

Knowing Versus Believing:

The Effects Evidentials and Authority Have on Certainty

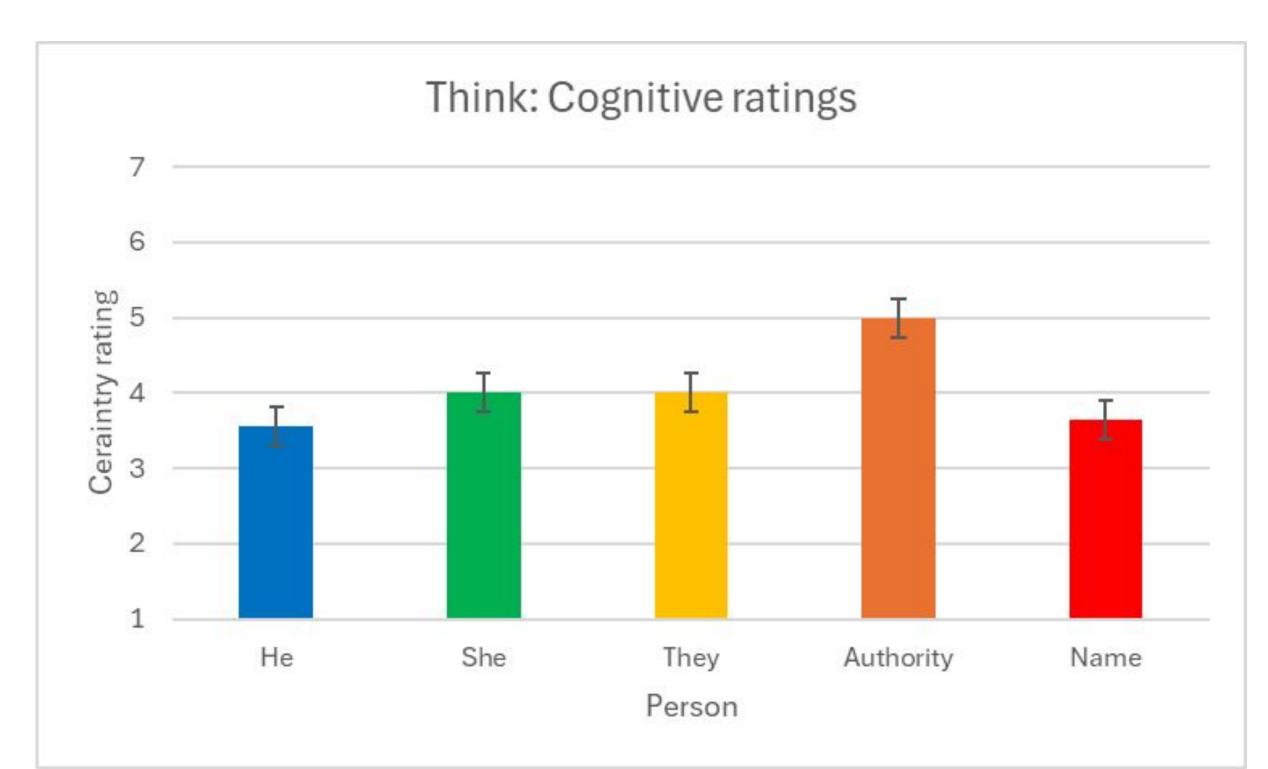


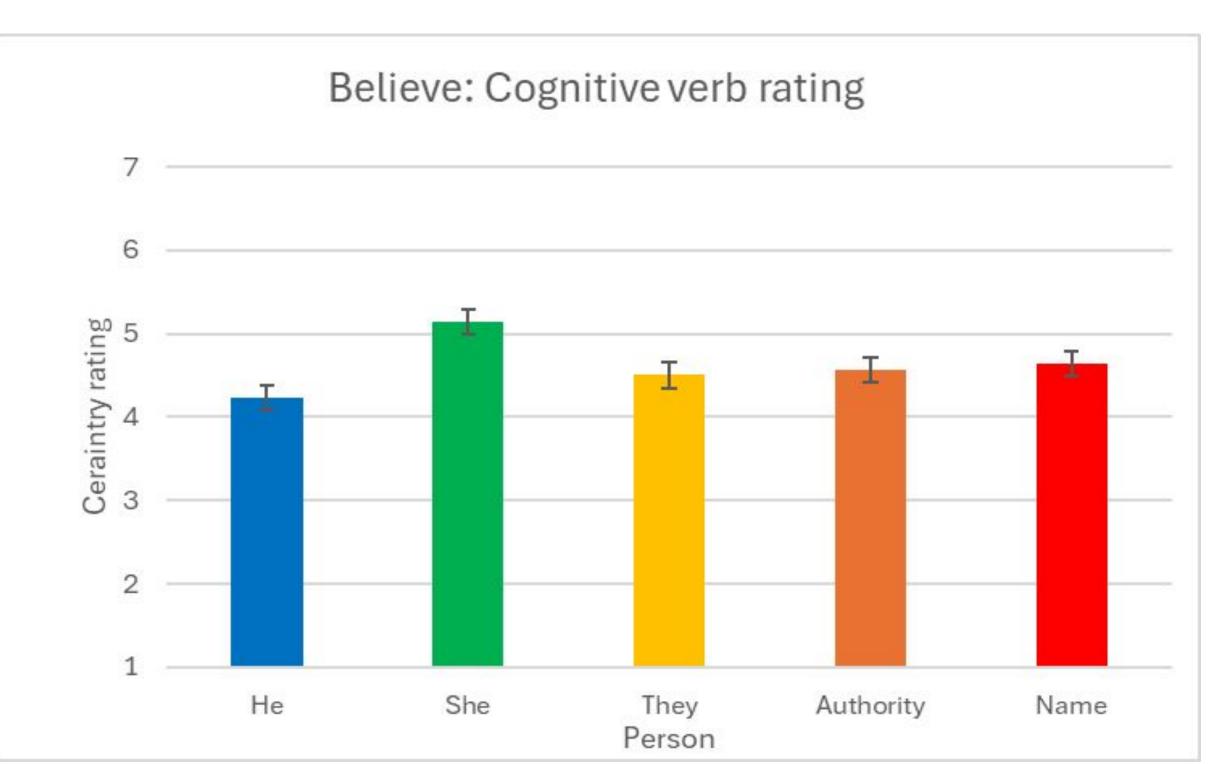
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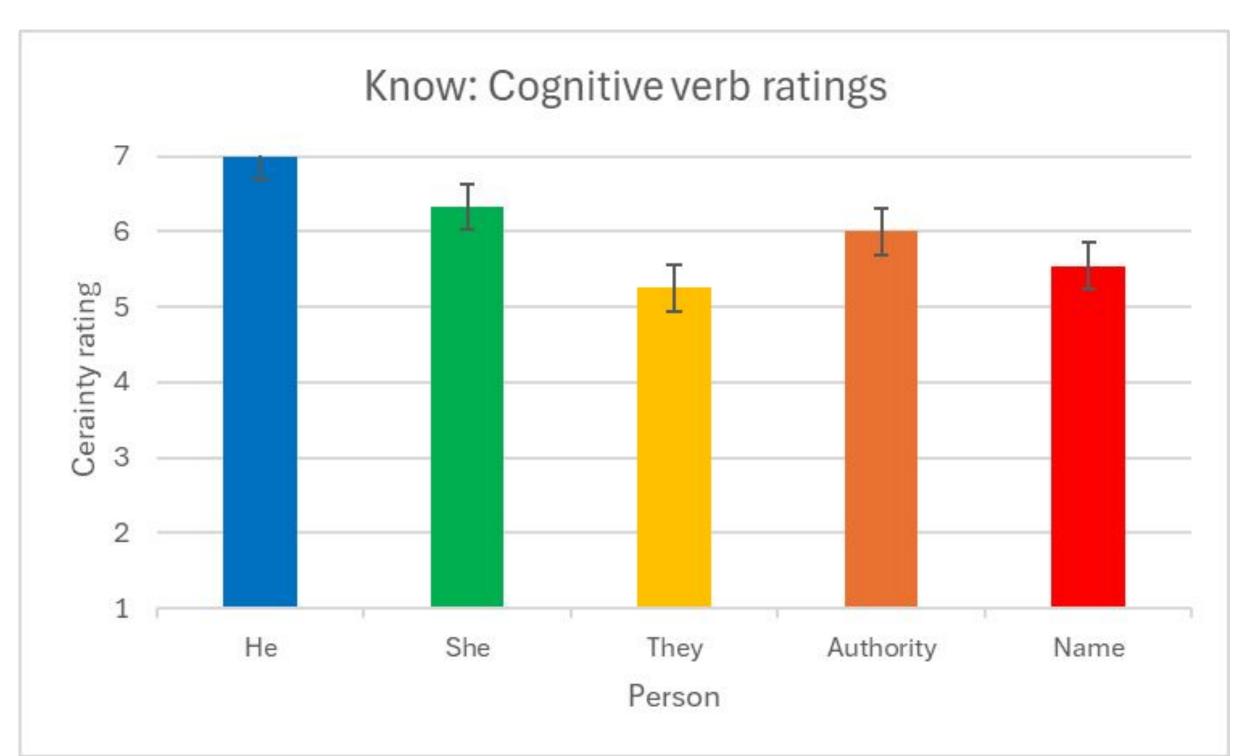
Background

- Semantic gradable adjectives are words like *tall* and *short*, and are dependent on the context they are in (Kennedy & McNally, 2005).
- Cognitive verbs inform the recipient about the credibility of the information offered (Abrusán, 2008).
- Authority figures are also thought to modify certainty via their credibility (Chan et al., 2014; Noroozi, 2023)

Person ratings 7 6 When the she they Authority Name Control Person



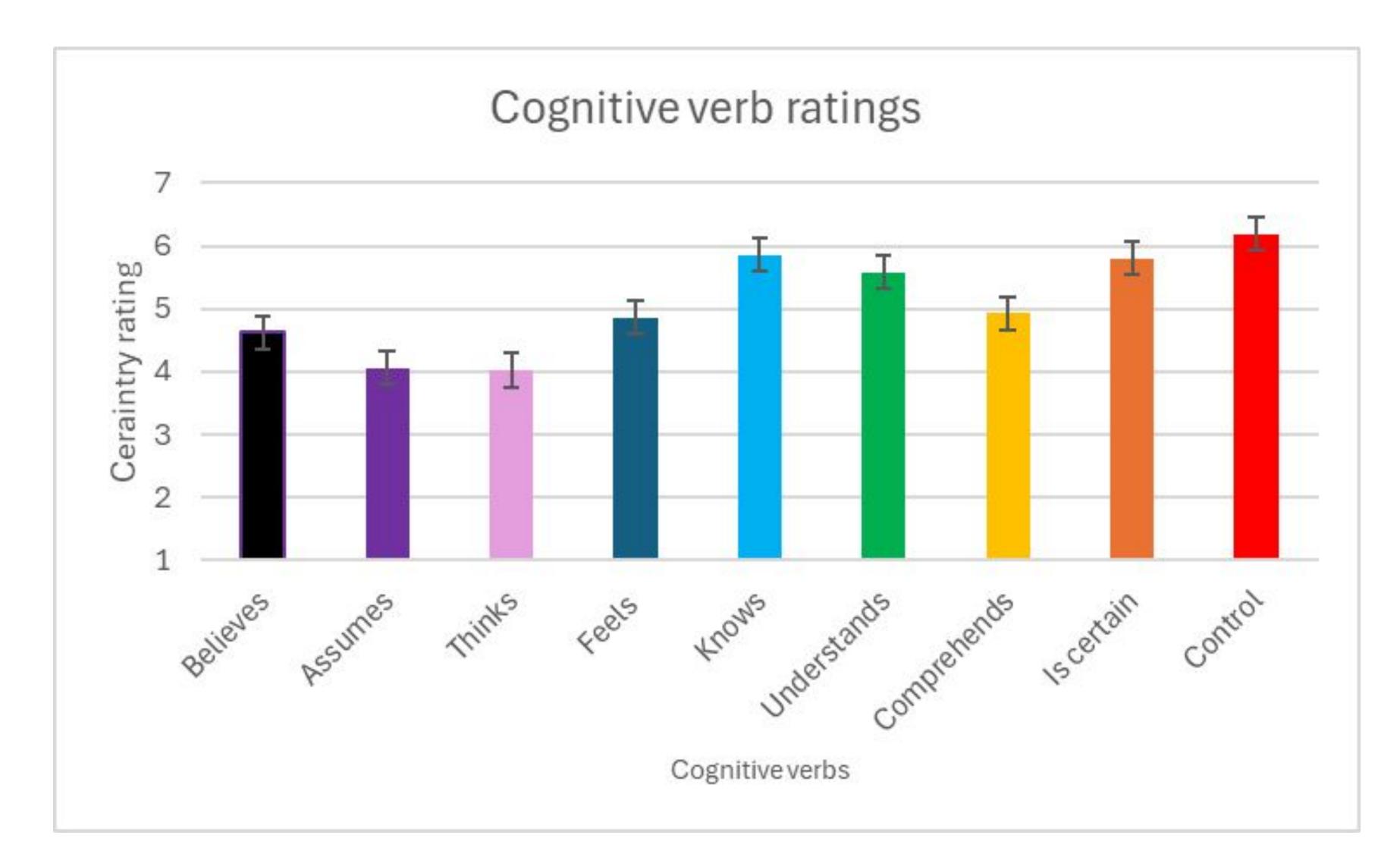




Cognitive verbs

Think	Believe	Know
HedgeLessenimpact&rebuttal	- Booster - Express thoughts	BoosterAssumestruthDisplayempathy

Please contact Will Ervin wtervin@ilstu.edu with questions



Results

- Booster cognitive verbs →
 higher ratings
- Hedging cognitive verbs →
 lower ratings
- Authority & pronoun → higher ratings
- Gender neutral names and they
 (non-binary) → lower ratings
- Name was the source of the interaction

Future Directions

- We have removed the variables he, she, they, and names.
- We have added additional measures.
- Future work will investigate gender and how it interacts with cognitive verbs and gradable adjectives.

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