

Email Template for SGGE Participants

Before consent

Subject:

[Gaelic Conversations] Invitation to participate in our experiment

Body:

Dear potential participant,

Thank you for taking our Gaelic comprehension quiz and expressing your interest in our study!

Since you performed well on the quiz, we would like to provide you with more information about the study and invite you to participate. Please read the information sheet and indicate whether you consent to participate in the study or not through this form: [FORMS URL](#) Please also be careful to both submit this form **and** the Doodle poll it links to with your scheduling availability if you consent.

Thank you again! And speak to you soon 😊

Peace,

Dave

Before scheduled

Subject:

[Gaelic Conversations] Thank you for signing up!

Body:

Dear participant,

Thank you for joining our study and sharing your availability!

We are very excited to collect some conversational data in Gaelic to better understand how to build chatbots for the language, and we could not do this work without your help :)

As soon as we find another participant with compatible availability, we will schedule your session and send you the login information to participate in the study.

Speak to you soon!

Peace,

Dave Howcroft

Research Fellow

Edinburgh Napier University

<https://www.davehowcroft.com>

After scheduled

Subject:

[Gaelic Conversations] Scheduled for experiment at TIME on DATE

Dear participant,

Thank you for agreeing to participate in our study!

You have been assigned a partner, and you will both log into the chat system at TIME on DATE.

The experiment is split into two parts. First you will take on the role of QUESTIONER/RESPONDER and ANSWER/ASK questions about six exhibits. Then you will trade roles and instead be the RESPONDER/QUESTIONER ANSWERING/ASKING questions about another six exhibits.

When you first go to the website, you will be placed in a 'waiting room'. Once your partner logs in, they will join you, and you will both send the command `"/toiseachadh"` when you are ready to begin the experiment. After the conversation about an exhibit is over, you will each send the command `"/deiseil"` and then summarise the conversation you had. After you complete your summary, you will send the `"/ath"` command to move on to the next exhibit, until the experiment is done. **Please make sure you include the slash (/) at the beginning of the command**, or else the chatbot managing the experiment will not understand your command.

When you are the responder, you will discuss the following exhibits. **Please read these texts before the scheduled start time for your experiment.**

[LIST OF LINKS TO EXHIBITS]

When you are the questioner, you will get a set of keywords and definitions relating to the exhibit (for example [this set of keywords](#) corresponding to [this text](#)). These are meant to define potentially unfamiliar terms and to provide some context. For example, in the dialogue below, the questioner asks about whether the statue was part of an altar because they saw that 'altarpiece' was one of their keywords but didn't seem to come up in the conversation so far.

Here is an example dialogue in English, based on the same information you read in Gaelic for the comprehension quiz. Of course, your conversations will take place in Gaelic, so this example is just to give you an idea of the kinds of conversations, questions, and answers we have in mind. This is just one example, so feel free to be creative and ask a wide variety of questions!

Questioner: Hi there

Responder: Hey! What would you like to know about this exhibit?

Questioner: It looks like there are two parts to this exhibit. What is it about?

Responder: On the left is a carving of St. Andrew and on the right is the Scottish flag, showing an x-shaped cross known as a "saltire".

Questioner: What do these things have in common?

Responder: Well, St. Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland, and it's believed he was crucified on an x-shaped cross, so the saltire is associated with St. Andrew and therefore also with Scotland!

Questioner: Hm, okay... interesting I guess... Is there anything special about either of these things?

Responder: Well, the flag has been to space, on the international space station! That's pretty interesting, don't you think?

Questioner: Oh wow! I had no idea we'd sent a flag up there. What about the statue, did it go as well?

Responder: No, it's just a nice oak carving of St. Andrew held by the museum.

Questioner: When was it made, where does it come from?

Responder: We think it was made in northern Europe about 500 years ago.

Questioner: Was it ever part of an altar? Was it in a church or just someone's private statue?

Responder: It was probably an altarpiece once.

Questioner: Hm, okay, thanks. That's all my questions for now!

In general, we are trying to model conversations that humans might have with an informational chatbot when visiting a museum. **As the questioner,** feel free to ask questions based on the image or the keywords or anything that seems relevant to you. **As the answerer,** please answer based only on the text and images you have been given; it is okay to say "I don't know" if you don't know the answer based on this limitation. Note that you can also *volunteer* information: in addition to giving a straightforward answer, you can provide more context or related information, like when the responder explains that the x-shaped cross in the Scottish flag is known as a saltire in the example dialogue.

After completing the experiment, you will enter two codes in this form (FORMS URL) and provide UK bank information so we can pay you.

At TIME on DATE, access the experiment with the link: LINK

Immediately after you complete that session, start the new session with the link: LINK

If you have any problems, please write to D.Howcroft@napier.ac.uk with "Gaelic experiment" in the subject line.

Thank you again for your time!

Peace,

Dave Howcroft

Research Fellow

Edinburgh Napier University

<https://www.davehowcroft.com>