



Participant Information Sheet

The title of the research project

User Evaluation of Computationally Generated Narrative Dialogues

Invitation to take part

You are being invited to take part in a research project. Before you decide it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part.

What is the purpose of the project?

The goal of this experiment is to evaluating the quality of dialogues generated with narrative-based knowledge. Particularly, the impact of adding different character personality settings on the narrative quality will be evaluated during the survey.

The main method in this project is assigning participants several pieces of dialogue to read and answer questions regarding to the dialogues in a provided survey.

Why have I been chosen?

There is no specific target participants requirement, every well-educated person who is a competent user in English is welcomed to join the survey.

Do I have to take part?

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part, you will be given this information sheet to read and be asked to check the checkbox for confirming the participant agreement. We want you to understand what participation involves, before you make a decision on whether to participate.

If you or any family member have an on-going relationship with BU or the research team, e.g. as a member of staff, as student or other service user, your decision on whether to take part (or continue to take part) will not affect this relationship in any way.

Can I change my mind about taking part?

Yes, you can stop participating in study activities at any time and without giving a reason.

If I change my mind, what happens to my information?

After you decide to withdraw from the study, we will not collect any further information from or about you.

As regards information we have already collected before this point, your rights to access, change or move that information are limited. This is because we need to manage your information in specific ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate. Further explanation about this is in the Personal Information section below.

Anonymized data (survey responses) will be stored until the end of result analysis phase (the end of September 2020).

What would taking part involve?

The participants will be asked to read several pieces of dialogue, and answer 8 questions for each piece of dialogue by their own judgement on the dialogue content.

What are the advantages and possible disadvantages or risks of taking part?

Whilst there are no immediate benefits to you participating in the project, it is hoped that with this work we will draw some conclusions and come up new knowledge with your sincere and kind answers.

Whilst we do not anticipate any risks to you in taking part in this study, you may feel exhausted or tedious since the questions for each dialogue are the same.

What type of information will be sought from me and why is the collection of this information relevant for achieving the research project's objectives?

Only the answers (choices for questions) that the participants made will be collected, which reflect the views on the dialogues from human.

Will I be recorded, and how will the recorded media be used?

There is no audio or video recording or photographing activity during the whole survey.

How will my information be managed?

Bournemouth University (BU) is the organisation with overall responsibility for this study and the Data Controller of your personal information, which means that we are responsible for looking after your information and using it appropriately. Research is a task that we perform in the public interest, as part of our core function as a university.

Undertaking this research study involves collecting and/or generating information about you. We manage research data strictly in accordance with:

- Ethical requirements; and
- Current data protection laws. These control use of information about identifiable individuals, but do not apply to anonymous research data: "anonymous" means that we have either removed or not collected any pieces of data or links to other data which identify a specific person as the subject or source of a research result.

BU's [Research Participant Privacy Notice](#) sets out more information about how we fulfil our responsibilities as a data controller and about your rights as an individual under the data protection legislation. We ask you to read this Notice so that you can fully understand the basis on which we will process your personal information.

Research data will be used only for the purposes of the study or related uses identified in the Privacy Notice or this Information Sheet. To safeguard your rights in relation to your personal information, we will use the minimum personally-identifiable information possible and control access to that data as described below.

Publication

You will not be able to be identified in any external reports or publications about the research without your specific consent. Otherwise your information will only be included in these materials in an anonymous form, i.e. you will not be identifiable.

Research results will be published as statistics in researcher's thesis and/or conference submission(s).

Security and access controls

BU will hold the information we collect about you in hard copy in a secure location and on a BU password protected secure network where held electronically.

Personal information which has not been anonymised will be accessed and used only by appropriate, authorised individuals and when this is necessary for the purposes of the research or another purpose identified in the Privacy Notice. This may include giving access to BU staff or others responsible for monitoring and/or audit of the study, who need to ensure that the research is complying with applicable regulations.

Sharing your personal information with third parties

Only the researcher will have access to the raw data.

Further use of your information

The information collected about you may be used in an anonymous form to support other research projects in the future and access to it in this form will not be restricted. It will not be possible for you to be identified from this data.

Keeping your information if you withdraw from the study

If you withdraw from active participation in the study, we will keep information which we have already collected from or about you, if this has on-going relevance or value to the study. This may include your personal identifiable information. As explained above, your legal rights to access, change, delete or move this information are limited as we need to manage your information in specific ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate. However if you have concerns about how this will affect you personally, you can raise these with the research team when you withdraw from the study.

You can find out more about your rights in relation to your data and how to raise queries or complaints in our Privacy Notice.

Retention of research data

Project governance documentation, including copies of signed **participant agreements**: we keep this documentation for a long period after completion of the research, so that we have records of how we conducted the research and who took part. The only personal information in this documentation will be your name and signature, and we will not be able to link this to any anonymised research results.

Note: The description above is a normal case of participant agreements. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the digital participant agreements are provided on the welcome page of the survey as well as a checkbox provided for confirming the agreements by checking the checkbox.

Research results:

As described above, during the course of the study we will anonymise the information we have collected about you as an individual. This means that we will not hold your personal information in identifiable form after we have completed the research activities. All the results will be analysed and presented as statistics, which does not contain any identifiable personal information nor individual preferable selection.

You can find more specific information about retention periods for personal information in our Privacy Notice.

We keep anonymised research data indefinitely, so that it can be used for other research as described above.

Contact for further information

If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Weilai Xu, PGR student from Creative Technology, Science and Technology. wxu@bournemouth.ac.uk.

In case of complaints

Any concerns about the study should be directed to Professor Tiantian Zhang, Faculty of Science and Technology, Bournemouth University by email to researchgovernance@bournemouth.ac.uk.

Finally

If you decide to take part, you will be given a copy of the information sheet and a signed participant agreement form to keep.

Thank you for considering taking part in this research project.