Visual Search Task

-here is an overview of the task that we used

-at the start of each trial participants saw a dot and were instructed to keep their eyes fixed on that point throughout the entire trial

-after a 1.5sec fixation period, they saw a search array in which they had to try to find an X among Ls for popout or a T among Ls for effort search

- “pop out” – easy visual discrimination

- “search” – difficult visual discrimination

- separate blocks – how many blocks of each?

-participants responded with a button press to indicate the presence or absence of a target

- 1 = yes, 2 = no

-popout and search trials were presented in separate blocks to avoid any task-switching effects

-the presentation order was counterbalanced such that half of the participants started with popout trials and the other half started with search trials

Questions

* Is the 3L an easy version and 9L a more difficult version? 96 trials of both popout and search, 3L and 9L, total of 96\*4?
* Blocks to program:
  + 1 popout block
  + 1 search block
* Percentage of trials with a target?

Eprime programming

* Popout version (with X/L)
* Search version (with T/L)
* 3L trials
  + 4 spaces for stimuli
* 9L trials
  + 10 spaces for stimuli
* Nested lists
  + For each slide (in each condition)
  + For each picture object in e-prime, needs to know what to draw from
  + Target appears randomly in certain picture object in the visual field (only 1 space per condition)
  + Targets only appear in certain percentage of trials
  + **Randomize image SETS**
    - Overall structure
      * Procedure specifies whether it is 3L or 9L?
      * Within 3L and 9L, it will randomly select from a list that has SETS of images (which determines presence and location of target and orientation of other images)
      * List can also contain from which list the image can draw from
      * How to randomize from which location the target is presented? (vs. laying it all out in image sets)
    - 9L trials
    - 3L trials
      * 4 columns representing the 4 images
      * Specify when they will see each set
      * Nested list – contains sets of 4 images (with and without target)
        + OR have a list where it is then randomly selected from that list
* How e-prime can program

**Scanner – automatically produces 4 dummy TRs, activates 5 on the 5th TR**

BA1 – 176 TRs

DT1 – 134 TRs

VS1 – 174 TRs

BA2 – 176 TRs

Meditation1 – 93 TRs

Meditation2 – 217 TRs

DT2 – 133 TRs

BA3 – 200 TRs

BA4 – 200 TRs

VS2 – 174 TRs

BA5 – 200 TRs