



University of
St Andrews

Participant Information

Project title

Researcher name(s)

NOTE TO RESEARCHER:

Amend/delete all text in red as appropriate. All guidance information should be deleted and final text in black.

What is the study about?

We invite you to participate in a research project about solving computer-generated levels of a “match three” puzzle game, and measure how well the difficulty of each puzzle.

Do I have to take part?

This information sheet has been written to help you decide if you would like to take part. It is up to you and you alone whether you wish to take part. If you do decide to take part you will be free to withdraw at any time without providing a reason.

What would I be required to do?

You will be asked to play computer-generated levels of a “match three” puzzle game, and be asked to rank the difficulty of each puzzle. The whole process will take 30 minutes to complete.

Will I be recorded, and how will my recorded information be used?

The only recorded results will be if participants complete a level, and how long they attempted it for.

Will my participation be confidential?

The data you provide will only be accessible to the researcher and supervisor involved in this study unless explicit consent for wider access is given by means of the consent form. Your data will be **ANONYMOUS** which means that no-one, not even the researcher, will be able to identify you from the data you have provided. You will still be asked to give your consent, but your signed consent form cannot be reconnected to your data. Every effort will be made to protect your identity however when research is conducted online this cannot be guaranteed as a secure environment and there may be a possibility of a security breach.

How will my data be kept and when will it be destroyed?

All results will be stored anonymously, and destroyed after submission of the project.

How will my data be used?

It is expected that the project to which this research relates will be finalised by August 2018 and written up as part of my Master Dissertation. If you give your consent, your research data may be published and used for future scholarly research without further consultation.

Are there any risks associated with taking part?

Participants will be informed these puzzles were created by computer, and therefore may be very difficult or impossible for human players. They will be allowed to stop the experiment at any time, or not have their results recorded.

Informed consent

It is important that you are able to give your informed consent before taking part in my project and you will have the opportunity to ask any questions in relation to the research before completing a consent form.

This research proposal has been scrutinised and subsequently granted ethical approval by the University of St Andrews Teaching and Research Ethics Committee.

What should I do if I have concerns about this study?

In the first instance you are encouraged to raise your concerns with the researcher and if you do not feel comfortable doing so, then you should contact my Supervisor. A full outline of the procedures governed by the University Teaching and Research Ethics Committee is available at www.st-andrews.ac.uk/utrec/guidelinespolicies/complaints/

Contact details

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