**CONSENT TO TAKE PART IN RESEARCH**

**Title of Research:** Development and perception of prosody in second language acquisition

**Principal Investigator:** Robert Esposito

This online consent form is part of an informed consent process for research, and it will provide information that will help you decide whether you want to take part in the research. It is your choice whether to take part or not. Ask questions if there is anything in the form that is not clear to you. If you decide to take part, instructions at the end of the document will tell you what to do next. Your alternative to taking part in the research is not to take part in it.

**Who is conducting this research and what is it about?**

You are being asked to take part in research conducted by Robert Esposito who is a researcher in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese within the School of Arts and Sciences at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. The purpose of this research is to investigate how learners of Spanish learn to perceive intonation, the melody of the language. We anticipate 300 participants will take part in the research.

**What will I be asked to do if I take part in this research?**

If you choose to participate in this study, you will listen to brief phone conversations between native speakers of Spanish, and then complete three tasks. First, you will listen to Spanish sentences and determine if it is a question or not. Then, you will complete the LexTALE, an assessment of Spanish proficiency where you must determine if a presented word is a real Spanish word or not. Finally, you will complete the Empathy Quotient, an assessment that measures empathy through a series of statements that you rate on as cale of “strongly disagree” to “strongly agree”.

**What are the risks of harm or discomforts I might experience if I take part in this research?**

Breach of confidentiality is a risk of harm but a data security plan is in place to minimize such a risk.

**Are there any benefits to me if I choose to take part in this research?**

This experiment does not present direct benefits to you. However, you will be contributing to the scientific body of research on Spanish learners, which may help to improve Spanish teaching methodologies.

**Will I be paid to take part in this research?**

As compensation for your participation, you will be paid $3.14 for completion of the research activity. Payment will be distributed via Prolific as per your agreement with Prolific.

**How will information about me be kept private or confidential?**

All efforts will be made to keep your responses confidential, but total confidentiality cannot be guaranteed.  
  
We will use Prolific to collect and forward your responses to us. We will not know your IP address when you respond to the online research. We will receive your Prolific ID for the purposes of compensation. We will download your responses to a secure file that requires a password to access. Only research staff will have access to the password.

**What will happen to my information collected for this research after the research is over?**

After information that could identify you has been removed, de-identified responses may be used by or distributed to investigators for other research without obtaining additional informed consent from you. We plan to deposit all de-identified data in the Center for Open Science (https://osf.io/) and GitHub (https://github.com/) - both of which are sites designed for open-source research repositories, where researchers can store and share their data.

**What will happen if I do not wish to take part in the research or if I later decide not to stay in the Research?**

It is your choice whether to take part in the research. You may choose to take part, not to take part or you may change your mind and withdraw from the research at any time. If you do not want to enter the research or decide to stop taking part, your relationship with the research staff will not change, and you may do so without penalty and without loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

You may also withdraw your consent for the use of data already collected about you, but you must do this in writing to Robert Esposito at [rme70@rutgers.edu](mailto:rme70@rutgers.edu) and provide your Prolific.com ID. However, once we have removed your Prolific ID, you can no longer withdraw your responses as we will not know which ones are yours.

**Who Can I Contact If I Have Questions?**

If you have questions, concerns or complaints about the research, wish more information, you can contact the Principal Investigator: Robert Esposito at [rme70@rutgers.edu](mailto:rme70@rutgers.edu).

If you have questions, concerns, problems, information or input about the research or would like to know your rights as a research participant, you can contact the Rutgers IRB/Human Research Protection Program via phone at (973) 972-3608 or (732) 235-9806 OR via email [irboffice@research.rutgers.edu](mailto:irboffice@research.rutgers.edu), or you can write us at 335 George Street, Liberty Plaza Suite 3200, New Brunswick, NJ 08901.

Please print out this consent form if you would like a copy of it for your files.

If you do not wish to take part in the research, close this website address. If you wish take part in the research, follow the directions below:

By beginning this research, I acknowledge that I am 18 years of age or older and have read and understand the information. I agree to take part in the research, with the knowledge that I am free to withdraw my participation in the research without penalty.

Click on the "I Agree" button to confirm your agreement to take part in the research.