ACE Post-Instruction Experimenter Protocol

Once the participant has indicated that they have completed the instruction slides, you will ask them a series of questions to make sure that they understand the instructions. A suggested script for the experimenter is presented below (with text in **boldface** indicating suggested wording of questions, and the points below each question indicating how to proceed with the protocol).

Experimenter:

**I am going to ask you a few questions now to make sure you understand the instructions. You will see the “start” screen on the monitor during the task. Can you show me what you need to do to start the trial?**

-- After asking the question, wait for the participant to press and hold down the “start” key.

-- If the participant does not press down the “start” key, tell them what they need to do, and have them demonstrate it.

-- If the participant presses the “start” key, but does not hold it down, remind them that they need to press *and hold down* the key. Ask the participant to show you again, so you are sure that they understand what has to be done.

**Great! Now, imagine that you are listening to a sentence that makes sense. Press and hold down the “start” key. If you see a black square on the screen, how do you respond to indicate that the sentence is sensible?**

-- After asking the question, wait for the participant to go through the proper response sequence (hold down the start key, lift off and press the black key).

-- If the participant makes an error in the response, correct them and have them demonstrate the proper actions again.

**Next, I want you to imagine that you are listening to another sentence that makes sense. Press and hold down the “start” key. If you see a grey square on the screen, how do you respond to indicate that the sentence is sensible?**

-- After asking the question, wait for the participant to go through the proper response sequence (hold down the start key, lift off and press the grey key).

-- If the participant makes an error in the response, correct them and have them demonstrate the proper actions again.

**When you make your responses, remember to respond as quickly and accurately as you can.**

**Finally, I want you to imagine that you are listening to a sentence that does not make sense. Press and hold down the start key. If you see a grey or black square on the screen, can you show me what you do to indicate that the sentence does not make sense?**

-- After asking the question, wait for the participant to continue holding down the “start” button. They might say, “I wait for the square to disappear and then I can release the button” or something like that.

-- If the participant does anything else (e.g., pressing the grey or black response keys), correct them and make sure that they know that they are to hold down the “start” key until the square disappears if the sentence does not make sense.

**Now that you have the instructions down, you are going to start the experiment. When I start the computer program, you will have a little bit of practice making the responses before the task begins. Do you have any questions?**

-- Answer any remaining questions that the participant has, and start the program.