

Everyday Thoughts in Time: ESM Protocol (Study 1)

[blocker in case of already registered response: Thanks, you already replied to this signal for this day.]

What was in your mind just before the signal came? (check all that apply)

- ☐ receiving information from the world (e.g., conversation, watching/listening to media)
- ☐ expressing or communicating information (e.g., talking, typing, writing, singing, etc.)
- ☐ private thoughts (e.g., thinking, daydreaming, mindwandering, problem solving, ruminating)
- ☐ no thoughts (e.g., zoning out, trance state)

Who were you with when the signal came?

- ☐ no one; I was alone
- ☐ interacting with people
- ☐ others are present but not interacting with me
- ☐ interacting with others elsewhere

How happy/sad do you feel right now? (7-point slider from very sad [-3] to very happy [+3], example below)



How excited/relaxed do you feel right now? (7-point slider from very relaxed to very excited)

How angry/frustrated do you feel right now? (5-point slider from not at all [0] to very angry [4])

How anxious do you feel right now? (5-point slider from not at all [0] to very anxious [4])

How disappointed do you feel right now? (5-point slider from not at all [0] to very disappointed [4])

How surprised do you feel right now? (5-point slider from not at all [0] to very surprised [4])

How wanting/desirous of certain things do you feel right now? (5-point slider from not at all [0] to very wanting [4])

To what extent were your last thoughts before the signal ...

... focused on yourself versus other people? (7-point slider from myself [-3] to other people [+3])

... meaningful versus shallow? (7-point slider from very shallow [-3] to very meaningful [+3])

... under your control? (7-point slider from very low control [-3] to very high control [+3])

When the signal came, were your thoughts about: (check all that apply)

- ☐ the past (beyond 5 minutes ago)
- ☐ the present, now (within the current 5 minutes)
- ☐ the future (beyond 5 minutes hence)
- ☐ no time aspect

Branching if "the past" is selected

Do your thoughts about the past include (check all that apply):

- ☐ self
- ☐ others
- ☐ no specific person

Which time span did you think about when thinking about the past? (check all that apply)

- ☐ earlier today
- ☐ yesterday
- ☐ a few days ago
- ☐ 1-4 weeks ago
- ☐ 1-12 months ago
- ☐ more than a year ago
- ☐ more than 10 years ago
- ☐ before you were born

What describes your thoughts/emotions about the past? (check all that apply)

- ☐ regret
- ☐ replaying thoughts over and over
- ☐ happy
- ☐ sad
- ☐ disappointed
- ☐ nostalgia (appreciating / bittersweet about the past)
- ☐ proud
- ☐ relieved
- ☐ angry
- ☐ trying to make sense of it / understand
- ☐ what might have been / should have happened
- ☐ remembering a prior lesson or lesson learned
- ☐ how to deal with past event (e.g., fix problem)
- ☐ implications of the past for the future
- ☐ other (please specify): _____

Branching if “the present” is selected

Do your thoughts about the present include (check all that apply):

- ☐ self
- ☐ others
- ☐ no specific person

What describes your thoughts about the present? (check all that apply)

- ☐ enjoying, savoring
- ☐ surprised
- ☐ trying to figure out what is going on
- ☐ doing what I intend to do / what I am supposed to do
- ☐ bored
- ☐ getting through it
- ☐ controlling myself / inner struggle
- ☐ working through a problem
- ☐ struggle with other people
- ☐ trying to get what I want/need
- ☐ deciding/choosing
- ☐ how I look or seem to others
- ☐ feeling sorry for myself
- ☐ how things could or should be different
- ☐ enjoying the presence of other people
- ☐ paying attention/zeroed in on what I am doing
- ☐ implications of the present for the future
- ☐ other (please specify): _____

Branching if “the future” is selected

Do your thoughts about the future include (check all that apply):

- ☐ self
- ☐ others
- ☐ no specific person

Which time span did you think about when thinking about the future? (check all that apply)

- ☐ later today
- ☐ tomorrow
- ☐ a few days from now
- ☐ 1-4 weeks from now
- ☐ 1-12 months from now
- ☐ more than a year from now
- ☐ more than 10 years from now
- ☐ more than 50 years from now
- ☐ after life

What describes your thoughts about the future? (check all that apply)

- ☐ planning
- ☐ imagining
- ☐ what other people will do
- ☐ intending
- ☐ what I will do
- ☐ what you are obliged to do
- ☐ what you hope to do
- ☐ what you hope will happen
- ☐ what you fear will happen
- ☐ worries
- ☐ wondering what will happen
- ☐ possible future emotions or expected emotions
- ☐ what you will say or write
- ☐ choosing/deciding among future options
- ☐ other (please specify): _____

How much do you think the future events you thought about are under your control? (7-point slider from not at all [0] to very much [6])

Note: The below checklist was displayed/branched on a randomly selected 60% of occasions

Check all that apply to the thoughts you were having just before the signal came:

- ☐ wanting something
- ☐ how I look or seem to others
- ☐ thinking about myself
- ☐ other people
- ☐ planning the future, strategizing
- ☐ repeating / going over thoughts again and again
- ☐ trying NOT to think about something
- ☐ making a choice decision
- ☐ thinking about feedback - giving it or having received it
- ☐ trying to get through this
- ☐ listening, following, or reading
- ☐ what to say (real or imaginary)
- ☐ surprising or unexpected events
- ☐ funny or amusing thoughts
- ☐ money or finances
- ☐ morals, fairness, justice: right or wrong
- ☐ health, wellness, or pain (your own, or others)
- ☐ obligation or duties
- ☐ doing/thinking about work
- ☐ worry
- ☐ feeling sorry for myself
- ☐ death
- ☐ creative thought, imagination

- ☐ erotic thoughts
- ☐ other (please specify): _____

[Overall thought rating and state measures]

Altogether, to what extent were your thoughts about something pleasant/unpleasant? (7-point slider from very unpleasant [-3] to very pleasant [+3])

How involved are you with what is happening right now? (7-point slider from totally detached [0] to totally absorbed [+3])

How satisfied with your life are you right now? (7-point slider from not at all [0] to very much [6])

How mentally exhausted do you feel right now? (7-point slider from not at all [0] to very much [6])

How stressed are you right now? (7-point slider from not at all [0] to very much [6])

Have you had any alcohol or drugs?

- ☐ none
- ☐ little
- ☐ some
- ☐ a lot

How distracted were you by your surroundings when you filled out this survey? (7-point slider from not at all [0] to very much [6])

Everyday Thoughts in Time: List of Survey Measures (Study 1)

Brief Big Five Scale	Gosling et al., 2003
Need for closure	Houghton & Grewal, 2000
Trait self-control	Tangney et al., 2003
Self-esteem	Rosenberg, 1965
Narcissism	Campbell et al., 2004
Rumination	Trapnell & Campbell, 1999
Depression	Beck et al., 1996
Optimism	Scheier et al., 1994
Life satisfaction	Diener et al., 1985
Loneliness	Russell, 1996
Importance of money	Mitchell & Mickel, 1999
Time Perspective Inventory	Zimbardo & Boyd, 1999
Feeling duped	Preuss & Stillman, 2017*

* Preuss, G. & Stillman, T. (2017). Fool me once, shame on me: The development and validation of a measure of sucker rumination. Unpublished manuscript, Washburn University, Topeka, KS.