Dear cadets,

Thanks again for participating in our experiment! It is a pleasure to have you here.

As a reminder, we included the information that we sent you earlier on the last page of this document. This explains the order in which you are expected to be at the different rooms of the sports hall. Here, we will explain what we are doing in this experiment.

You will receive some sequence on paper, which is similar to the one on the last page of this document. This paper includes your student number. Whenever a round number is called, you go to the room at which you are expected, which is denoted with the letter. Here you go in, and with your fellow students you stand in line, such that you are not able to see the experiment.

Every round of this experiment considers a round table, which is here marked on the floor. After you stand in line with all other participants in the room, you will – upon called by the experiment leader (who will tell which student number needs to be seated) – seat at the table one by one.

When your student number is called, you take a chair and put this chair somewhere around the table. When you are seated, you are not allowed to change your chair during that round. *The goal is to maximize the distances between you and the other participants in the final setup.* The final setup is the setup that occurs after all student numbers that have been invited to seat around the table are seated. The final setup is mostly not the setup that occurs after you have been seated, because there might be other students that are invited to get seated afterwards. This process will be repeated in each round, which will result in a number of separate final setups. For each round, we will invite a predetermined amount of people to take a seat around the table, where on average all possibilities occur equally. It might occur that at the first attempt 12 people are being invited to get seated, while with a second attempt we invite only 7 people. You will not know what this number is. Thus, you do not know how many people are invited to seat around the table after you are being seated, unless you are the last one. It is not allowed to discuss with your fellow students.

In case you have any questions about this experiment, you can now ask these.

To check whether you understood the exercise, we now have three questions for you. When you answered these questions right, you will receive the sequence in which you are expected to be at the different rooms of the sports hall. Please raise your hand when you are done, then one of us will come and check your answers.

***Question 1.*** Suppose you are invited to seat around the table, and the situation that you see is as follows. There are already 12 people around the table, who are all seated close to each other, and you are the last of your group. The first thing you noticed is that this might not have been the best strategy. But where do you get seated to achieve the goal of the experiment? Place a cross at this position.

***Question 2.*** Suppose that on your paper with round numbers, that you will receive later, equals the example below. Where do you go in round 4?

Room: ….

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Round |  |
| 1 | A |
| 2 | B |
| 3 | A |
| 4 | C |
| 5 | C |

***Question 3.*** Suppose that during the experiment you are invited as person number 8 to take a seat around the table. Is it possible that there is someone takes a seat after you? *Yes/No*

Lastly, we kindly request you to read and sign the attached form. This informed consent form explains your rights with respect to the experiment and explains which data we collect during the experiment.

[Attachment 1: previously sent information]

Dear cadets,

Thank you all to participate in our experiment!

While we cannot tell you anything about the content of the experiment, we would like to prepare you for the logistics of the experiment. The experiment takes place on **Tuesday April 26 from 13:00 – 17:00** in the sports hall. You need to wear sport shoes. We start the afternoon with an explanation of the experiment.

After this explanation, everyone will get a paper that shows round numbers, followed by a letter. The letters tell you at which room of the sports hall you are expected (the rooms of the sports hall that we use on this day will be denoted with letters). The first five lines of the paper could look like this:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Round |  |
| 1 | A |
| 2 | B |
| 3 | A |
| 4 | C |
| 5 | C |

This means that in round 1, you are expected to be in room A of the sports hall. In round number 2, you are then expected to be in room B of the sports hall. The remainder follows similarly.

Further explanation will follow on Tuesday April 26 at 13:00. In case you have any additional questions about this logistics, you can contact me (no further questions about the experiment itself will be answered).

Kind regards,

The experiment leaders.