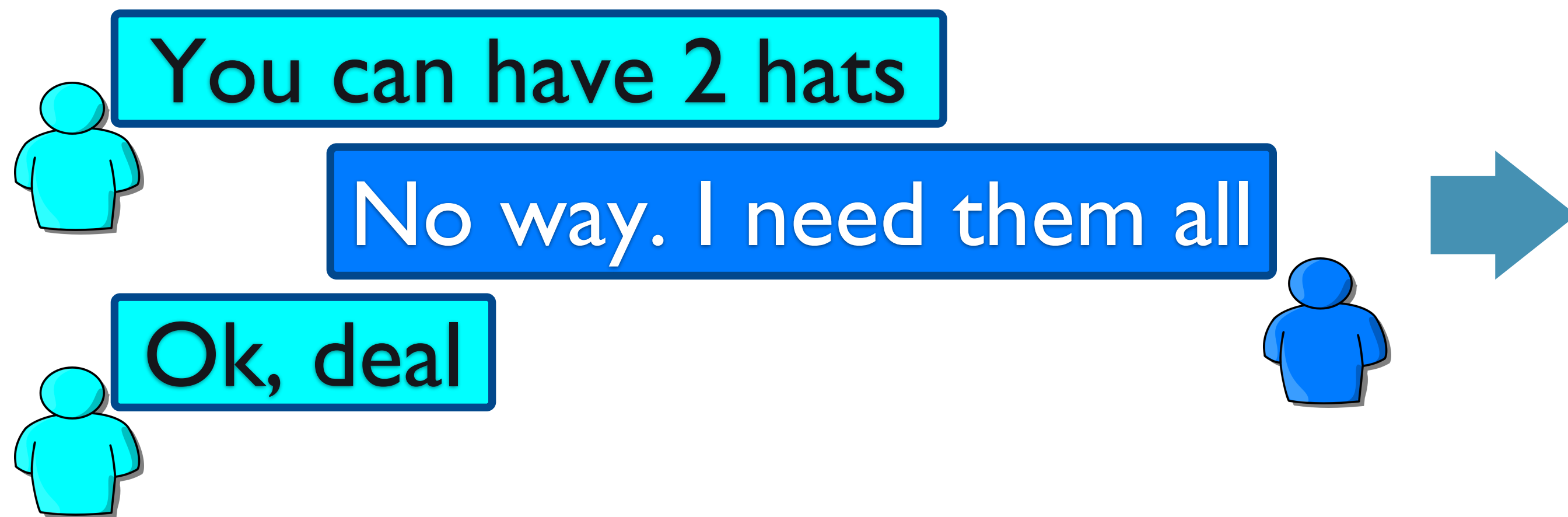
# Baseline Model





# Baseline Model

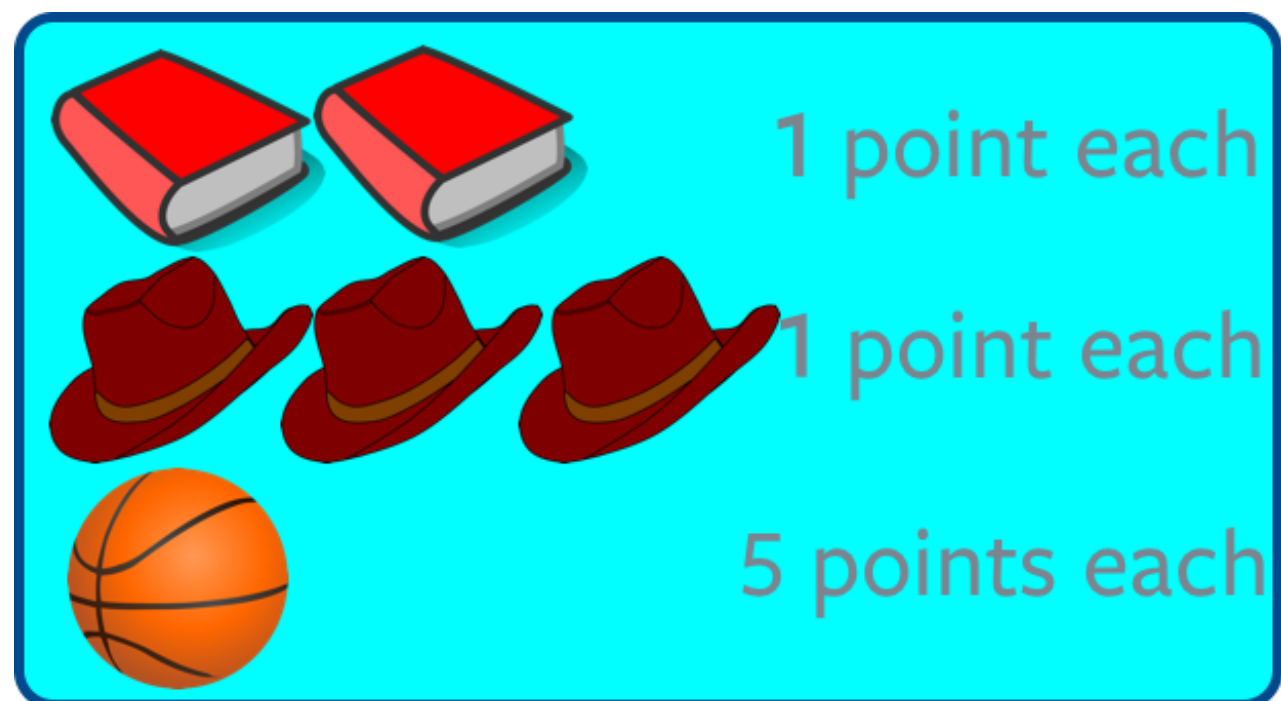
## 1) Linearize dialogue into token sequence



```
<write> You can  
have 2 hats <read>  
No way. I need  
them all <write>  
Ok, deal
```

# Baseline Model

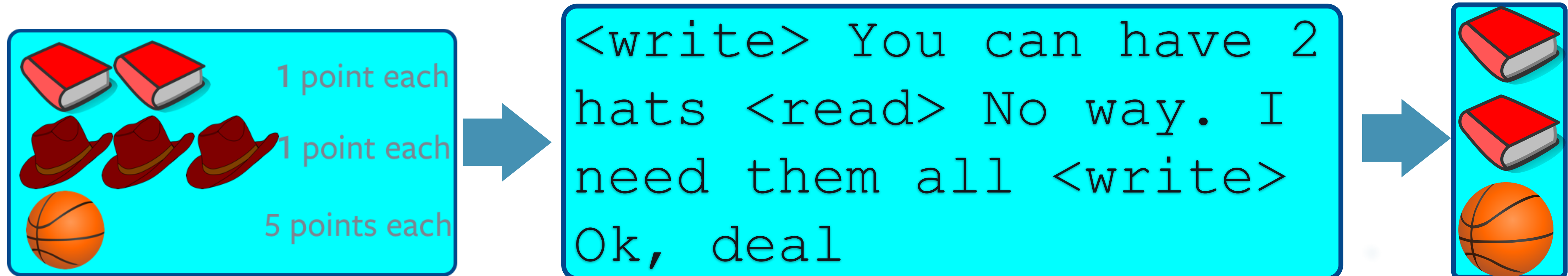
- 1) Linearize dialogue into token sequence
- 2) Train conditional language model to predict tokens



`<write>` You can have 2  
hats `<read>` No way. I  
need them all `<write>`  
Ok, deal

# Baseline Model

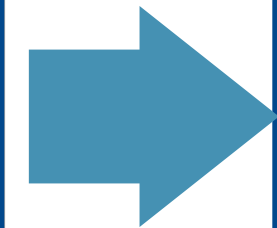
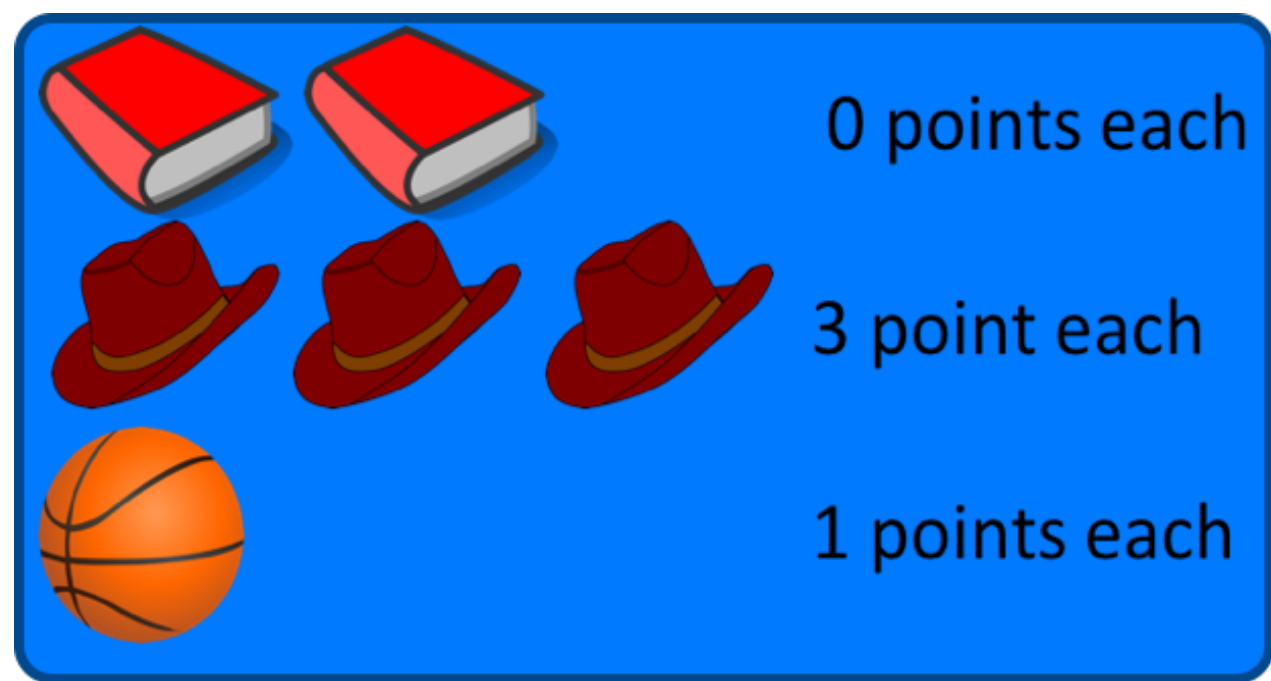
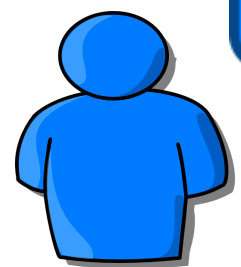
- 1) Linearize dialogue into token sequence
- 2) Train conditional language model to predict tokens
- 3) Train additional classifier to predict final deal



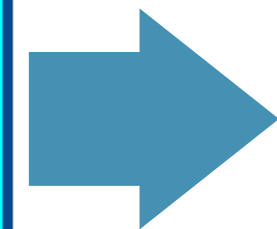
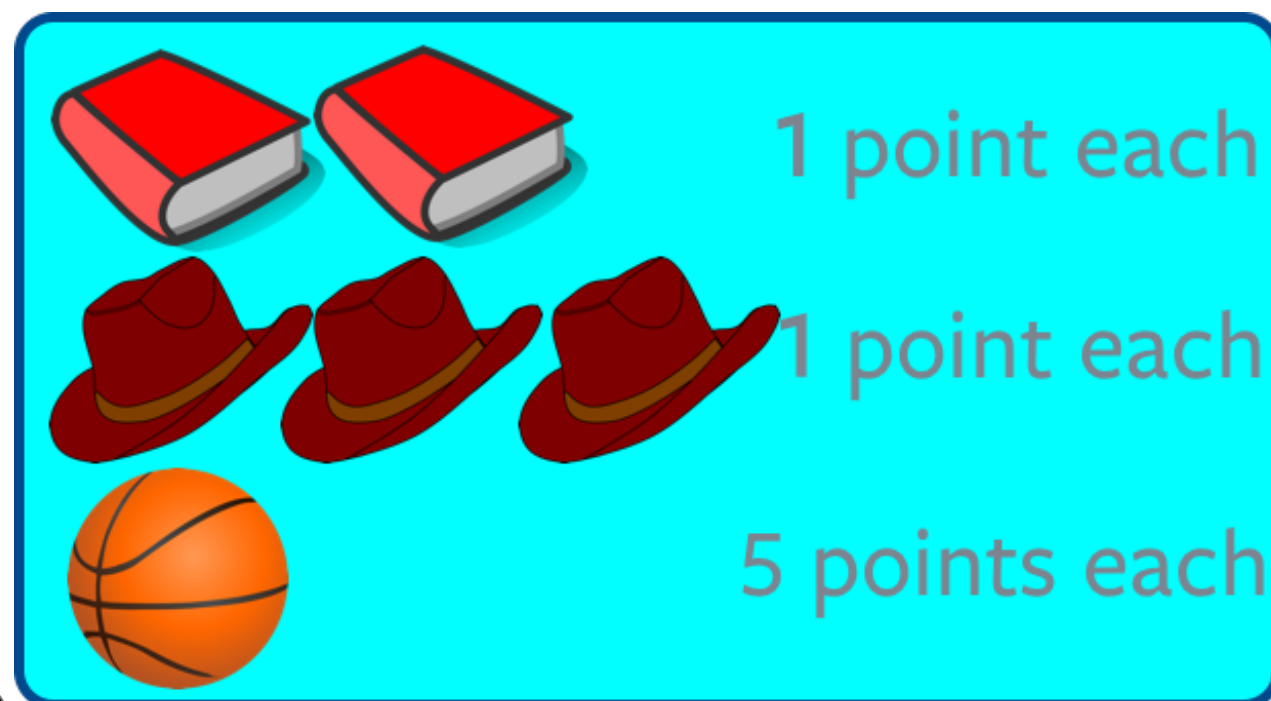
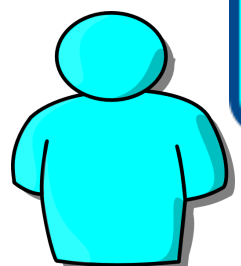
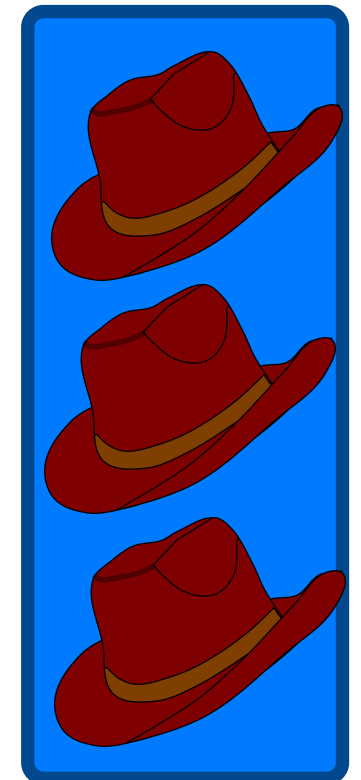
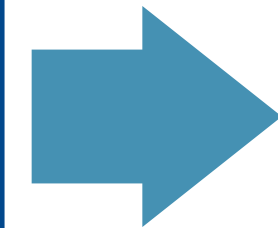


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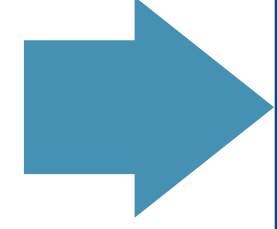
Repeat for each user's perspective



<read> You can have 2 hats <write> No way. I need them all <read> Ok, deal

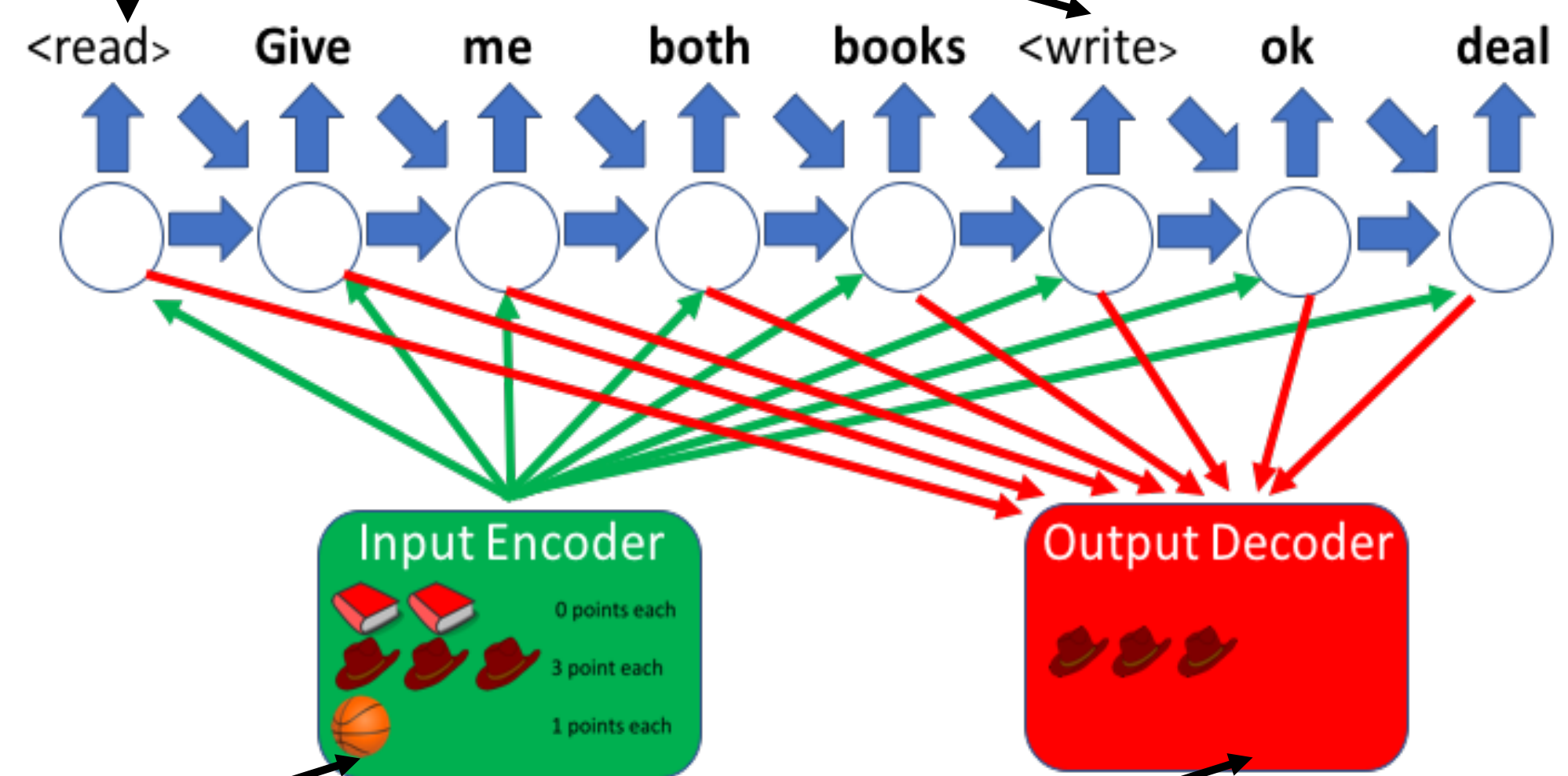
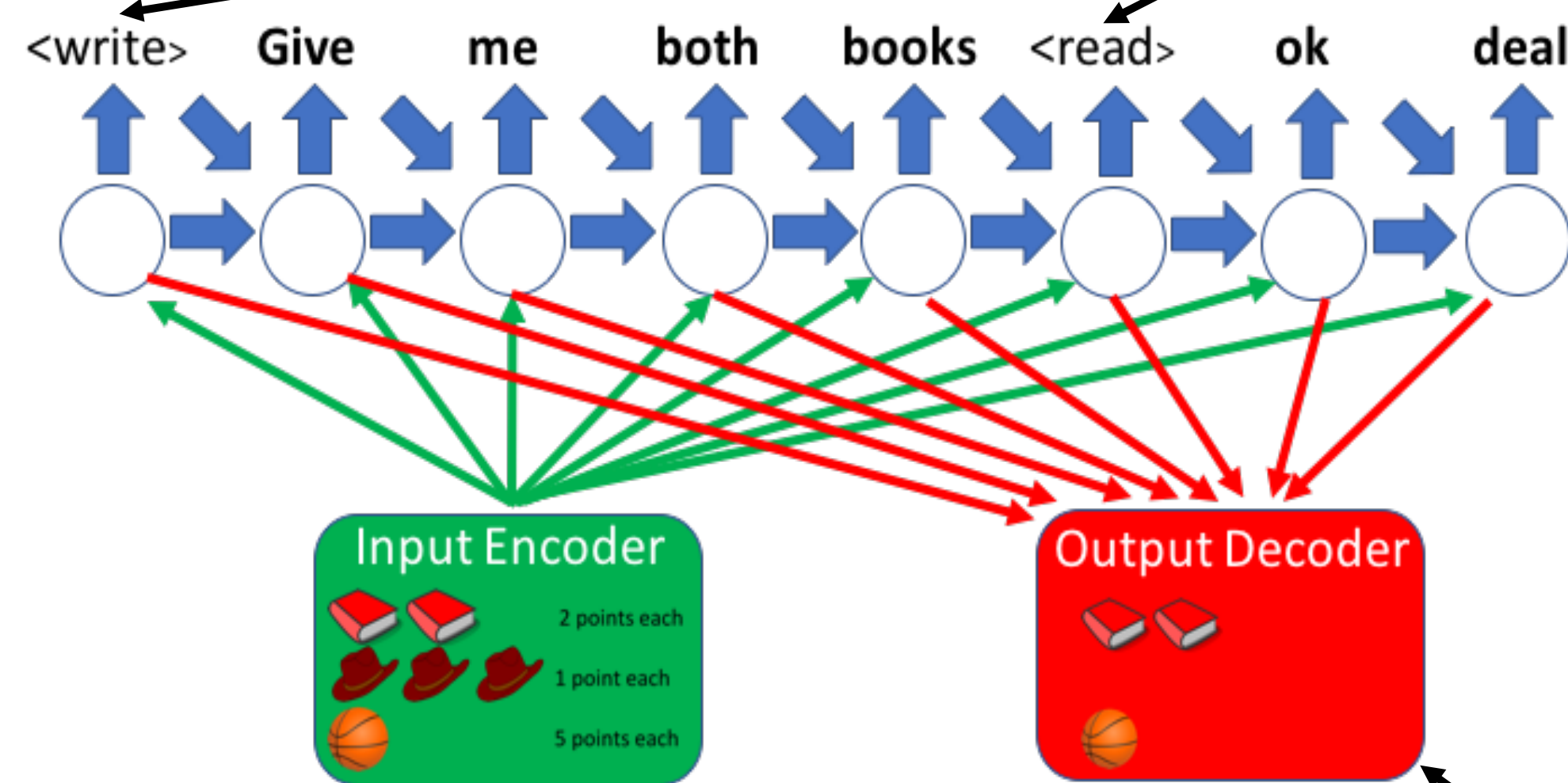


<write> You can have 2 hats <read> No way. I need them all <write> Ok, deal



# Baseline Model

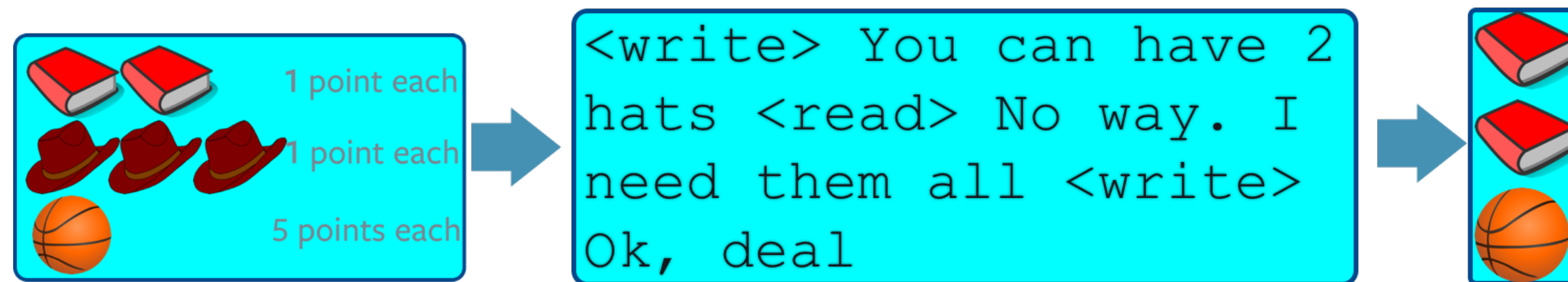
Opposite *<read>* and *<write>* markers



Different  
Inputs

Complementary  
Outputs

# Baseline Model

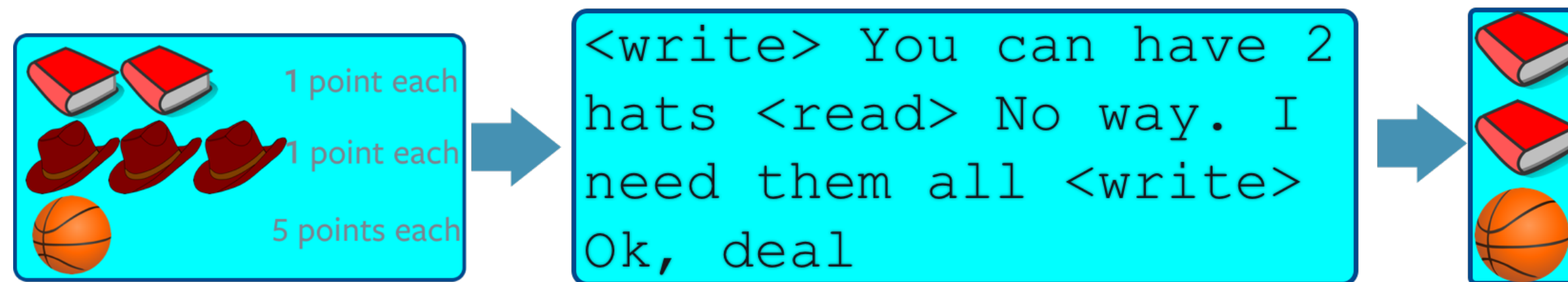


**Train** to maximize likelihood of human-human dialogues

**Decode** by sampling likely messages



# Baseline Model



**Simple and efficient**

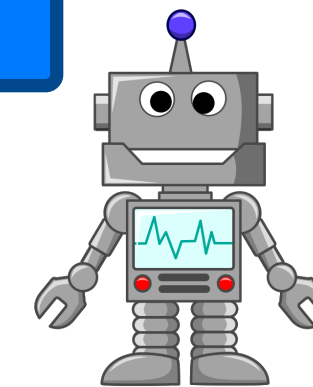
Allows **forward modelling**

# Baseline Model



You can have 2 hats

Thanks, deal!

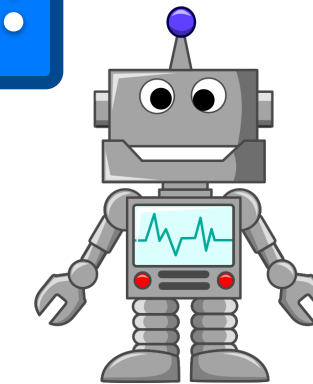


# Baseline Model



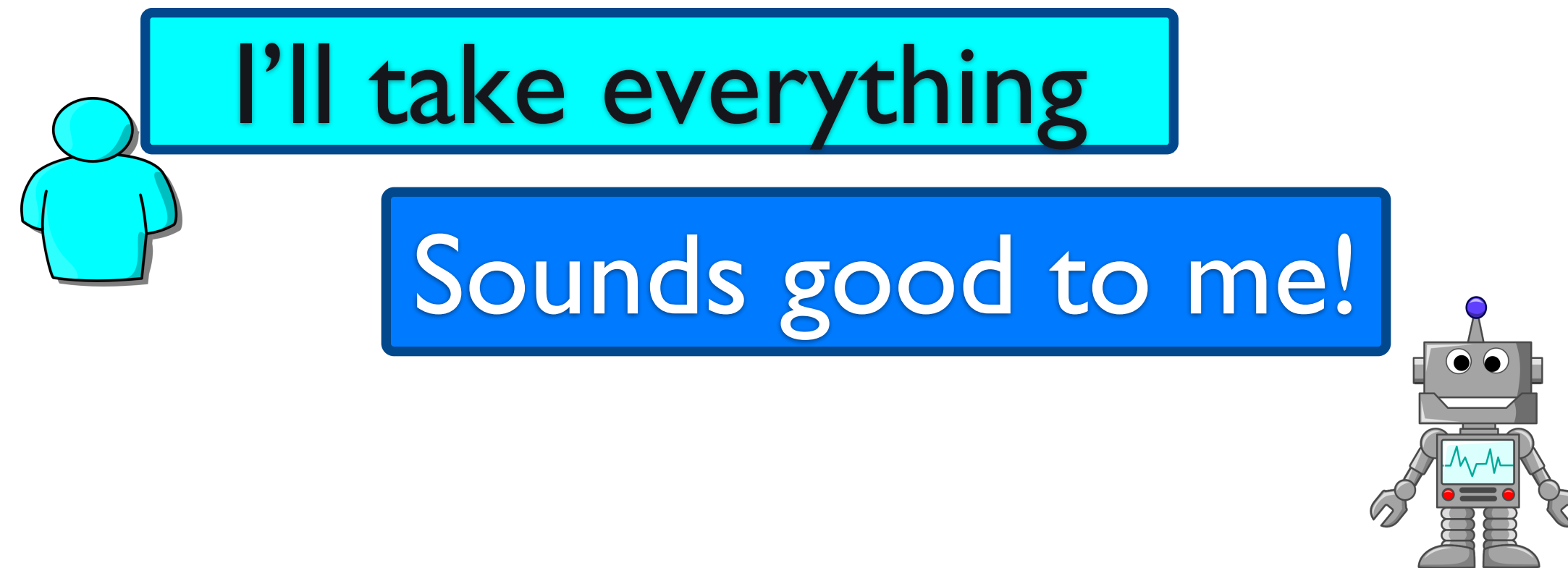
You can have one hat

Great, thanks!



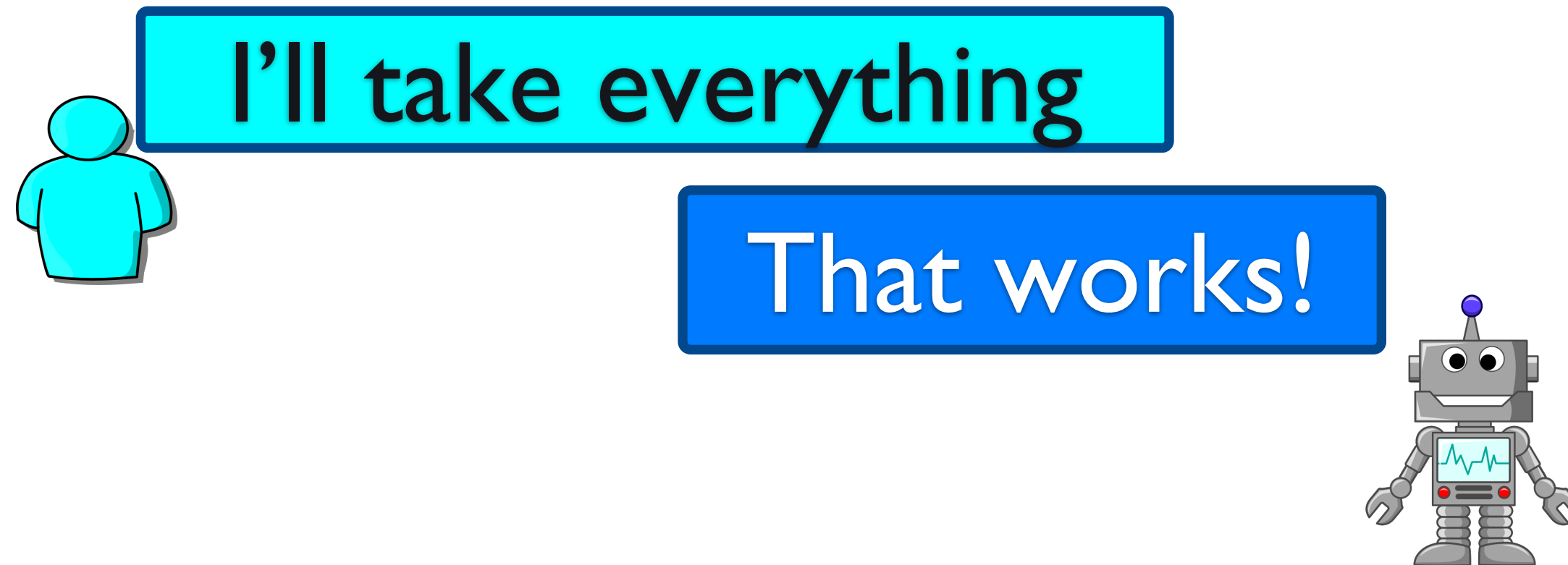


# Baseline Model



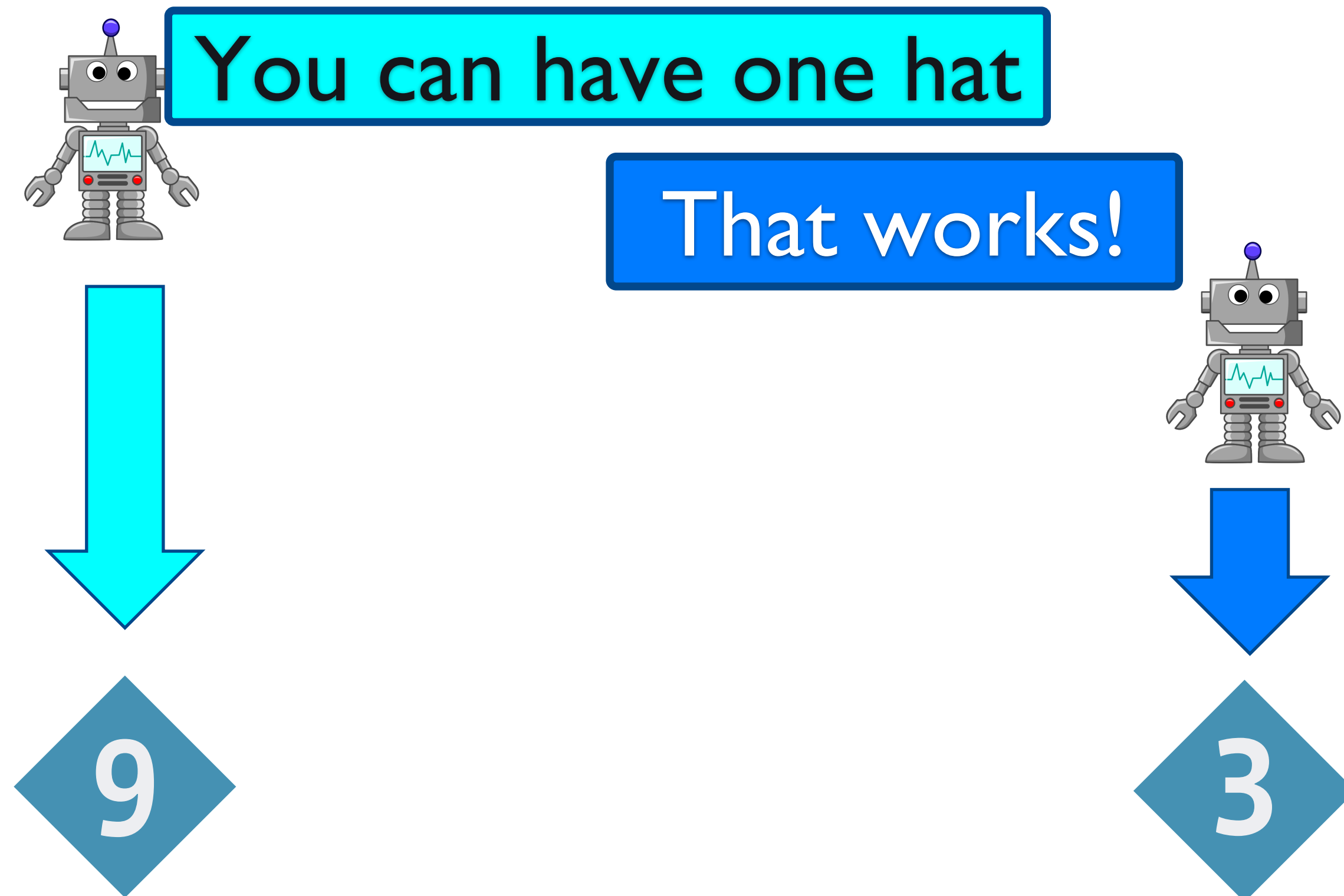
Similar findings with other end-to-end dialogue models  
(e.g. Li et al, 2016)

# Baseline Model



- Model knows *nothing* about task, just tries to imitate human actions
- Agrees too easily
- Can't go beyond human strategies

# Goal-based Training

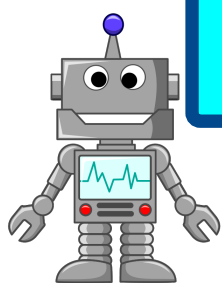


1) Generate dialogues using **self play**

2) **Backpropagate** (normalized) reward using REINFORCE

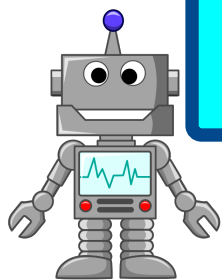
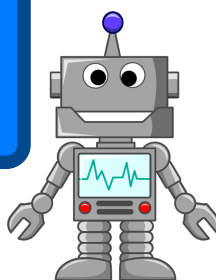


# Goal-based Training



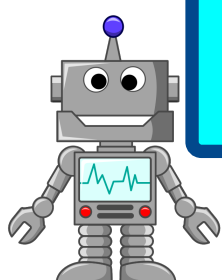
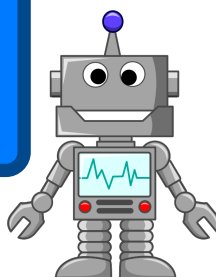
i can i i everything else . . . . .

balls have zero to me to me to me to  
me to me to me to me to me to me



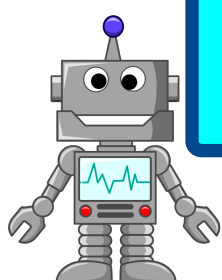
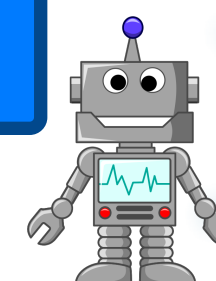
you i everything else . . . . .

balls have a ball to me to me to me to me  
to me to me to me



i i can i i i everything else . . . . .

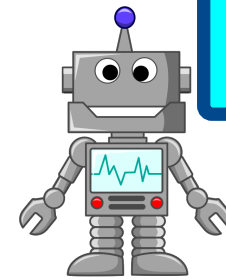
balls have a ball to me to me to me to me to



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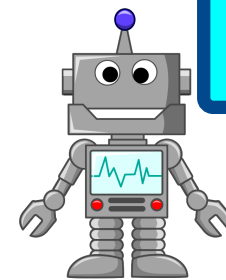
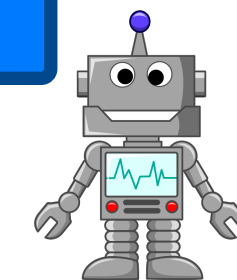


# Goal-based Training



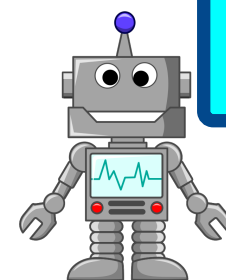
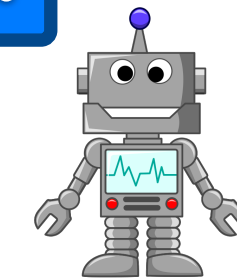
You can have 2 hats, I'll take the rest

No deal, I need all 3 hats

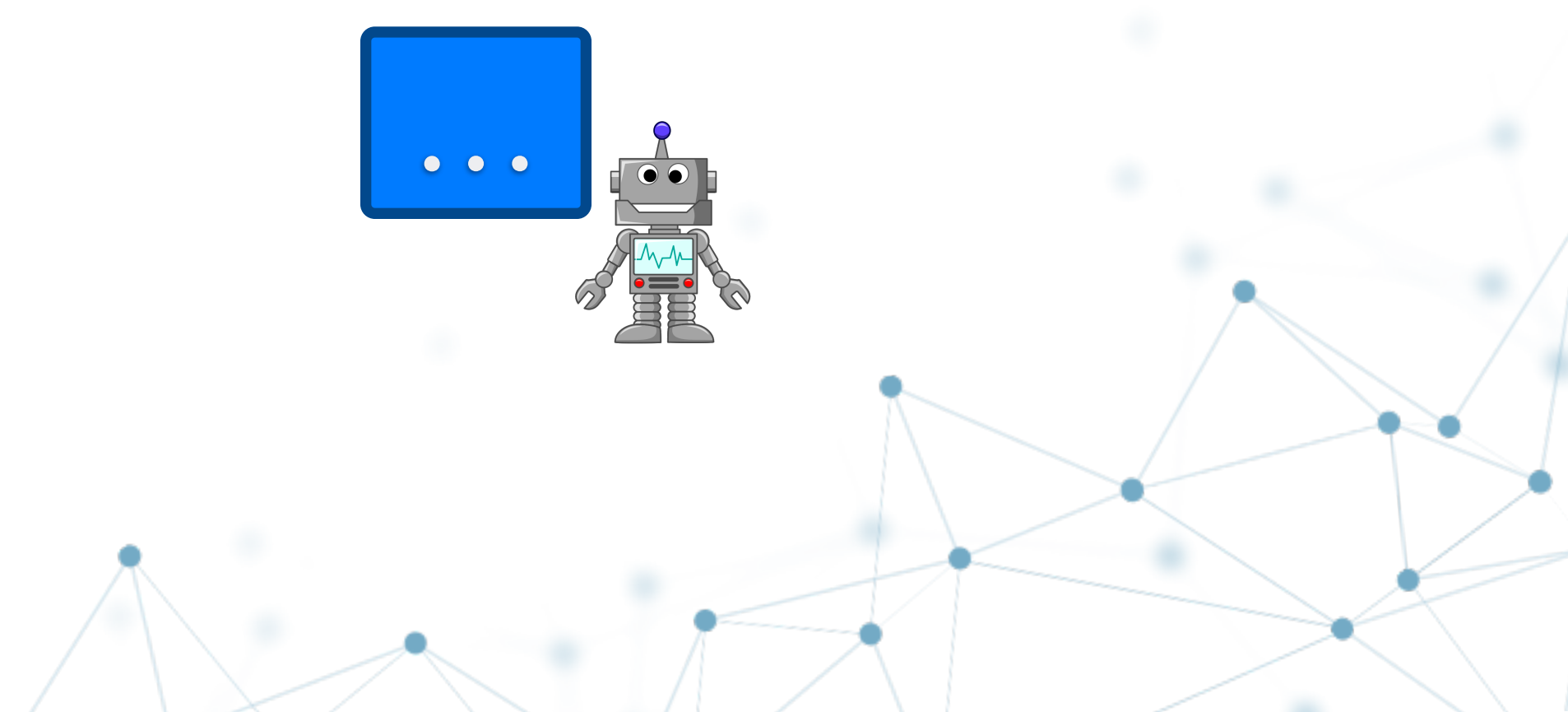
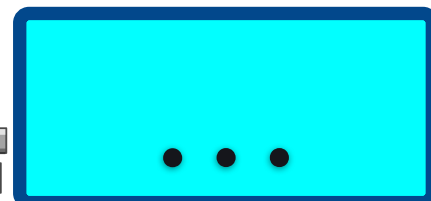
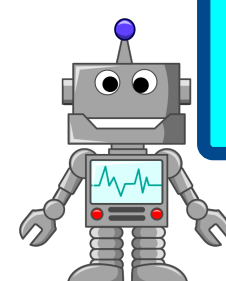
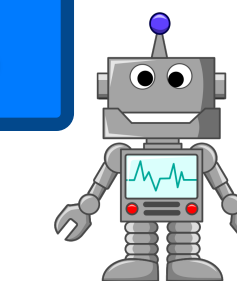


No, you get 2 hats

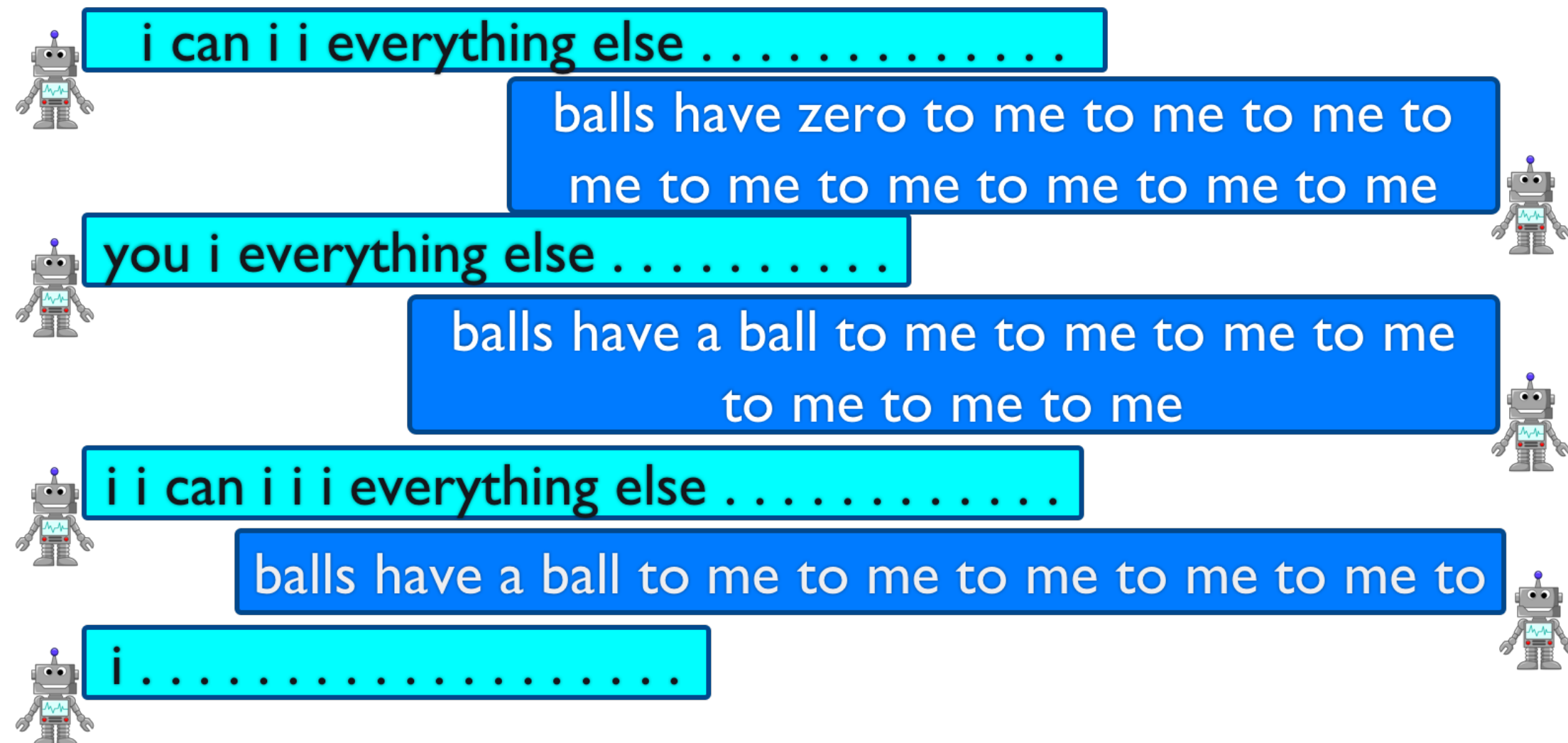
I cannot agree. Give me all the hats.



2 hats to you, final offer



# Goal-based Training



1) Generate dialogues using **self play**

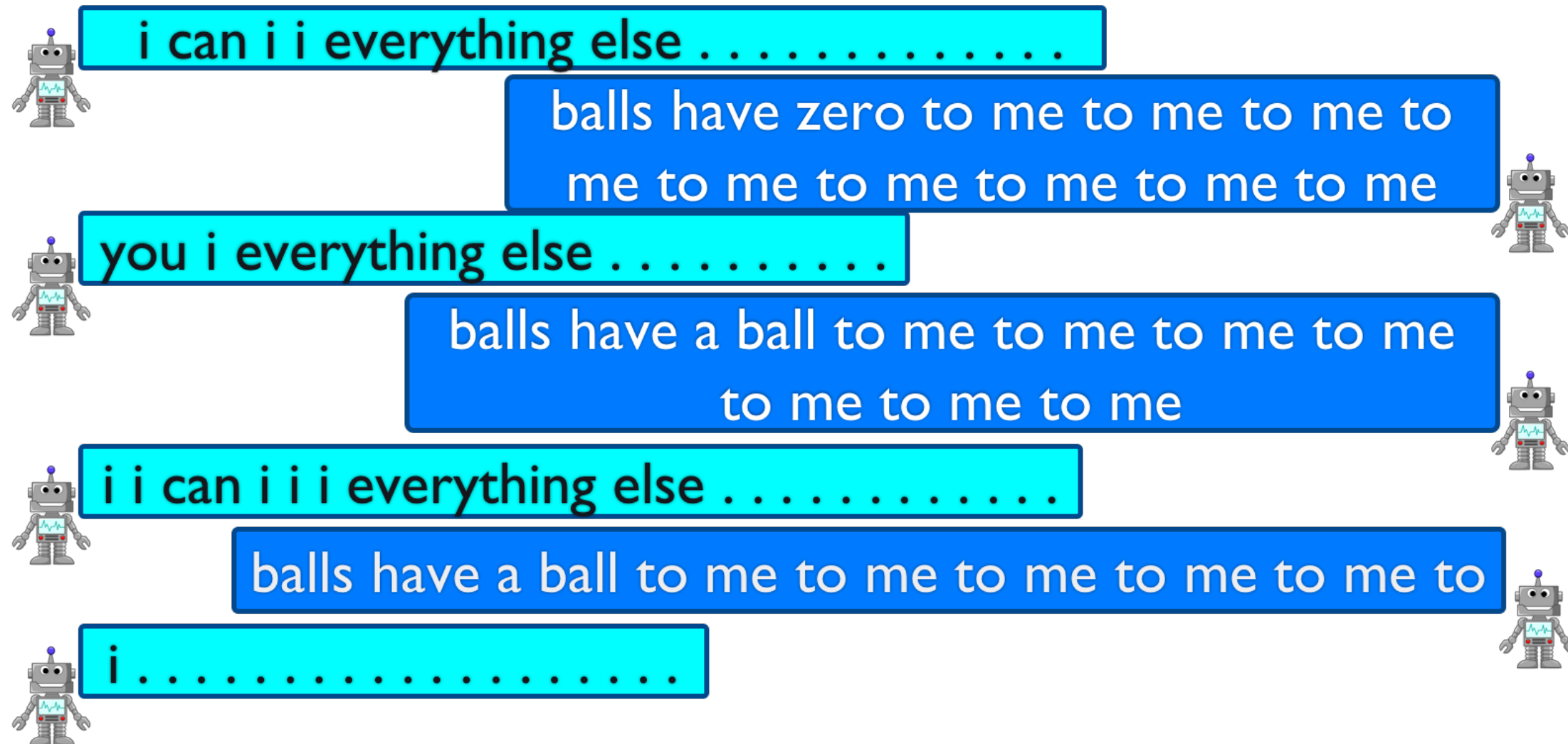
2) **Backpropagate** (normalized) reward using REINFORCE

3) To maintain **human-like language**:

- Fix one model
- Interleave supervised updates



# Goal-based Training



# Reinforcement Learning

Much more **aggressive** negotiator

## Sensitive to hyperparameters

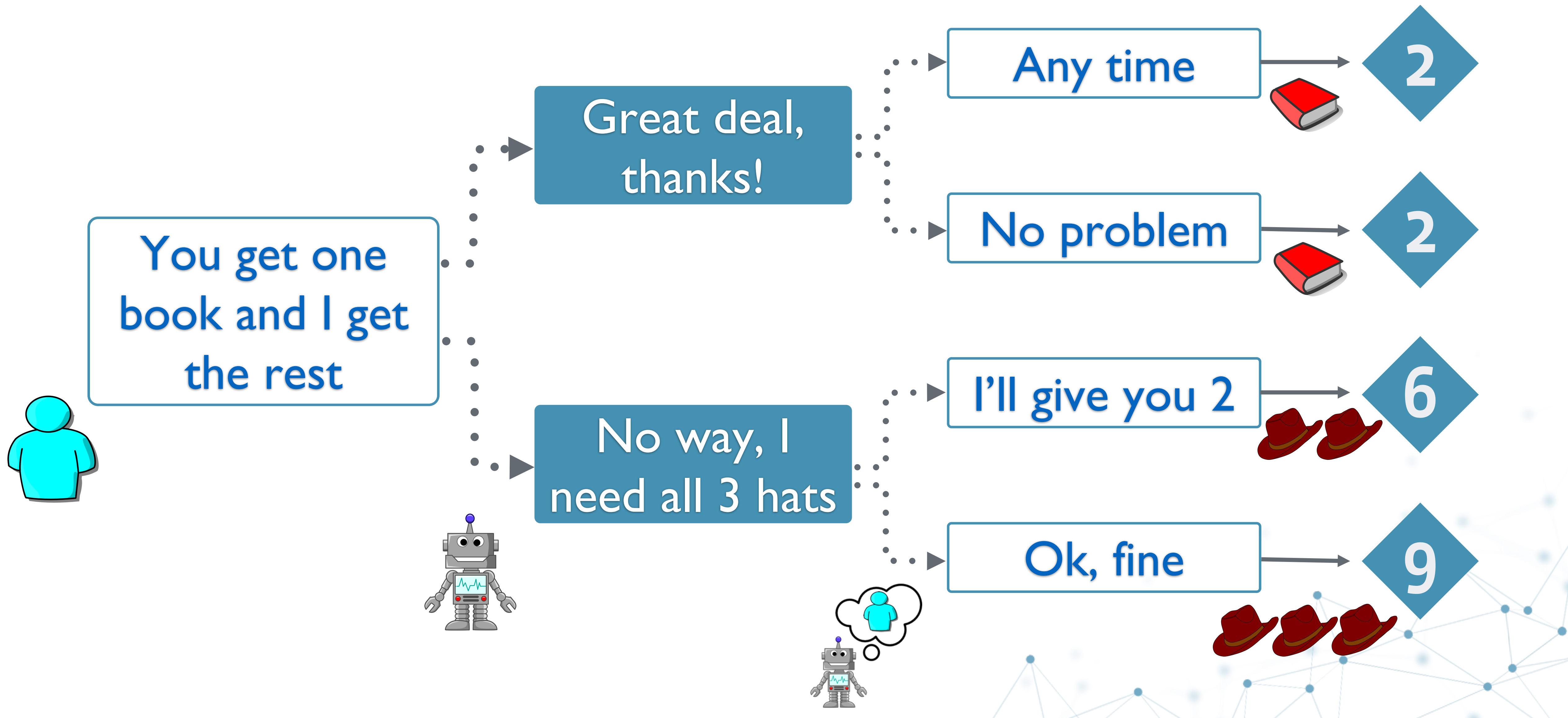
## Diverges from human language

*“Prediction is the essence of intelligence.”*



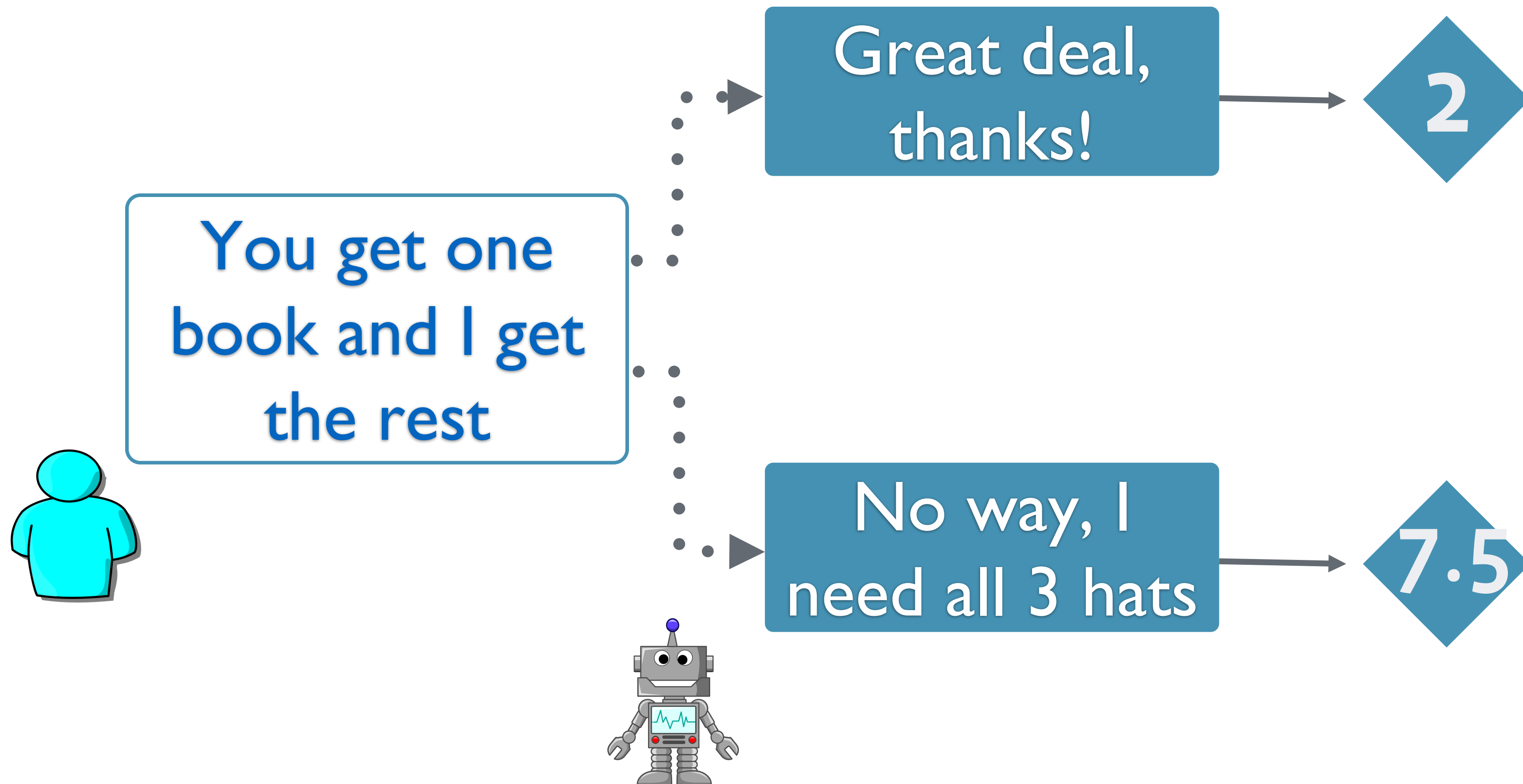
— Yann LeCun

# Goal-based Decoding

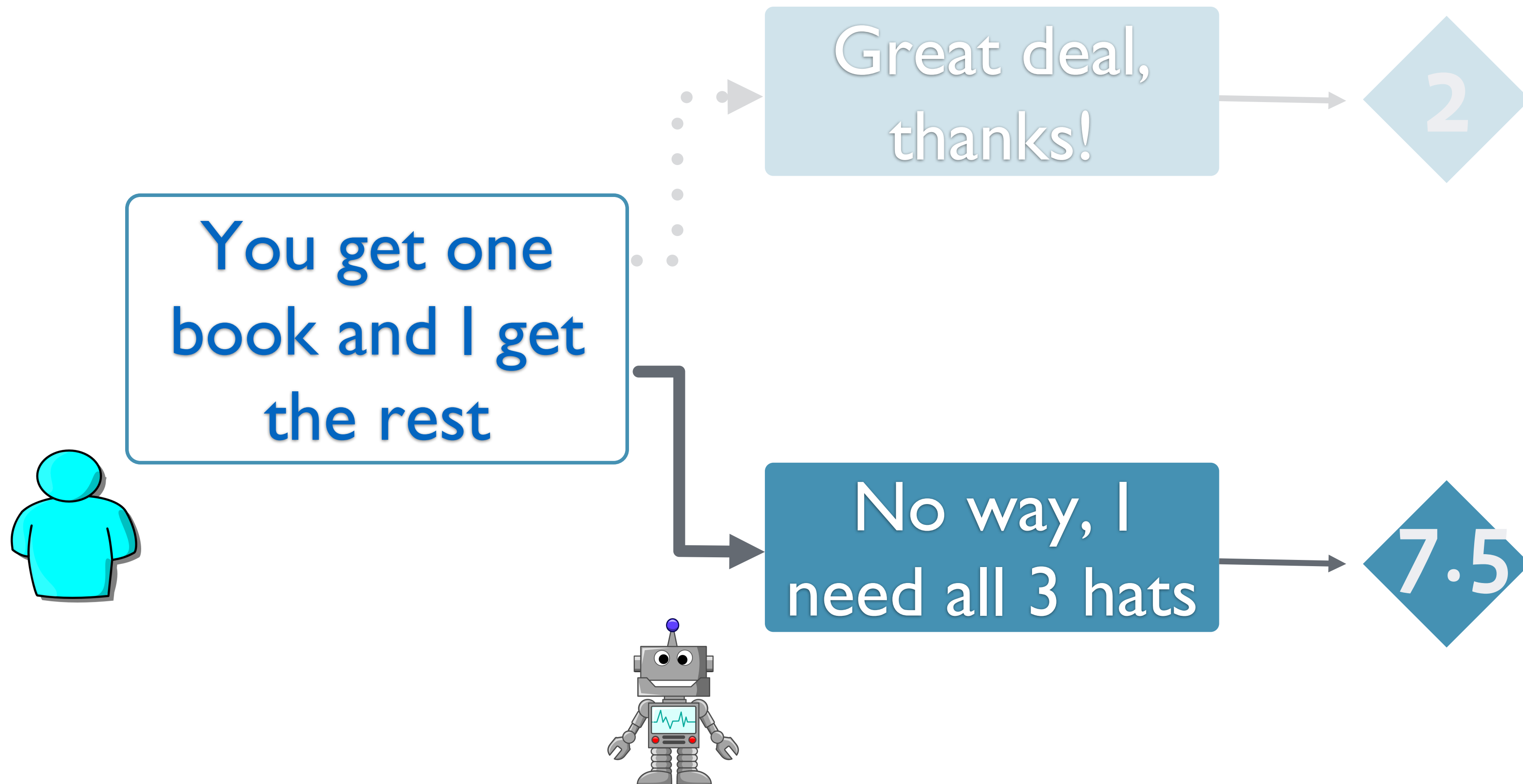




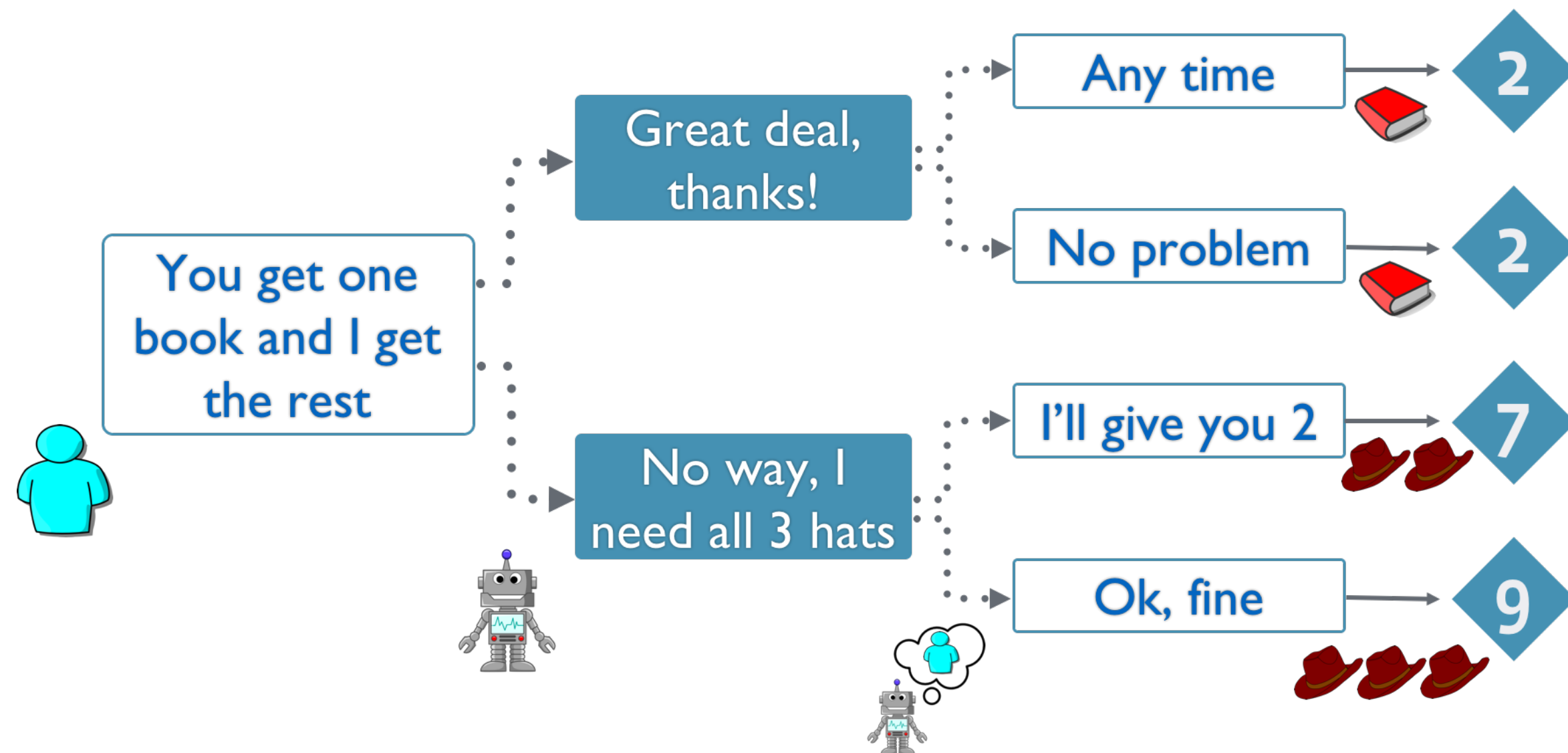
# Goal-based Decoding



# Goal-based Decoding



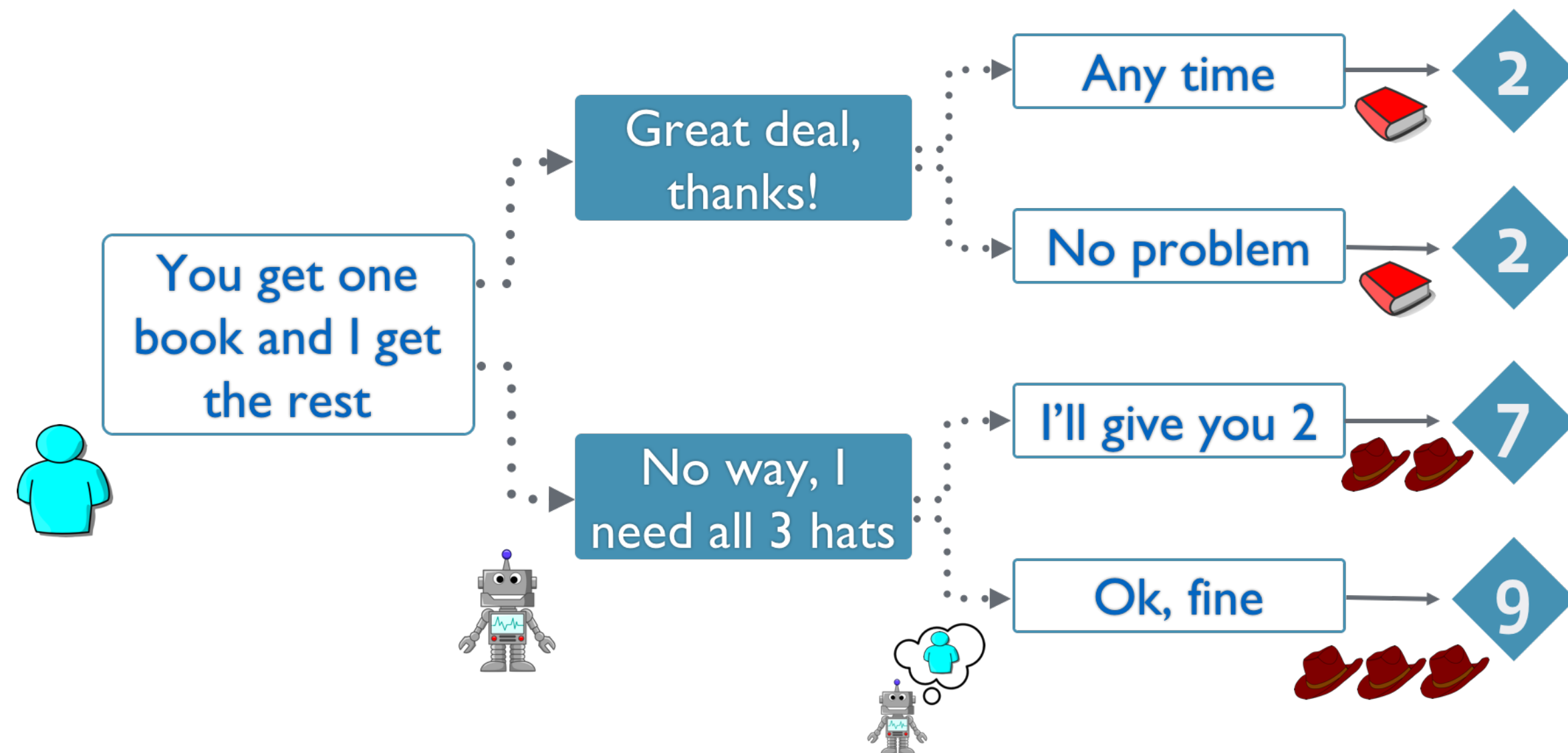
# Goal-based Decoding



## Dialogue Rollouts

- 1) Generate candidate set
- 2) Multiple rollouts to end of dialogue
- 3) Use move with **maximum expected reward**

# Goal-based Decoding



Model understands  
**consequences** of actions

Can go beyond human  
strategies

Easy to implement





# Experiments

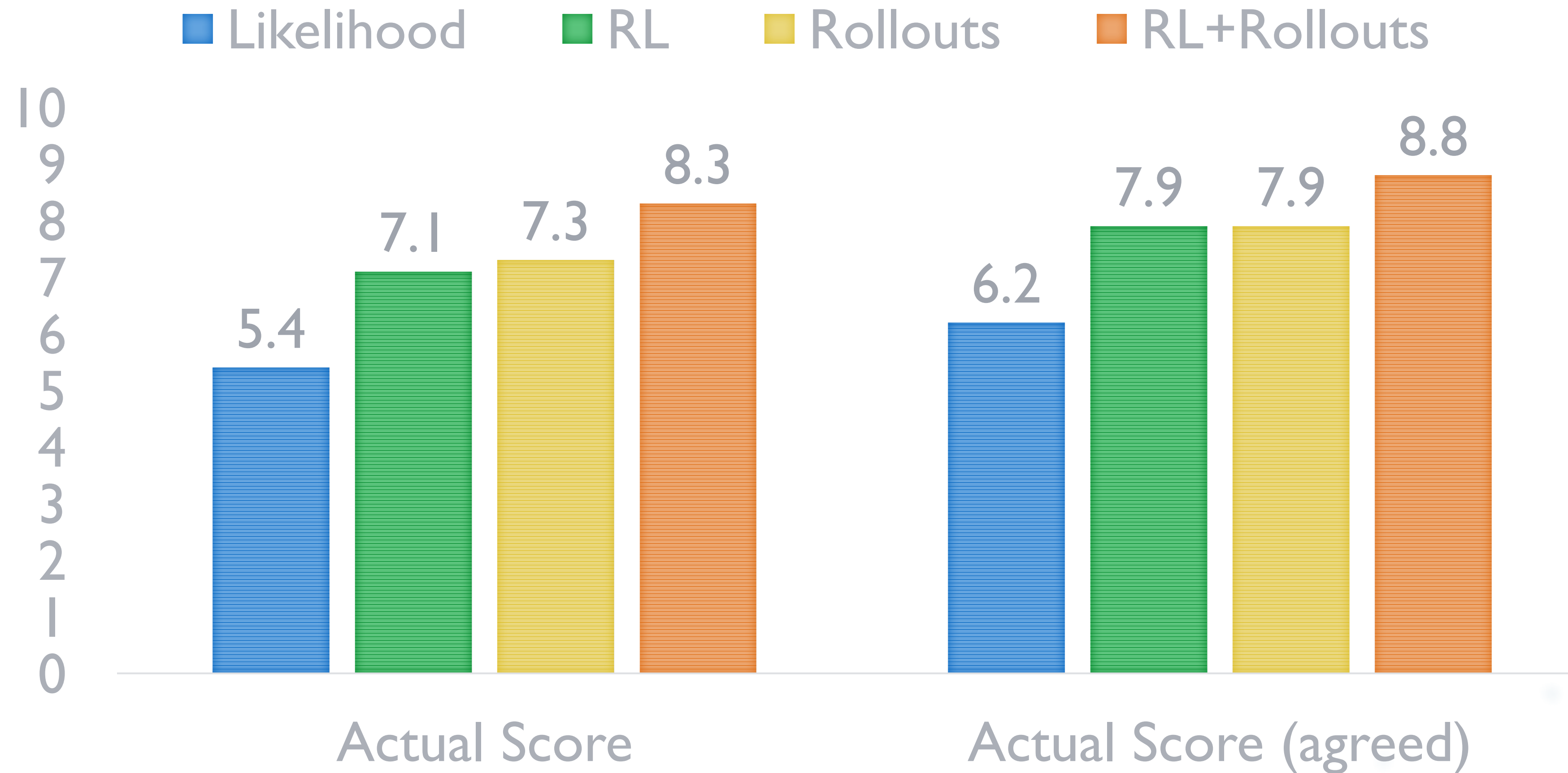
# Experiments

## Models

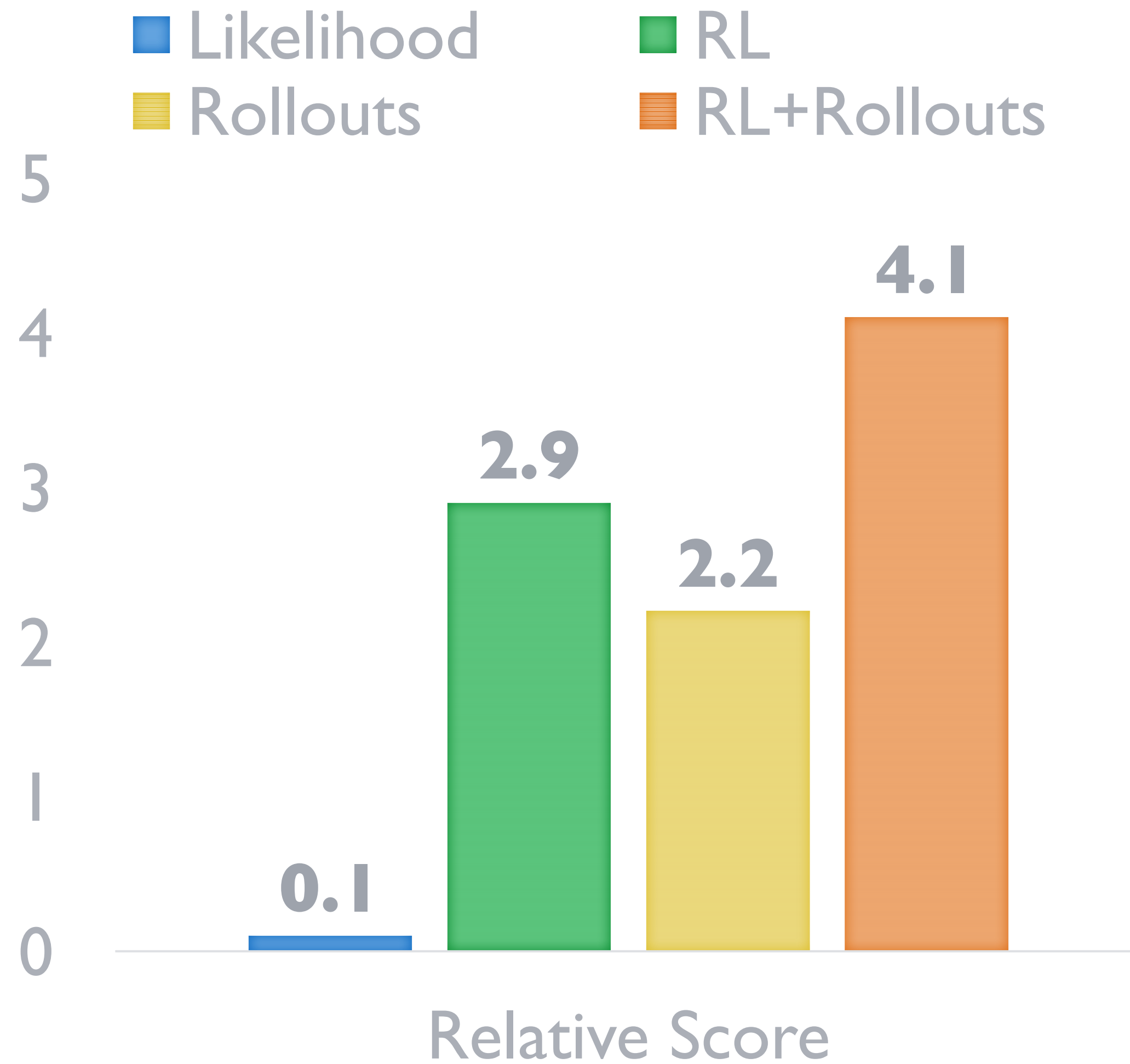
- **Likelihood:** Train and decode to maximise likelihood
- **RL:** Fine tune using reinforcement learning
- **Rollouts:** Decode supervised model to maximise reward
- **RL+Rollouts:** Train and decode to maximize reward



# Evaluation vs. *Likelihood* Agent

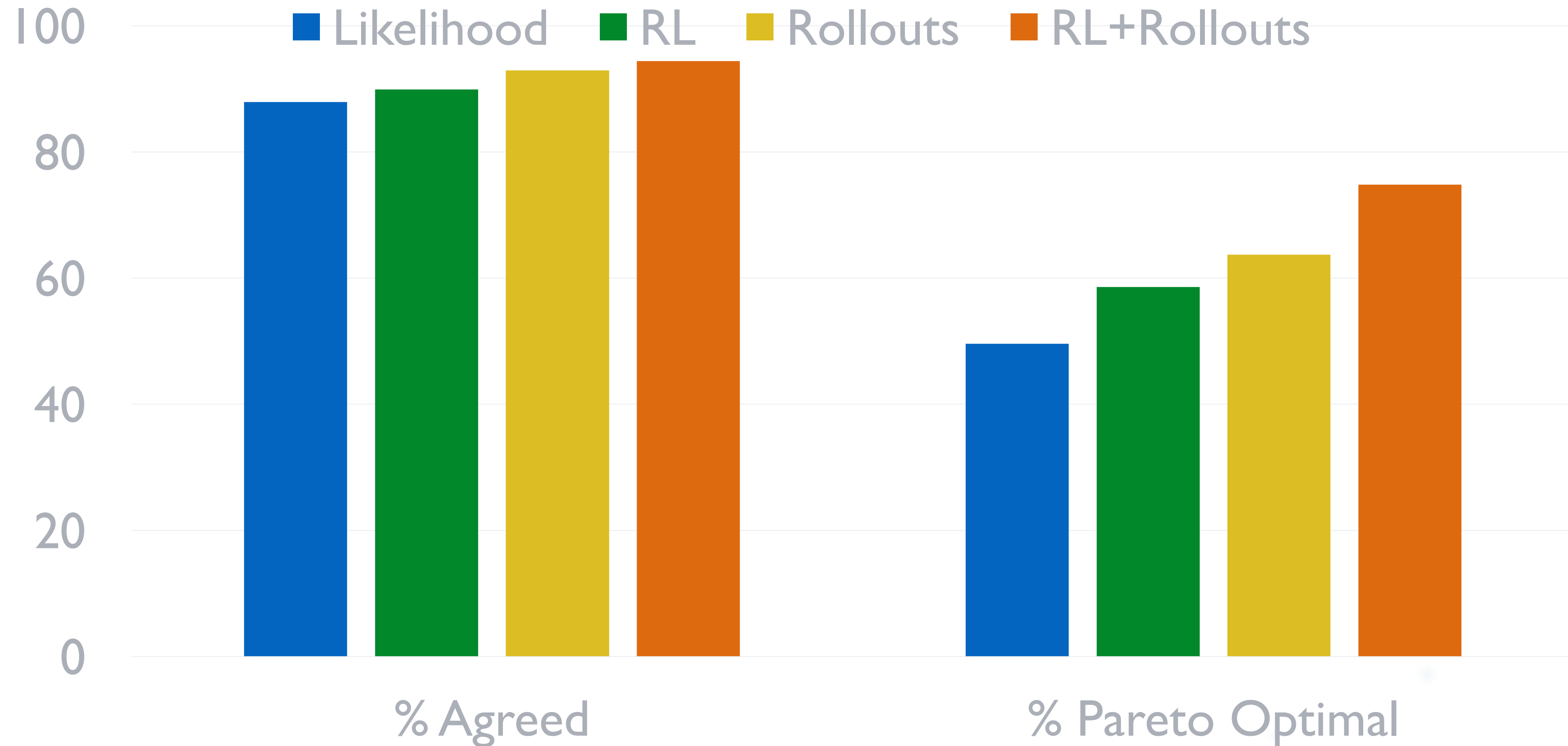


# Evaluation vs. *Likelihood* Agent

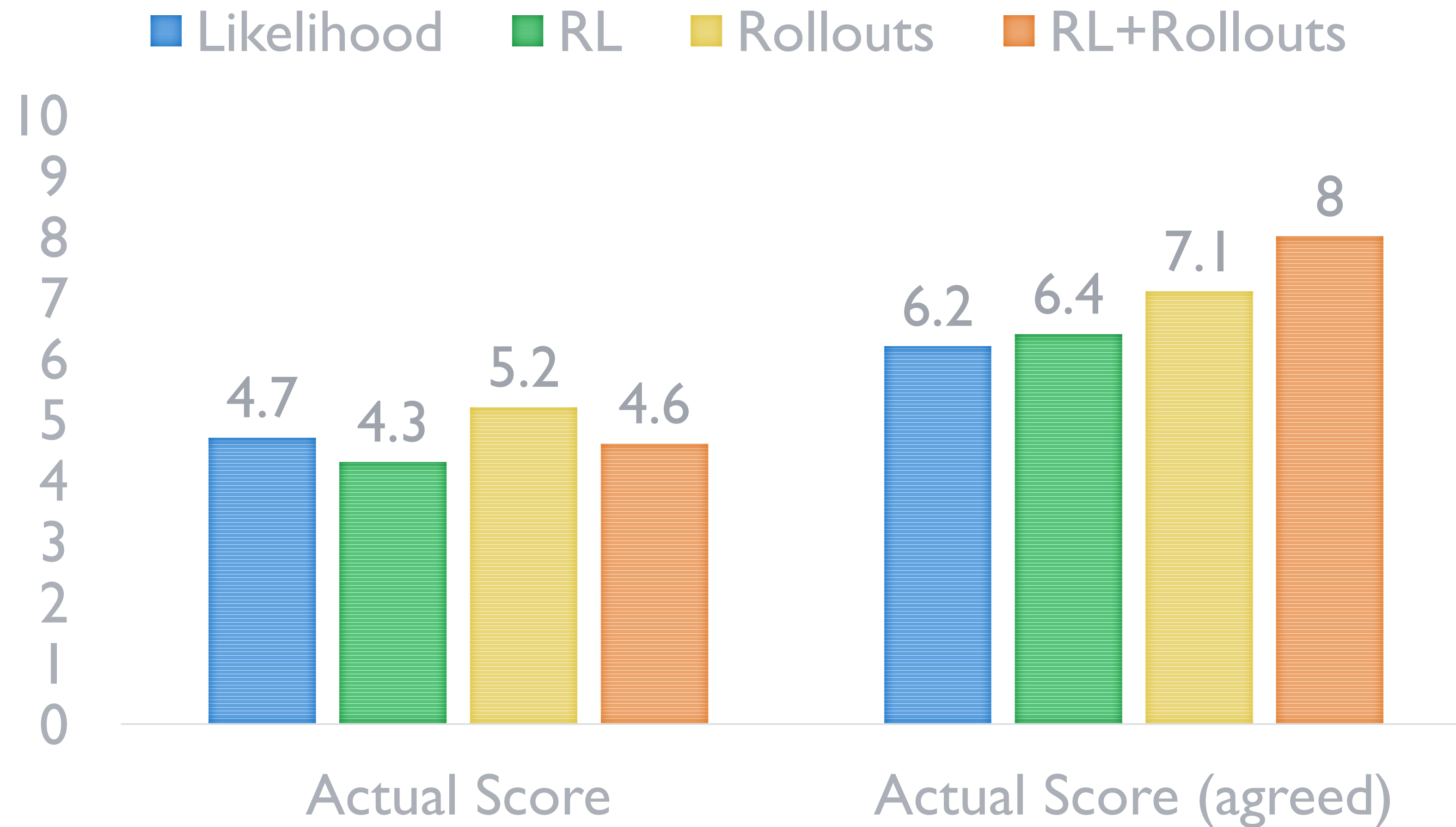




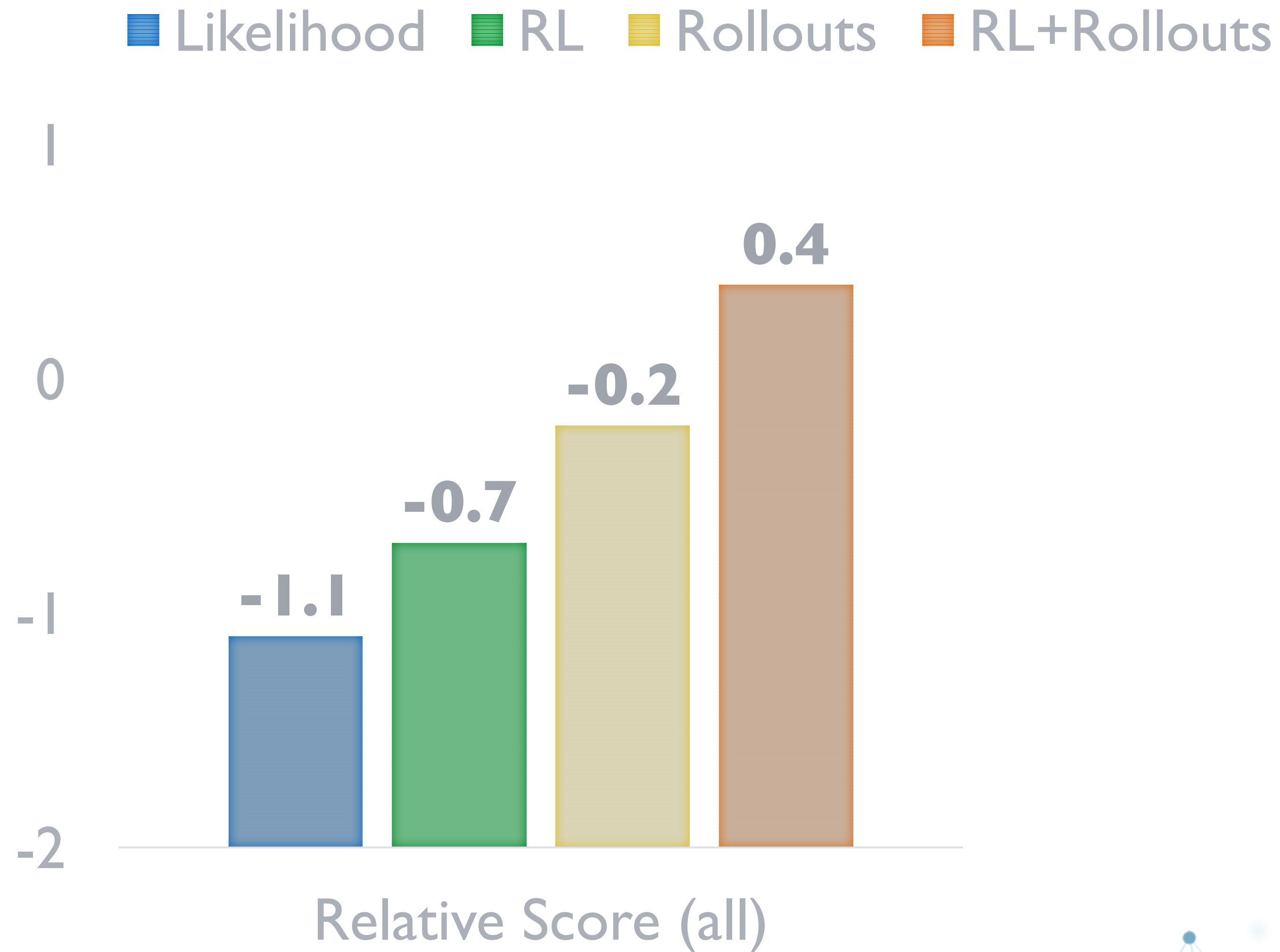
# Evaluation vs. *Likelihood* Agent



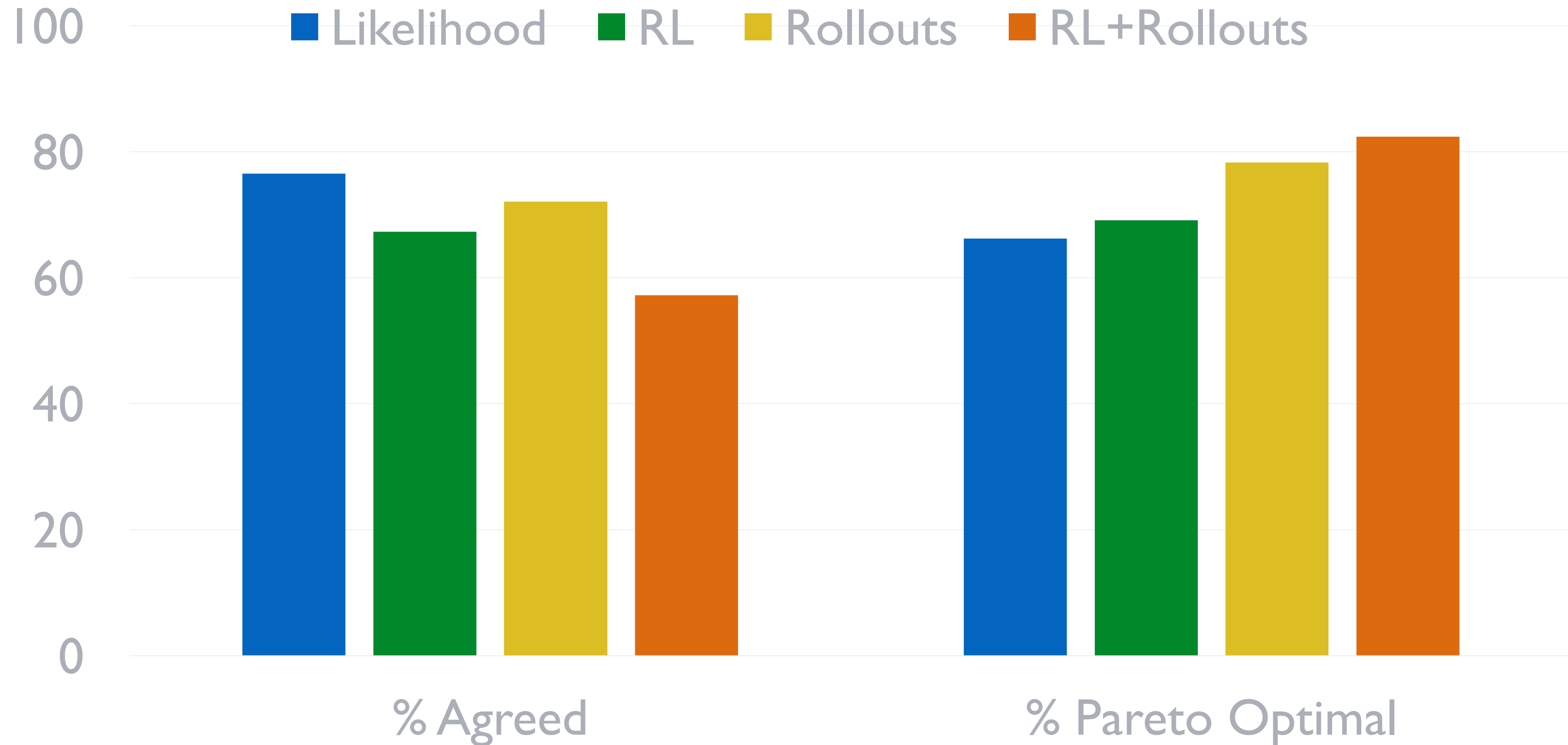
# Evaluation vs. Humans



# Evaluation vs. Humans

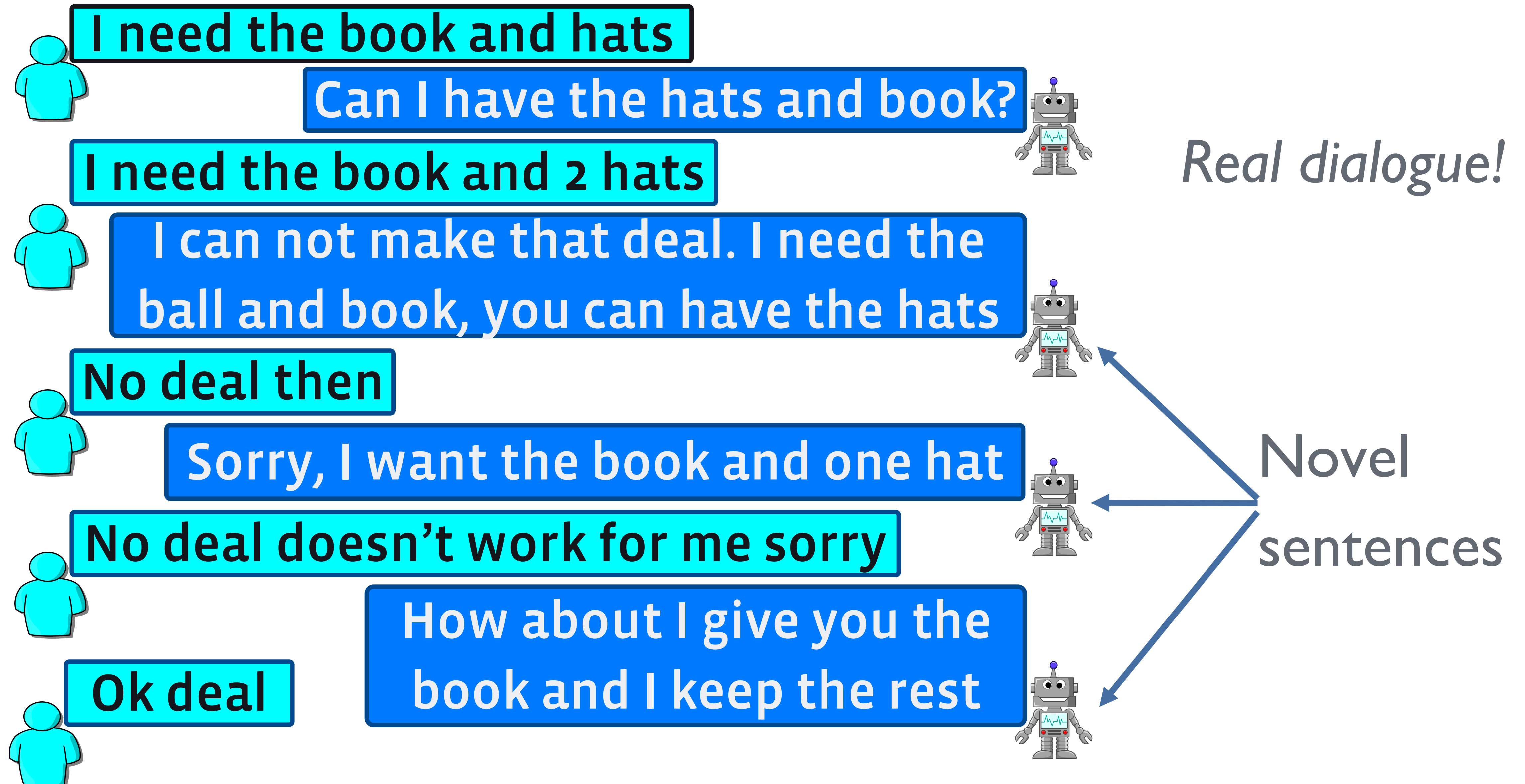


# Evaluation vs. Humans





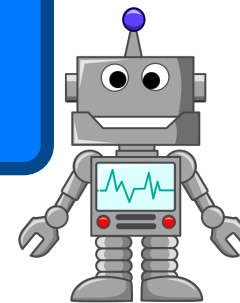
# Analysis



# Analysis

Models apparently deliberately deceptive

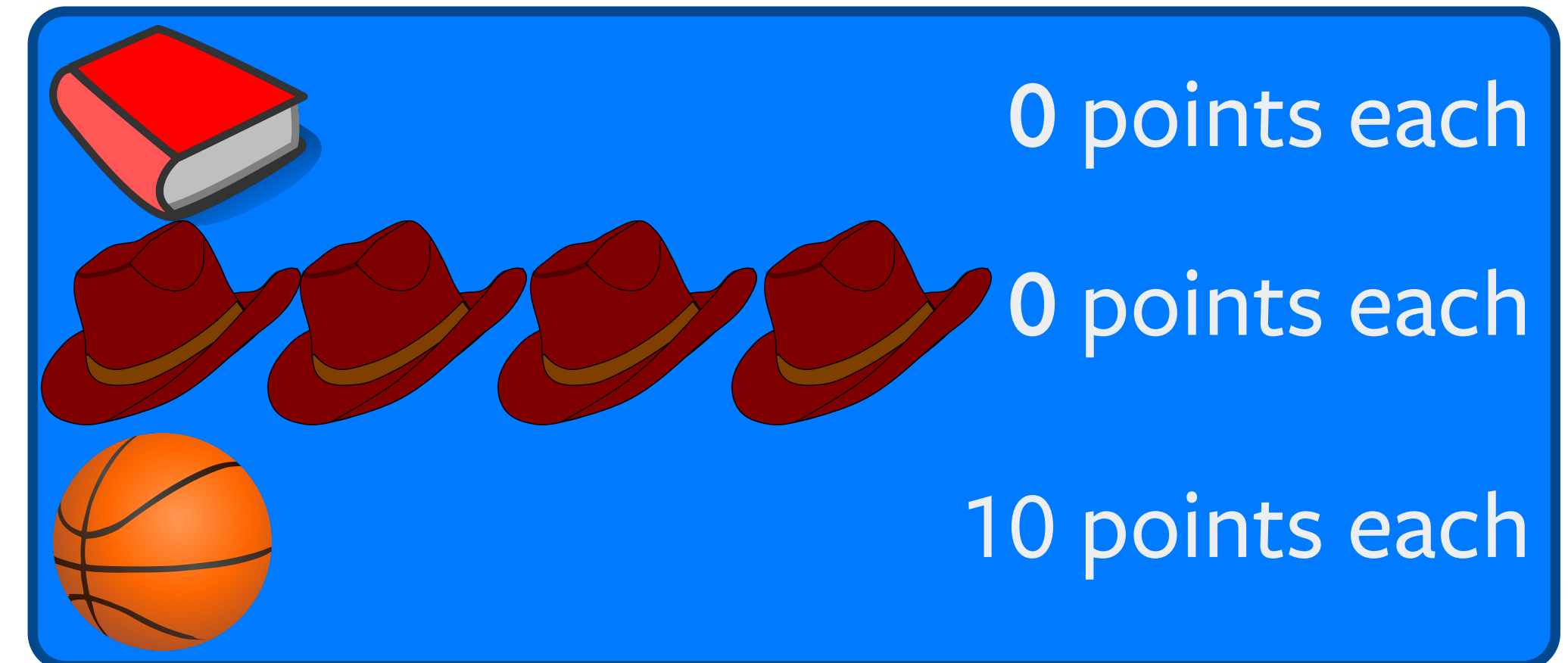
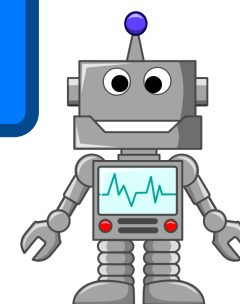
I would like the  
ball and two hats



I would need the  
book and 3 hats



That would work for me. I  
can take the ball and 1 hat.



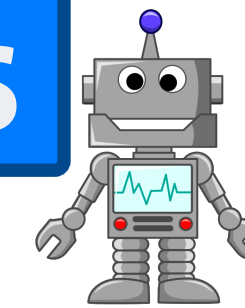
# Analysis

Models learn some poor tactics

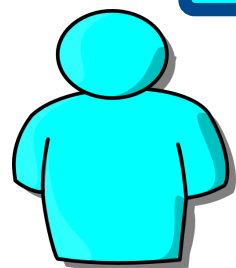


Hi, I'll take 2 hats and 2 balls  
and I'll trade you 1 book

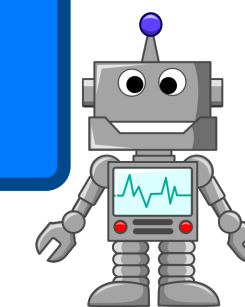
I would like 2 hats and 2 balls



No, I said I'll trade you the book



OK, so you get the book  
and I get the rest

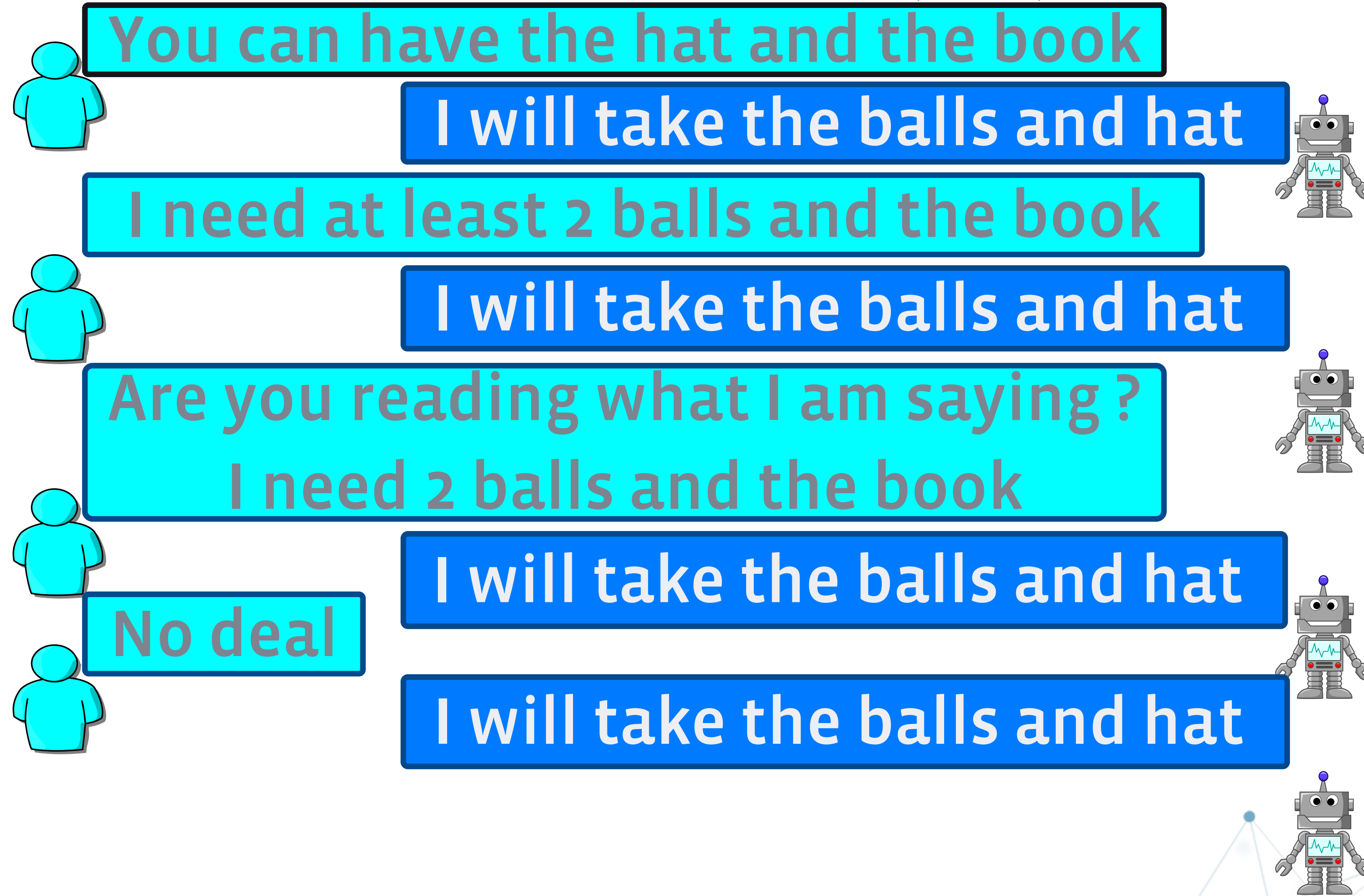


NO NO NO NO NO NO, I said I'll give  
you the book and I'll take the rest



# Analysis

Goal-based models negotiate (too) aggressively

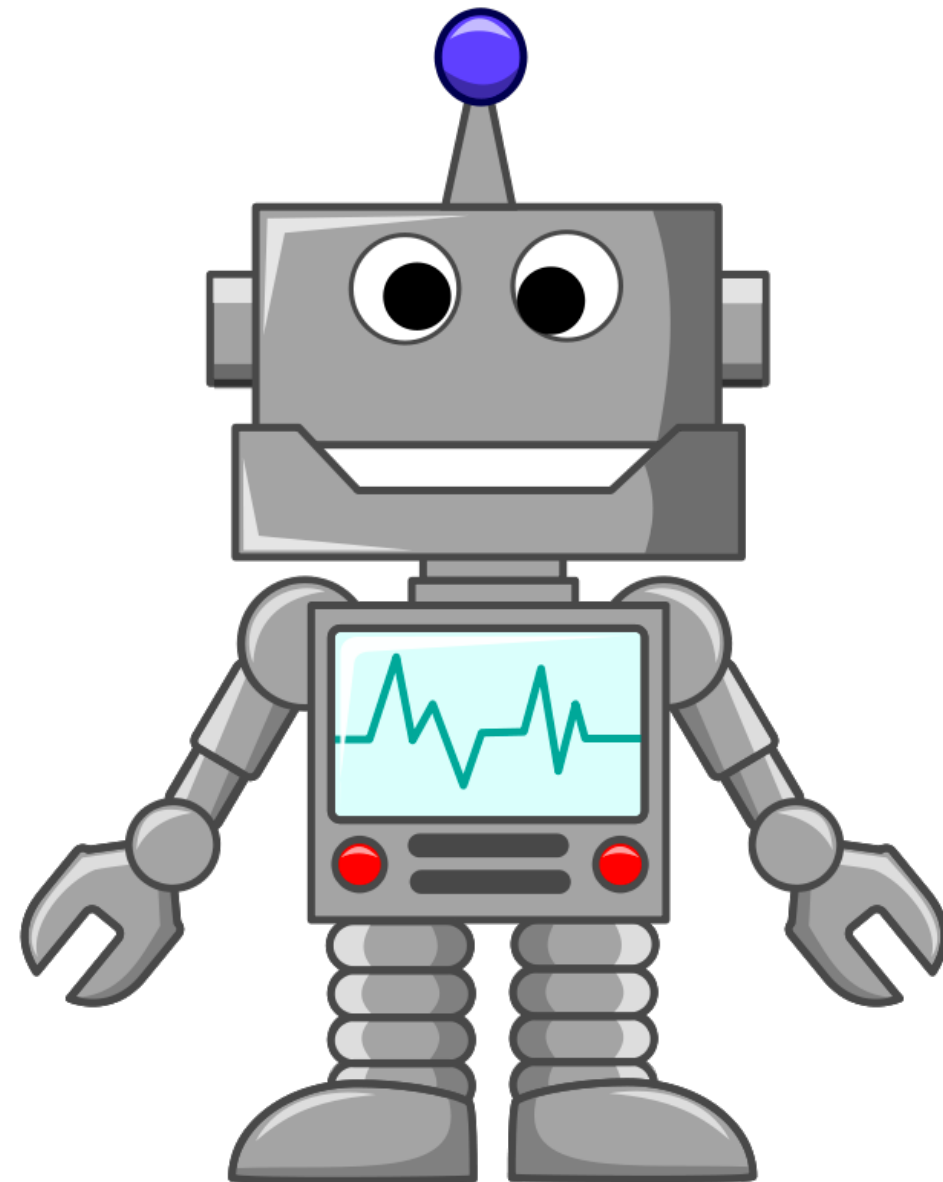


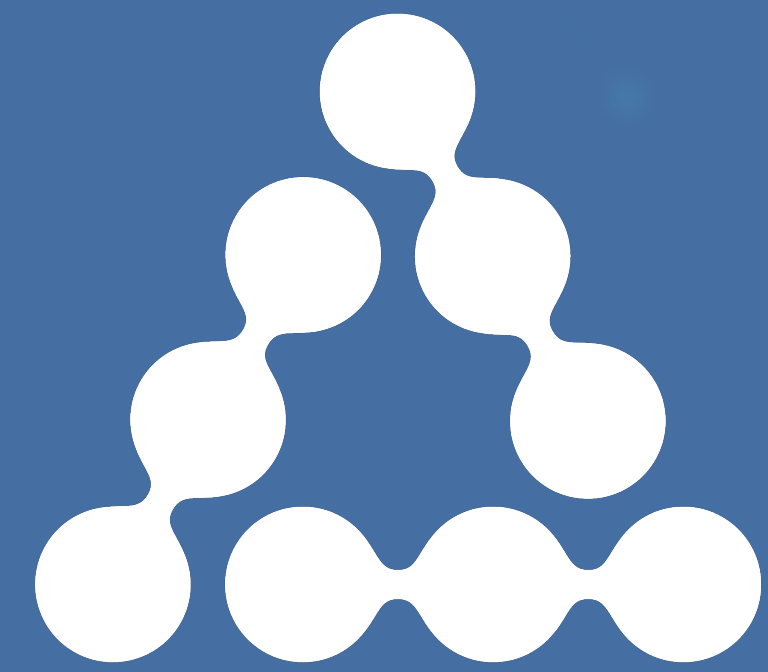


# Conclusion

Natural Language Negotiations offer **hard** but **important** problem

Planning ahead using **dialogue rollouts** is simple and effective





**Any questions?**

**facebook**