



# How do we get to know someone?

## Diagnostic questions for inferring personal traits



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### EXPERIMENT 1

People make consistent evaluations of a question's interpersonal depth

#### METHODS

##### Question Corpus

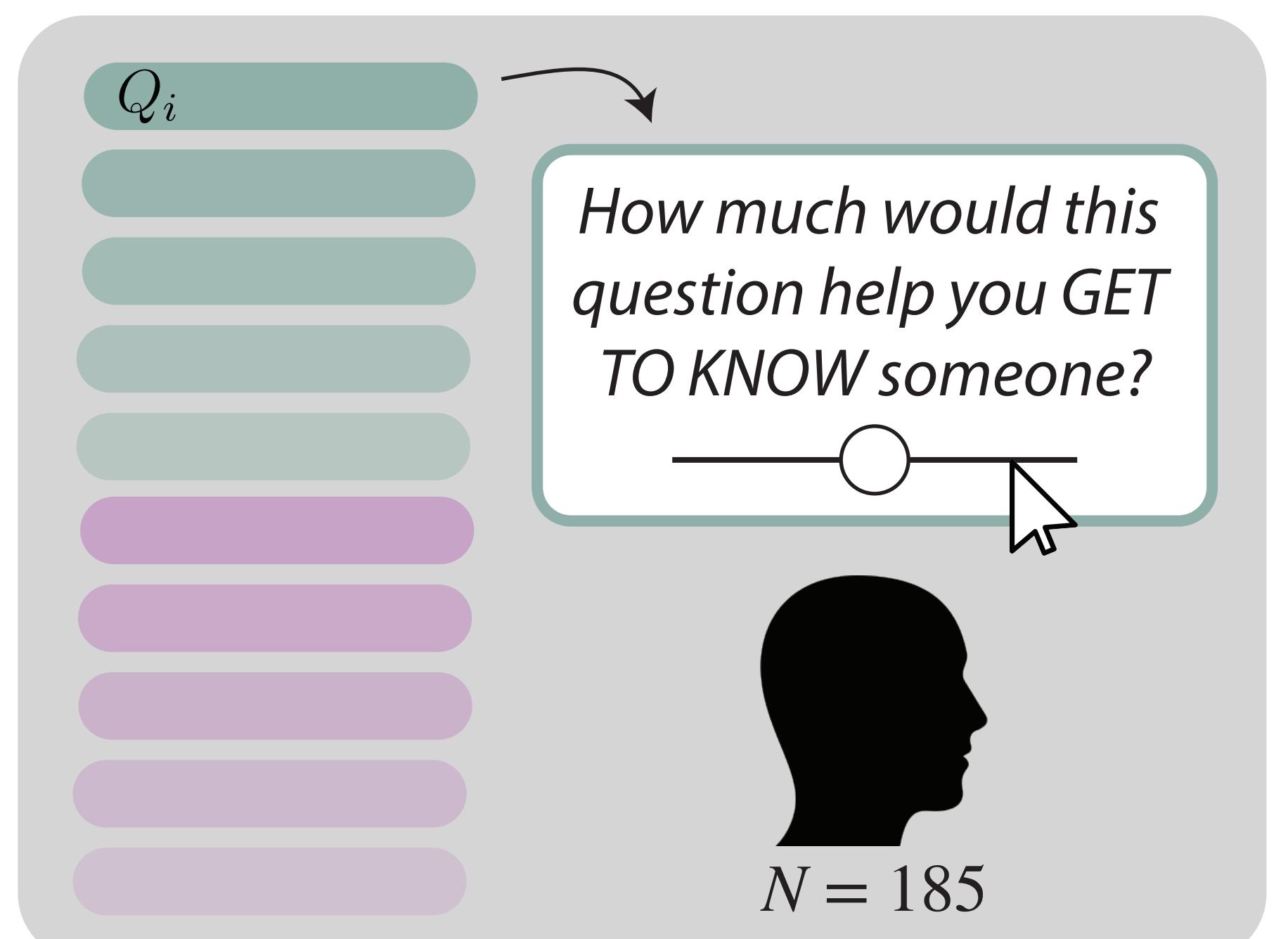
We developed a corpus of open-ended *personal* & *small talk* questions.

**110**  
*small talk*  
questions

**125**  
*personal*  
questions

##### Question Evaluations

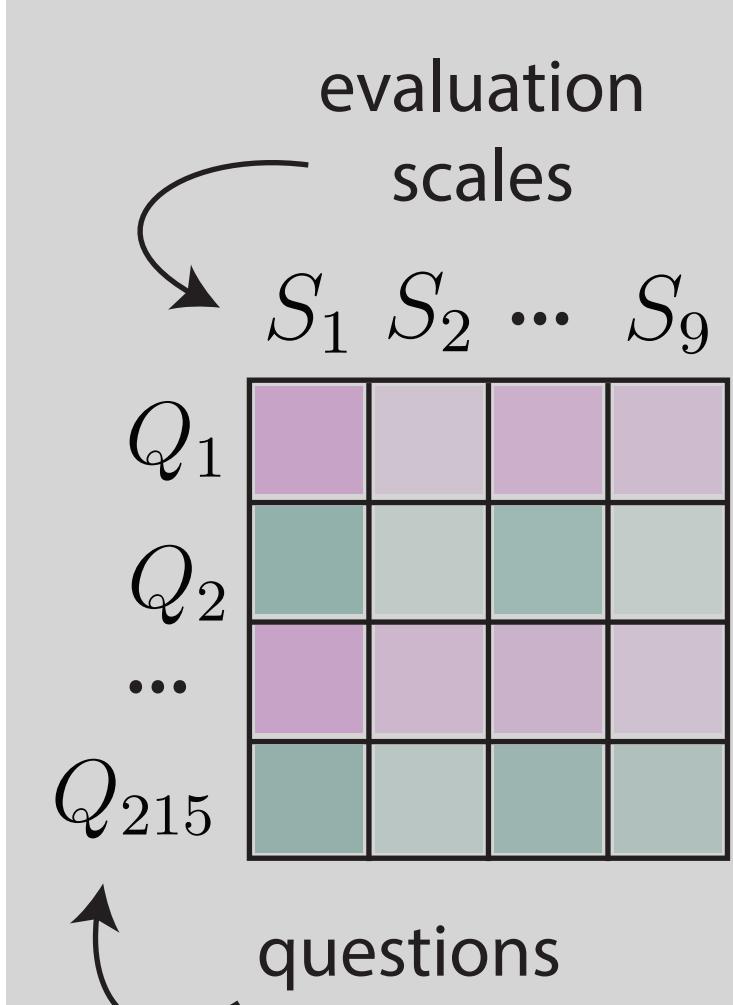
Participants were shown 5 questions from each category. They rated each question on 9 evaluation scales.



#### RESULTS

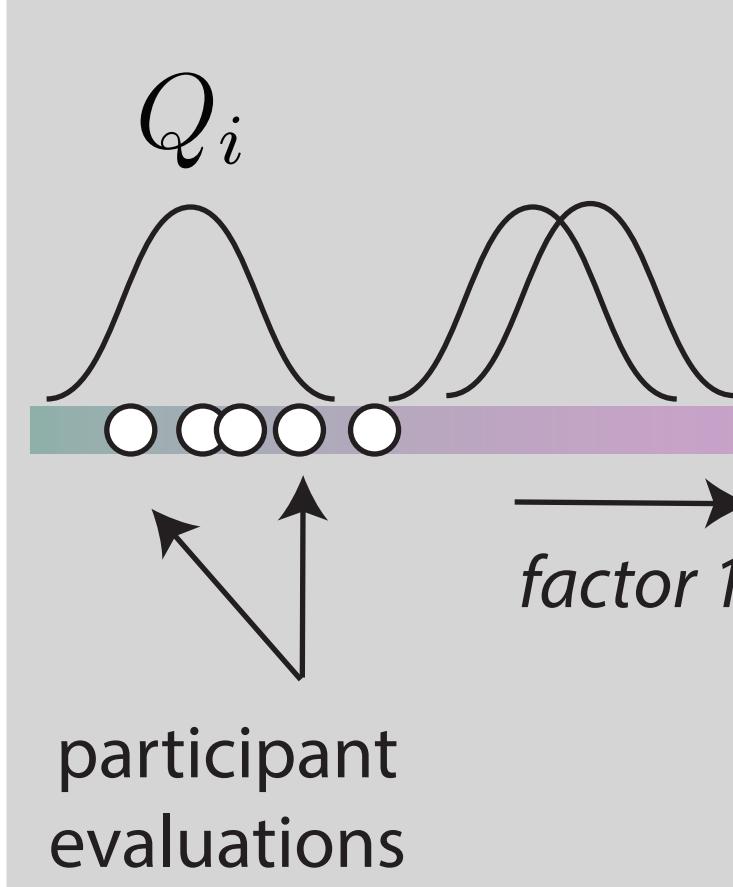
Question evaluations were similar across scales

Extract latent dimensions from question evaluations



Question evaluations were consistent across people

Analyze agreement along latent dimensions



### EXPERIMENT 2

People make accurate inferences about a speaker based on their responses

#### METHODS

##### Targeted Questions

We selected the highest & lowest *interpersonal depth* Qs from Experiment 1.

**6 small talk**  
questions

**6 personal**  
questions

##### Question Responses & Personality Scales

Participants responded to 3 *small talk* & 3 *personal* questions, & provided self-ratings for 60 personality scale questions.

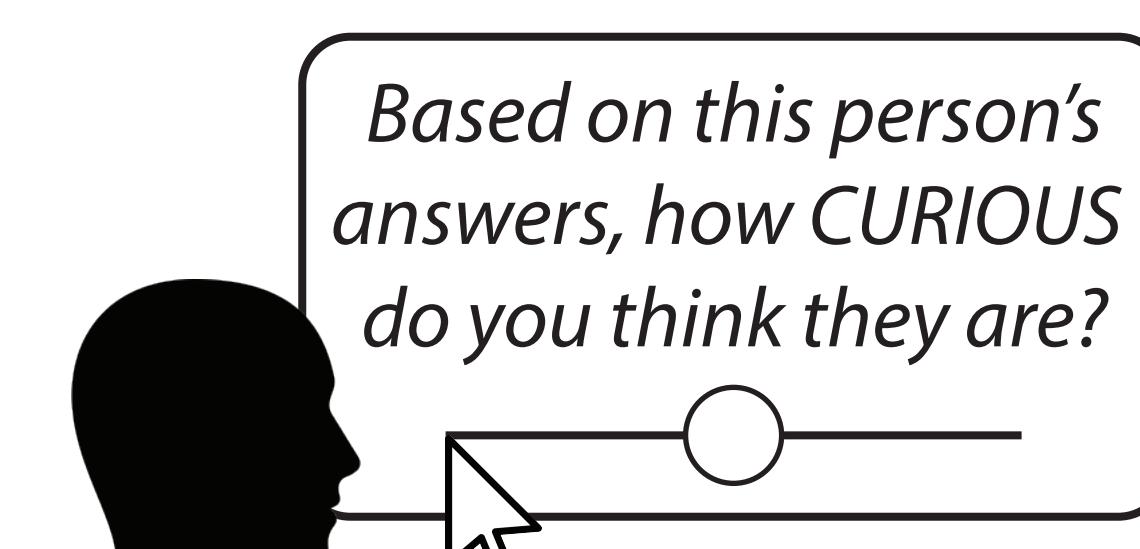
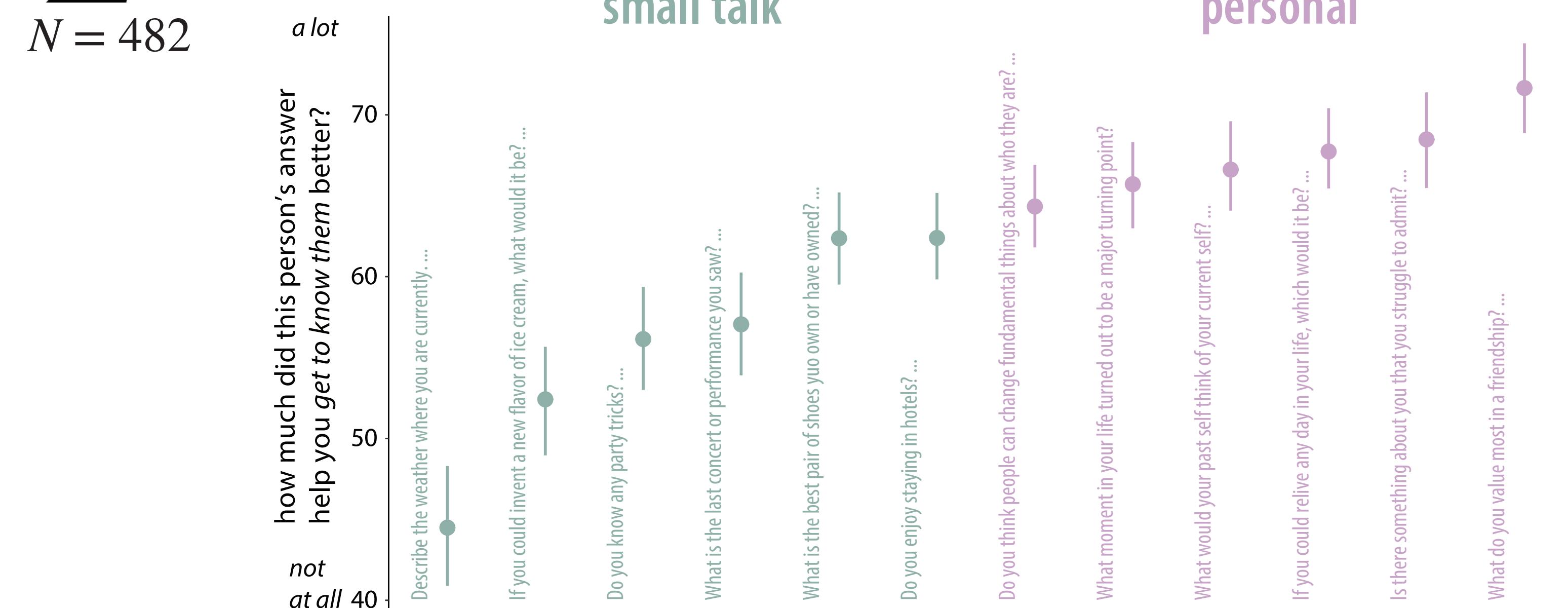
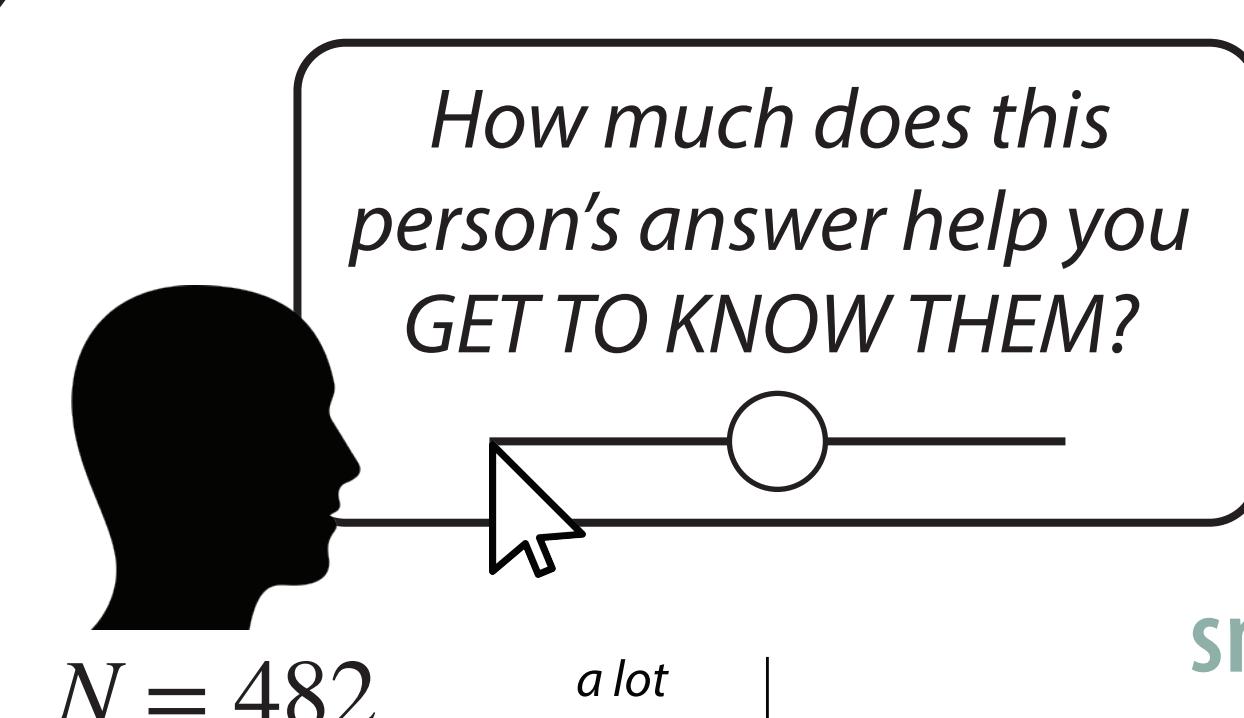
I see myself as someone who... is CURIOUS

My favorite color is I

N = 188

#### RESULTS

Question responses reflect question depth



Responses contain information about a speaker's personality

