FW: Qualtrics word-search task

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https://plus.google.com/u/0/_/focus/photos/public/AIbEiAIAAABDCN7wpaGE8O3dfCILdmNhcmRfcGhvdG8qKDUxMDcwNzE0Mzg1ODQzZDVmYTgwNGRjOWU2NTA2YWNmNjE3ZGMwYmEwARSx7Agns62GZcaxPIU7lJ-DU-T8?sz=24

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| |  | | --- | | **Calin-Jageman, Robert <rcalinjageman@dom.edu>** | | AttachmentsThu, Jul 26, 9:09 AM (2 days ago) |  | https://mail.google.com/mail/ca/u/0/images/cleardot.gif  https://mail.google.com/mail/ca/u/0/images/cleardot.gif |
| |  | | --- | | to Christopher  https://mail.google.com/mail/ca/u/0/images/cleardot.gif | | | |

Chris,

Happy to help.  Here is everything you need to get started.  The qualtrics templates make it easy to get things running from the start and then tweak from there.

Bob

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[http://calin-jageman.net](http://calin-jageman.net/)

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**From:** Calin-Jageman, Robert   
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 17, 2018 1:40 PM  
**To:** '[matan.sheskin@post.idc.ac.il](mailto:matan.sheskin@post.idc.ac.il)' <[matan.sheskin@post.idc.ac.il](mailto:matan.sheskin@post.idc.ac.il)>  
**Subject:** FW: Qualtrics word-search task

Thanks for leaving a note on the blog; here are the details on how to use the word search task in qualtrics.

Bob

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**From:** Calin-Jageman, Robert   
**Sent:** Monday, April 09, 2018 11:38 AM  
**To:** 'MAI Robert' <[robert.mai@grenoble-em.com](mailto:robert.mai@grenoble-em.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: Qualtrics word-search task

Robert,

Here’s everything you need to get started using the Qualtrics word search task I developed.  If you run into problems, let me know.

Cheers,

Bob

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**From:** Calin-Jageman, Robert   
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 10:56 PM  
**To:** [karen.wallach@emory.edu](mailto:karen.wallach@emory.edu)  
**Subject:** Qualtrics word-search task

Sorry for the delay in replying.  Here’s everything you need to get started with the word-search task I created for Qualtrics. The email chain is just a bit rambling, and the code is…well, the code is a mess.  Still, most people who have inquired about this task seem to have had success in getting in up and running for their research.  If you run into roadblocks, let me know.  And if you end up making improvements, have suggestions, etc., please share back.

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**Sent:** Tuesday, November 17, 2015 9:24 PM  
**To:** '[dhoughton@siu.edu](mailto:dhoughton@siu.edu)'  
**Subject:** FW: FW: HTML5 and Javascript word-search task

David,

Happy to help, and hope you find the word search task useful.  The paper reporting the research I did with this task was just published:

<http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0140806>

        Cusack, M., Vezenkova, N., Gottschalk, C., & Calin-Jageman, R. J. (2015). Direct and Conceptual Replications of Burgmer & Englich ( 2012 ): Power May Have Little to No Effect on Motor Performance. *PLoS ONE*, *10*(11), e0140806. <http://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0140806>

Anyways, you’ll see below a more detailed description of the task, links to download the java script, and perhaps most importantly, a qualtrics survey you can import that will have the task working out of the box (though off my servers…this is fine if you want to keep it that way, but it will minimize the customizability a bit).

Cheers,

Bob

**From:** Calin-Jageman, Robert   
**Sent:** Sunday, October 04, 2015 2:30 PM  
**To:** 'Emily Cleveland' <[ecleveland@mail.millikin.edu](mailto:ecleveland@mail.millikin.edu)>  
**Subject:** HTML5 and Javascript word-search task

Emily,

Please keep in mind the tragedy of the commons that occurs with using the same types of tasks with MTurk samples.   It's incredible how quickly a task is spoiled.  Here's what I found when using the task \*for the first time\*!:

        From the 210 complete responses collected (104 power, 106 control), we applied the following quality controls sequentially, excluding

•       8 participants (5 power and 3 controls) for using an IP address that resolved to an address outside the U.S.A,

•       an additional 2 participants (1 power, 1 control) for failing the instructional manipulation check more than 2 times,

•       an additional 7 participants (4 power, 3 controls) for classifying themselves as non-native speakers of English,

•       **an additional 29 participants (16 power, 13 controls) for self-reporting that they were already familiar with the word-search task (>2 on rating of familiarity on scale from 1-4),**

•       an additional 3 participants (2 power, 1 control) for taking an unusually short or long amount of time to complete the study (outside of 2.5x the median time for completion),

•       an additional 1 participant (1 controls) for giving an outlier response on the retrospective gambler’s task (|z| > 3),

•       an additional 11 participants (10 power, 1 control) for guessing the hypothesis of the study (any response that mentioned anything to do with power or control in relation to performance was excluded).

In total, these filters excluded 29% of completed responses, leaving 66 participants in the power group and 83 in the control group.  These exclusions did not substantively impact the group means for the task .  Moreover, even with all of these quality controls applied, power was strong (0.99) for detecting the effect size of 0.71 reported in Burgmer & Englich (2012).

Anyways, just something to think about and weigh as you develop your project.

Bob

**Using the task**

 To get you started, I’ve attached a qualtrics survey that has both the word search and mirror tracing tasks.  Here it is in action:  <https://dom.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_1AJN0KBrLPmuQu1> .  This is a good place to start to be sure you have the survey setup correctly, are loading the java script correctly, etc.

I’ve attached a pre-screening survey that I use to make sure participants are using a browser that will work with the word-search task.  You’ll see it is basically the same code/setup, but in the item with the word search the javascript specifies

                'test' : true

This sets the word search to show a little demo of the word search that looks like this:

With a timer that gives them only a reasonable amount of time to highlight the test word.

When I set this up in MTurk, the hit directs them to the pre-screening survey.  The pre-screening survey is then setup to redirect to the real survey, passing along info gathered in the pre-survey in the url (e.g. number of failures on the instructional manipulation check, MTurkID, etc.).  Then the real survey reveals at the end the code to be returned to MTurk to redeem for compensation.  Hope this makes sense.

I.       Here’s the actual collection of javascript code that makes this work:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/yr4gzr6nzy7jcrv/word_search_code.zip?dl=0>

I kluged this code together in a coffee-fueled evening… it is probably not the easiest to read or modify, but it should be enough to get your started.  I adapted it from an html5/javascript tutorial I had found online, but for the life of me I can’t seem to find it again.  The original code generated the distractor letters in the grid—I modified it so that a specified grid is loaded.   You’ll need to post these files to a server capable of fulfilling https requests (qualtrics won’t allow http calls to external libraries; only https).  You’re welcome to use the server where I have these files posted (see below), but in that case you wouldn’t be able to modify the code; you’d have to just use the options currently available.

II.     Here are the steps for setting up a qualtrics survey to use this code (if you use the import I sent, these steps will already be done for you):

1)      To enable this code to be called from a Qualtrics survey, you need to go into “look and feel” and add script references to the headers:

                <script src=" [https://calin-jageman.net/damisch/js/utility.js"></script](https://calin-jageman.net/damisch/js/utility.js)>

<script src=" [https://calin-jageman.net/damisch/js/wordsearch.js"></script](https://calin-jageman.net/damisch/js/wordsearch.js)>

<script src="//[ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/1.11.0/jquery.min.js](http://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/1.11.0/jquery.min.js)"></script>

of course, where the url says “[calin-jageman.net](http://calin-jageman.net/)” you’d want to put in your own server where you’ve posted the javascript code, or leave this the same but not be able to modify the code)

2)      Then, if you want to save scores, make an embedded data field:

                Word\_Search\_Score

3)      Finally, for the actual item that will display the word search, you need to add html tags for where the word search and word list will go as well as javascript to to initialize the word search, store the score, and automatically move on after a period of time.

Here is the html to add:

<center>

<h2>&nbsp;</h2>

<div id="score">Found 0 out of 10 words so far.</div>

</center>

<section id="ws-area">&nbsp;</section>

<ul class="ws-words">

</ul>

And here is an example of the javascript:

var qthis;

Qualtrics.SurveyEngine.addOnload(function()

{

                /\*Place Your Javascript Below This Line\*/

                //Possible\_Condition

                var gameAreaEl = document.getElementById('ws-area');

     var thesesettings = {

      'directions': ['W', 'N', 'WN', 'EN'],

      'gridSize': 14,

      'words': [

                     'board',

                                'coffee',

                                'clock',

                                'house',

                                'chalk',

                                'building',

                                'telephone',

                                'magazine',

                                'lamp',

                                'water'

                  ],

      'debug': false,

                  'condition' : 4,

                  'same' : true,

                  'test' : false

    }

      var listlength = thesesettings.words.length;

      var gameobj = gameAreaEl.wordSeach(thesesettings);

      // Put words into `.ws-words`

      var wordsnow = thesesettings.words,

      wordsWrap = document.querySelector('.ws-words');

                  var count=0;

      for (i in wordsnow) {

                                  if (count < listlength) {

        var liEl = document.createElement('li');

                    liEl.setAttribute('id', wordsnow[i]);

        liEl.setAttribute('class', 'ws-word');

                    liEl.setAttribute("text-decoration", "none");

        liEl.innerHTML = wordsnow[i];

        wordsWrap.appendChild(liEl);

                                  }

                                  count = count + 1;

      }

     qthis = this;

                 var myVar = setInterval(function(){tfunction()}, 500);

                //var UpdateScore = setInterval (function {tfunction()), 1000);    //save counter back to qualtrics

});

                function tfunction() {

                                Qualtrics.SurveyEngine.setEmbeddedData('Word\_Search\_Score', document.getElementById("score").innerHTML.replace("Found ", "").replace(" out of 1 words so far.", ""));

                                var cscore = document.getElementById("score").innerHTML;

                                if (cscore.indexOf("Found 10") > -1) {

                                                  qthis.clickNextButton();

                                }

                }

III.     To customize this for your own purposes:

You’ll note than in the Qualtrics item, you setup an array of settings that gets passed into the function that creates the word search.  By modifying the settings, you can modify the type of word search you get:

     var thesesettings = {

      'directions': ['W', 'N', 'WN', 'EN'],

      'gridSize': 14,

      'words': [

                     'board',

                                'coffee',

                                'clock',

                                'house',

                                'chalk',

                                'building',

                                'telephone',

                                'magazine',

                                'lamp',

                                'water'

                  ],

      'debug': false,

                  'condition' : 4,                                                                  // 1 = word jumble with all words included; 2 = impossible matrix (not all words in list included0,

// 3 =  power priming matrix, 4 = control for power priming matrix

                  'same' : true,                                                                                    //if true, loads a pre-made matrix; if false randomly places the words and generates filler

                  'test' : false                                                                                       //test = true shows just ‘browser’ for participants to highlight

    }

Also, take a look at WordSeach.prototype.bobmatrix to see how to define new standard matrixes, conditions, etc.

Hope this all makes sense.  If you’re not a javascript wizard (I’m not), a decent CS student can get this all setup for you without too much hassle (though they’d likely curse me for the way I cobbled this all together).

Cheers,

Bob

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