

University of California, Irvine Study Design and Procedures

Adjective Ordering Preferences Survey

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Setting and Mode: We will be asking participants for their intuitions about adjective phrases. This survey will be administered to adults via a web browser connected to a server (e.g. Mechanical Turk) and distributed to interested individuals through other social media sites (e.g. Facebook).

Approximate Duration: The experiment will take approximately 2.5 minutes to complete.

Recruitment Information: When we post a link for our experiment on a social media website (e.g. Facebook) the accompanying message will be:

“Want to help increase our scientific understanding of language? If so, participate in a short online study at [insert link here].”

The following outlines the procedures of the survey:

1. Participants will see the study information sheet on their web browser, and if they decide to continue, will proceed with the survey as described below.
2. Participants will see an instruction slide next, which briefly explains the survey. They will be informed that the initial trials are practice trials to familiarize them with the procedure. The instruction slide will contain information as follows:

Progress:

Instructions

You will see 26 adjectives. For each adjective, your task is to determine how subjective it is.

[Continue](#)

3. Participants will then be presented with a word and asked to slide a bar at the bottom of the page indicating how subjective they find that word, as in this example:

Progress:

Consider the following adjective:

dead

How subjective is the adjective "dead"?

completely objective  completely subjective

[Continue](#)

4. After all the trials, participants will be asked to complete a voluntary participant information page. No personally-identifying information will be gathered. They will be asked about their gender, age, native-language proficiency, level of education, enjoyment of the HIT, meta-awareness of the researchers' hypothesis, and any additional comments they have about the experiment.