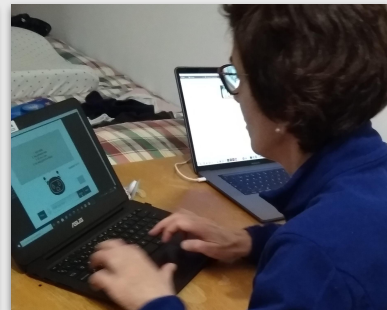


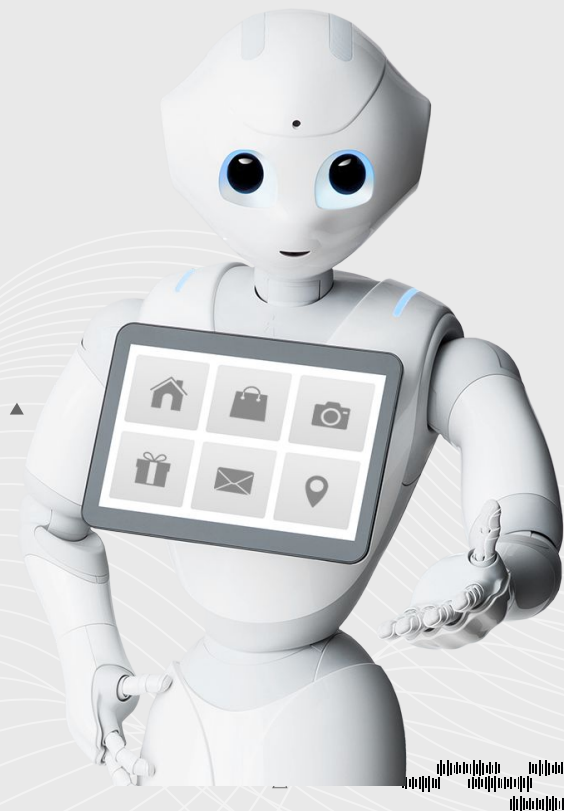
Language Learning Robot

Cognitive Interaction with Robotics
Course Project 2020-21



Introduction

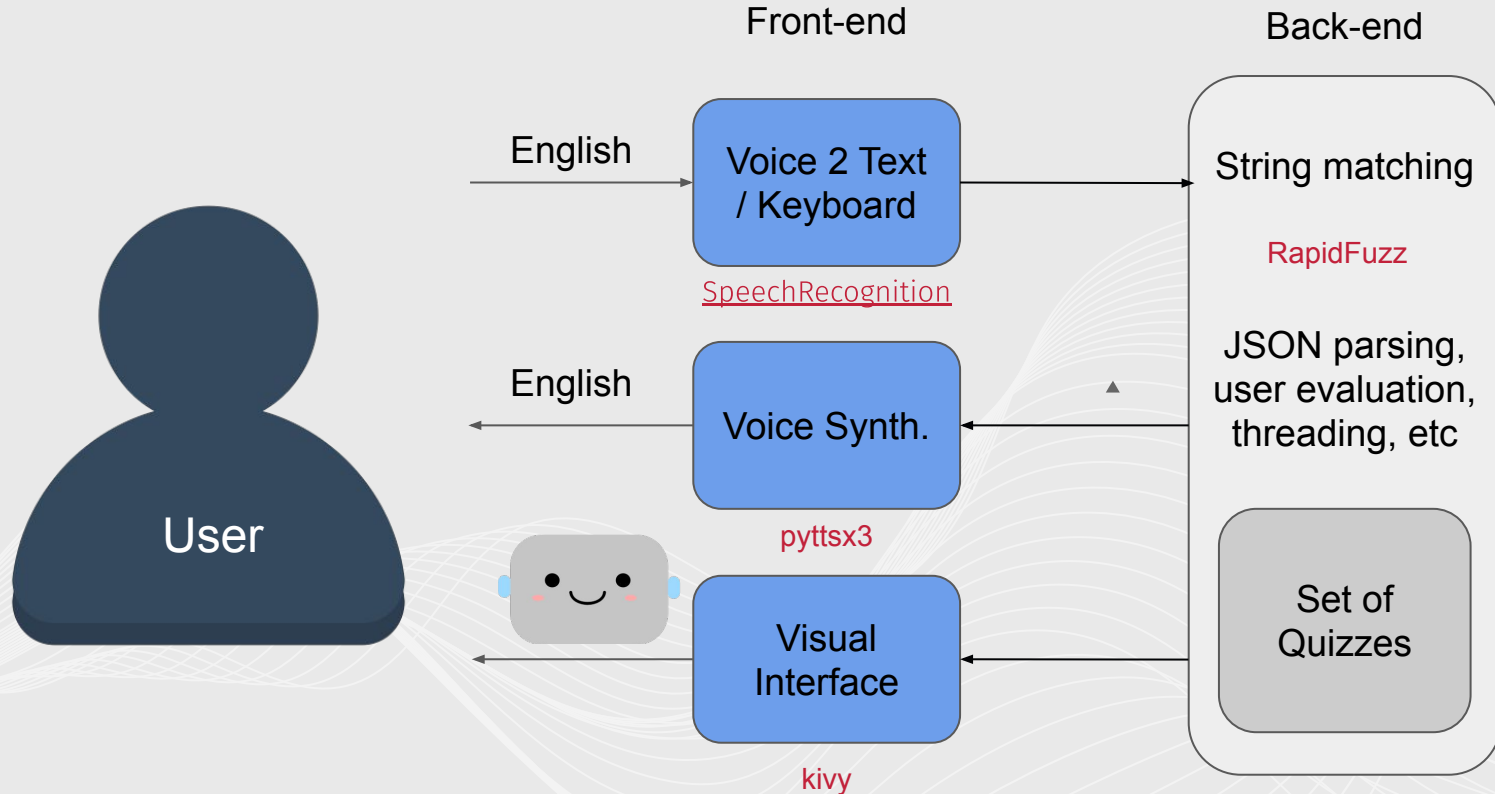
- Learning is a challenging and often boring task.
- How can the interaction between an AI and user be an asset to make a better learning experience ?
- Develop a proof-of-concept robotic language teaching system.
- Evaluate what makes Human-Robot-Interaction engaging.



Hypotheses

- I. Do users prefer to learn a language using voice interfaces over keyboard interfaces?
- II. The older the user is, the more important vocal interaction is when using technology.
- III. If the robot shows emotion, the experience becomes more enjoyable.

Software System Overview



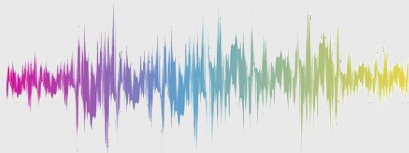
Voice Recognition and Answer Matching

1. Ask question verbally

"Do we know what happened to Nancy yesterday?"

Pytttsx3

2. Microphone input processing



"She said felt passed"

SpeechRecognition

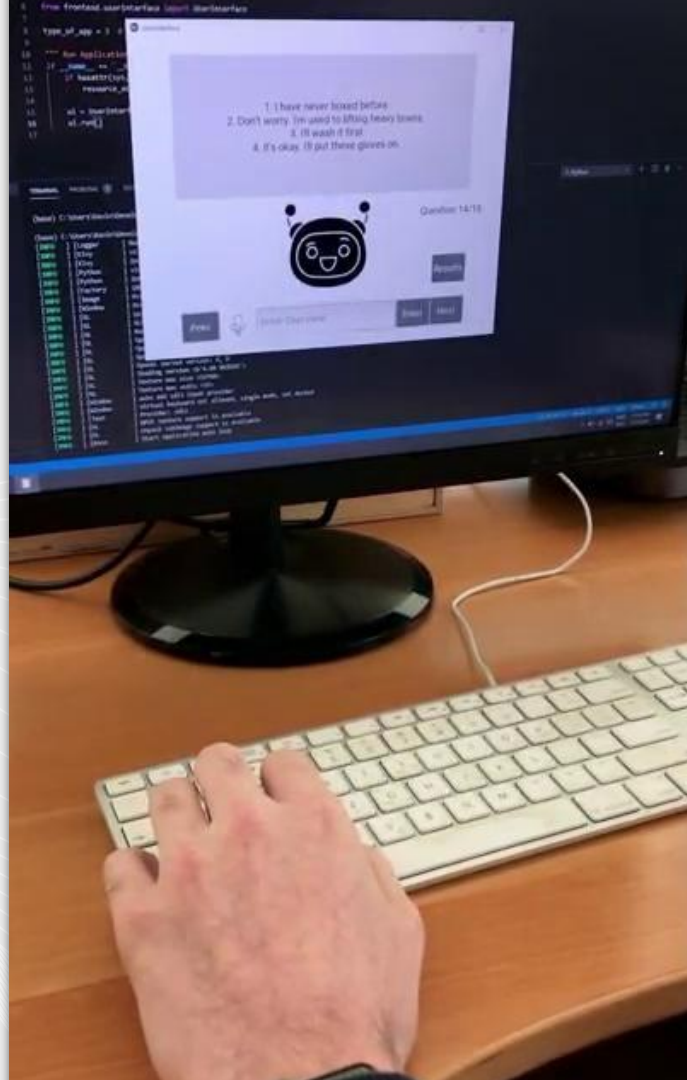
Google Web Speech API
based on LSTM NN

3. String matching

- | | | P(x) |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. | "She wrote down a list of instructions.", | 0.1 |
| 2. | "They say she retired last week.", | 0.3 |
| 3. | "She said she felt a pain in her chest, then passed out.", | 0.5 |
| 4. | "I will see her tomorrow." | 0.1 |

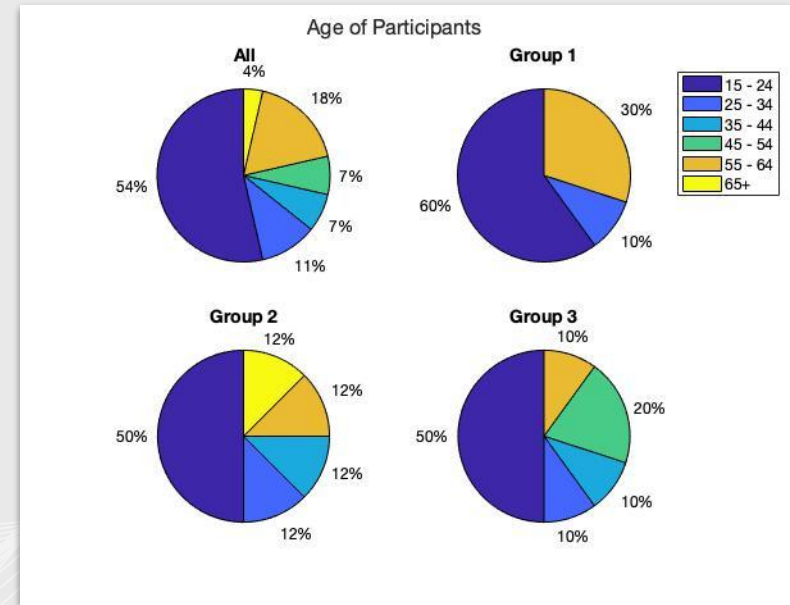
RapidFuzz based
on Levenshtein
distance

Demo



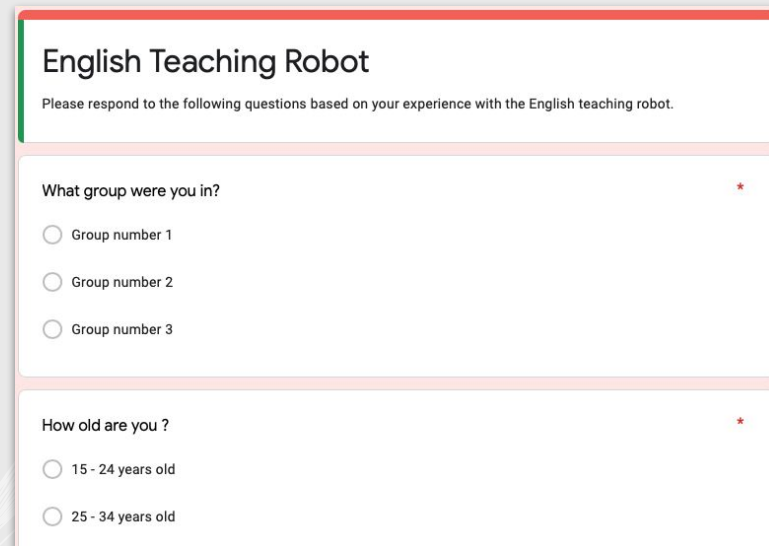
Experiment

- 3 Groups of ca. 10 participants each
 - Speech input only (Gr. 1)
 - Keyboard input only (Gr. 2)
 - Both input methods (Gr. 3)
- Ages distributed across groups
- 11 Female, 17 Male
- Complete 15 oral comprehension questions with robot
- Complete Questionnaire



Questionnaire

- Questionnaire based on [1, 2]
 - 4 questions about participants
 - 11 questions for hypotheses
 - 3 free text responses
- Google Forms
 - Link provided by robot upon completion
- Statistical Evaluation in Matlab / Python



The screenshot shows a Google Form titled "English Teaching Robot". Below the title is a subtitle: "Please respond to the following questions based on your experience with the English teaching robot." The form contains two visible questions, both marked with a red asterisk indicating they are required.

English Teaching Robot
Please respond to the following questions based on your experience with the English teaching robot.

What group were you in? *

- ☐ Group number 1
- ☐ Group number 2
- ☐ Group number 3

How old are you ? *

- ☐ 15 - 24 years old
- ☐ 25 - 34 years old

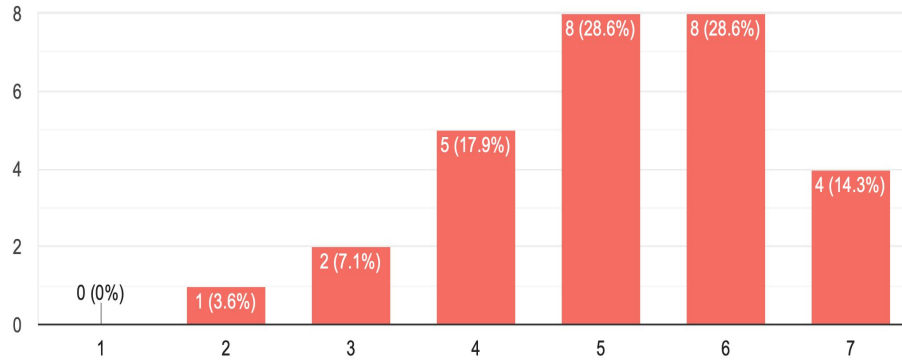
1. Short, E. et al. [No Fair!!An Interaction with a Cheating Robot](#)
2. Bainbridge et al. [The effect on presence on human-Robot interaction](#)



General Information

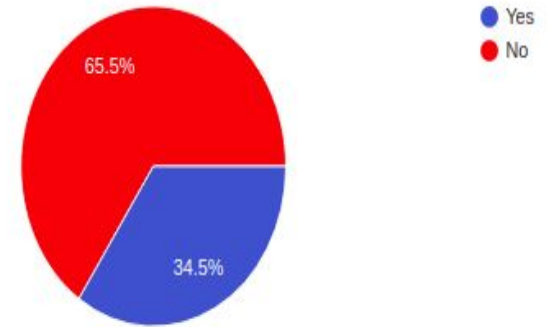
How much did you enjoy the experiment?

28 responses



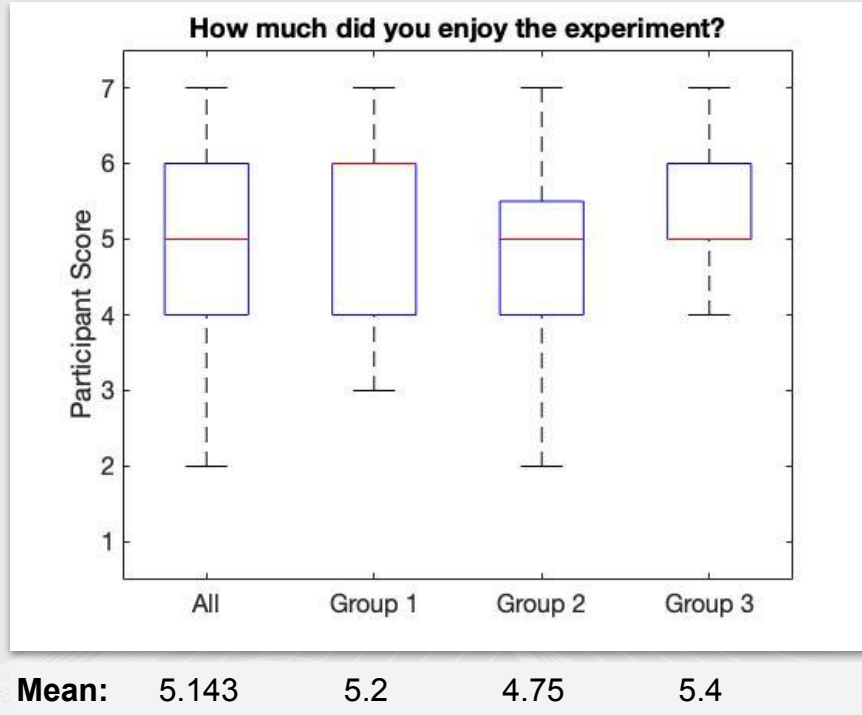
Have ever you used any language learning app such as Memrise or Duolingo?

29 responses

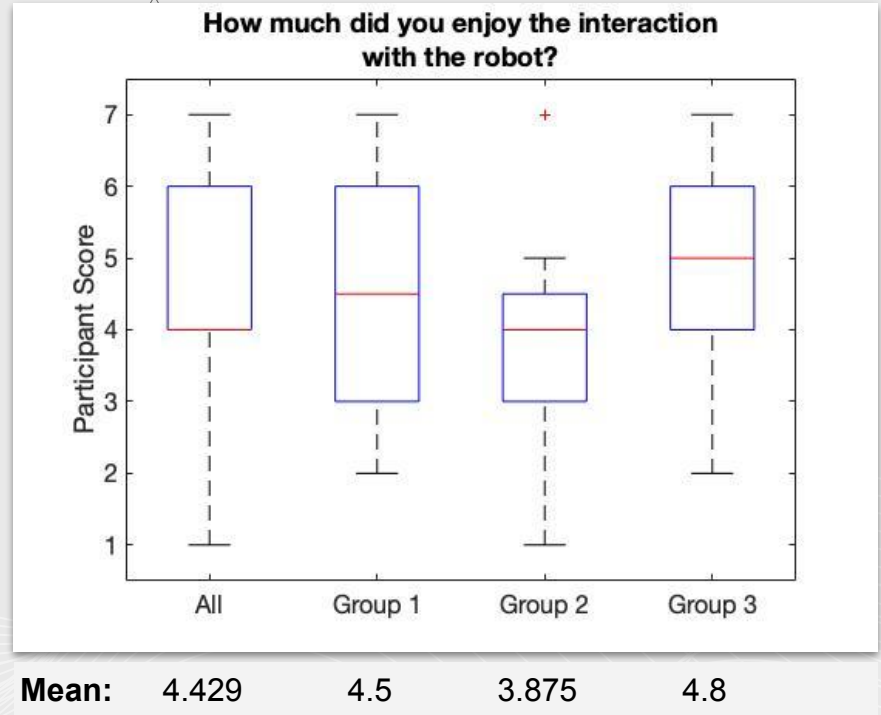


Evaluation Hypothesis 1

“Do users prefer to learn a language using voice interfaces over keyboard interfaces?”



t value: 0.660; p value: 0.259 !

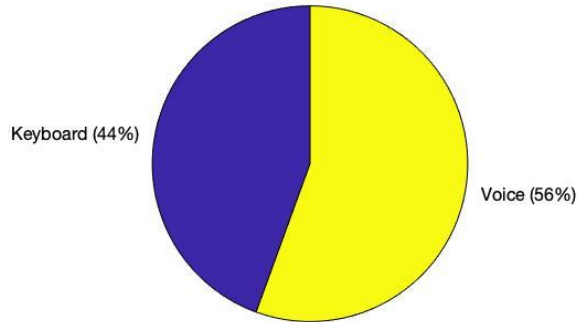


t value: 0.735; p value: 0.236 !

Evaluation Hypothesis 1

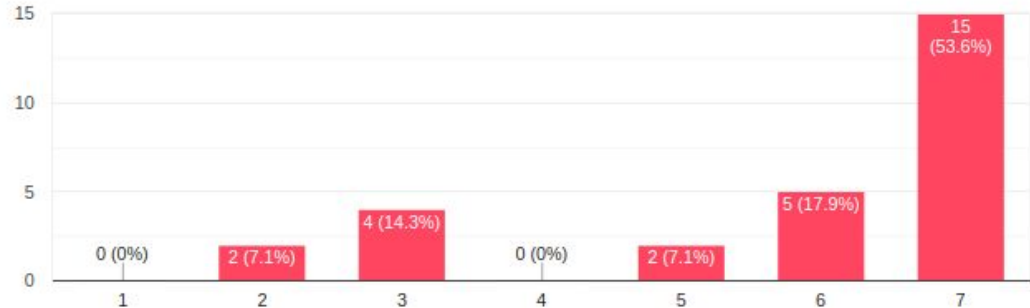
“Do users prefer to learn a language using voice interfaces over keyboard interfaces?”

Preference of Participants in Group 3



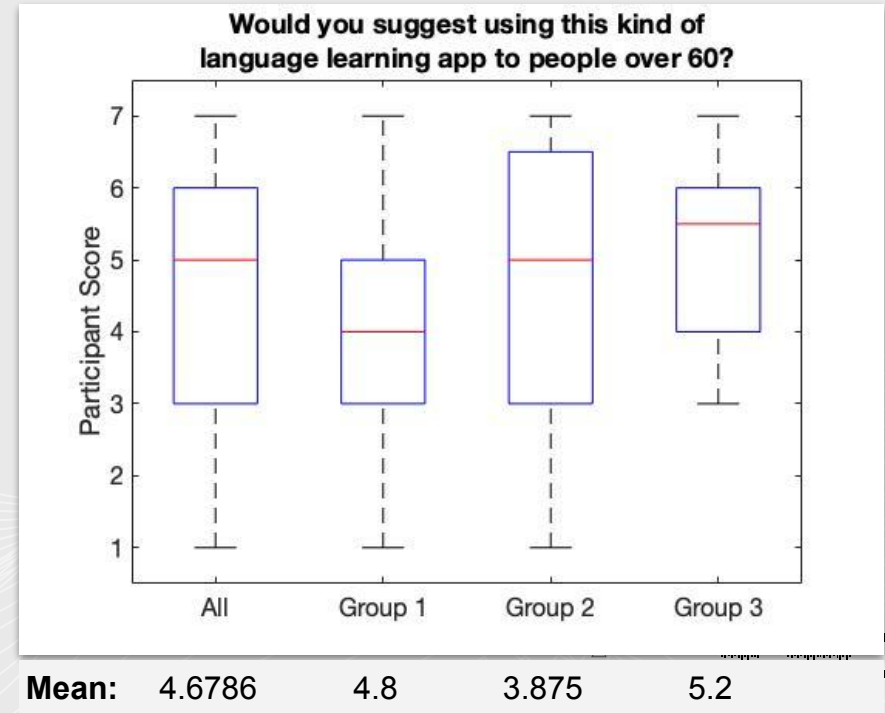
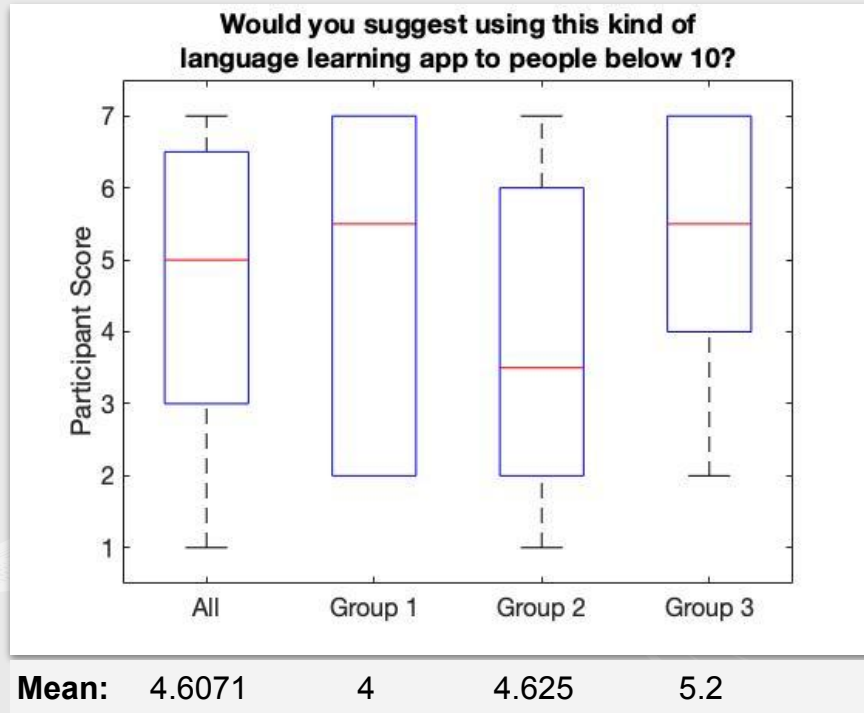
I think that talking to the app or robot while learning a new language is more efficient than just keyboard interaction.

28 responses



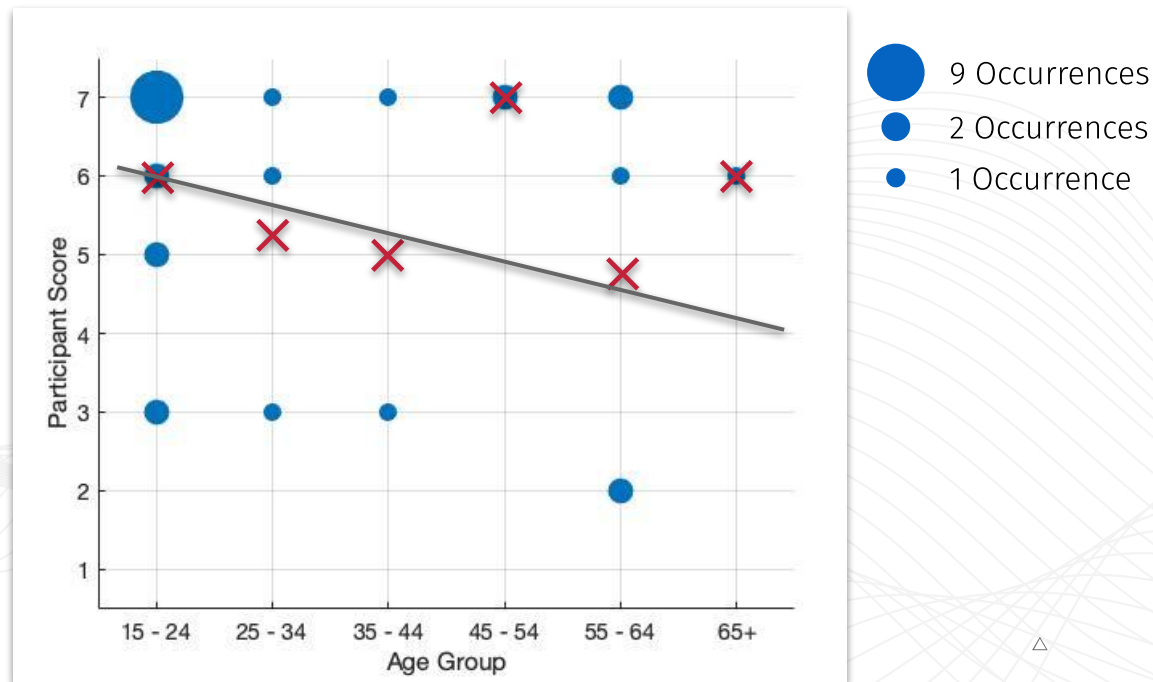
Evaluation Hypothesis 2

“The older the user is, the more important vocal interaction is when using technology.”



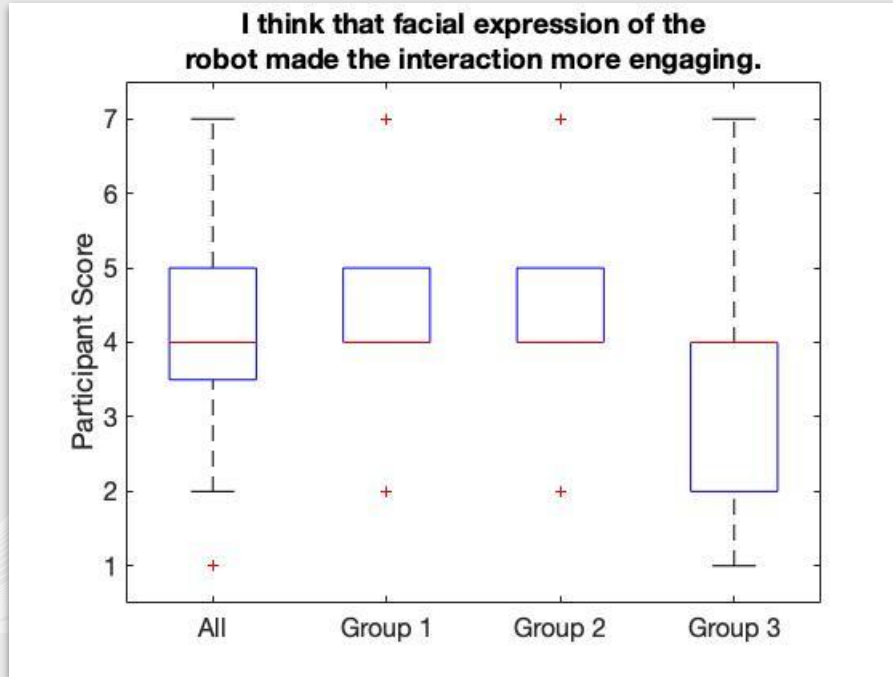
Evaluation Hypothesis 2

“I think that **talking to the app** or robot while learning a new language is more efficient than just keyboard interaction.”



Evaluation Hypothesis 3

“If the robot shows emotion, the experience becomes more enjoyable.”



- Many users did not notice any robot expressions
- We cannot answer this hypothesis, due to lack of data

Lessons Learned

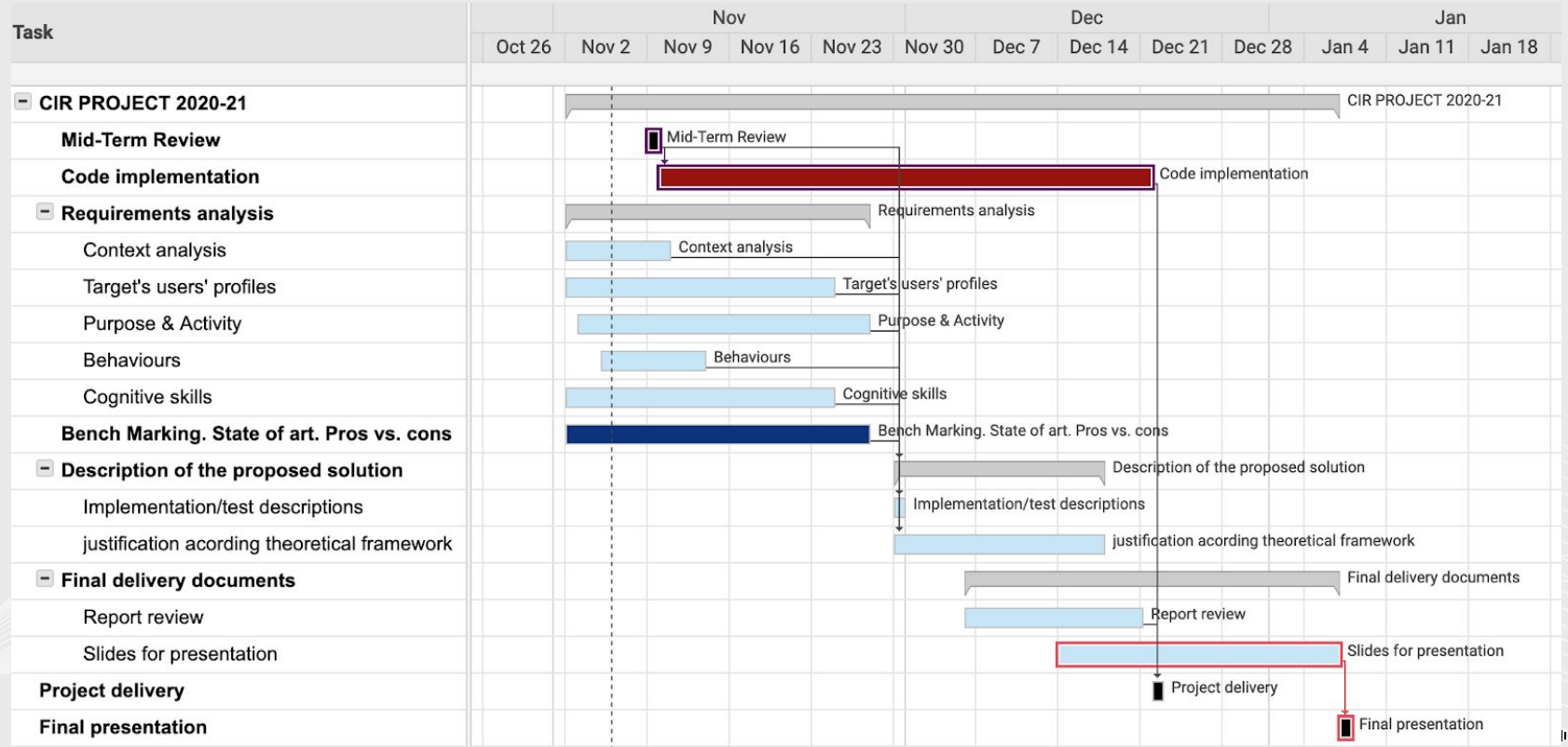
- Software Development is very hard
 - You can never do enough debugging
 - Writing the app is just part of the job, another thing is to properly deploy it
- “Anything that can go wrong will go wrong” - Murphy’s Law
 - More instructions (e.g. user shouldn’t answer with number)
- Adjust speaking speed & question difficulty automatically
 - “Questions too hard for inexperienced English users”
 - “Robot should speak slower”



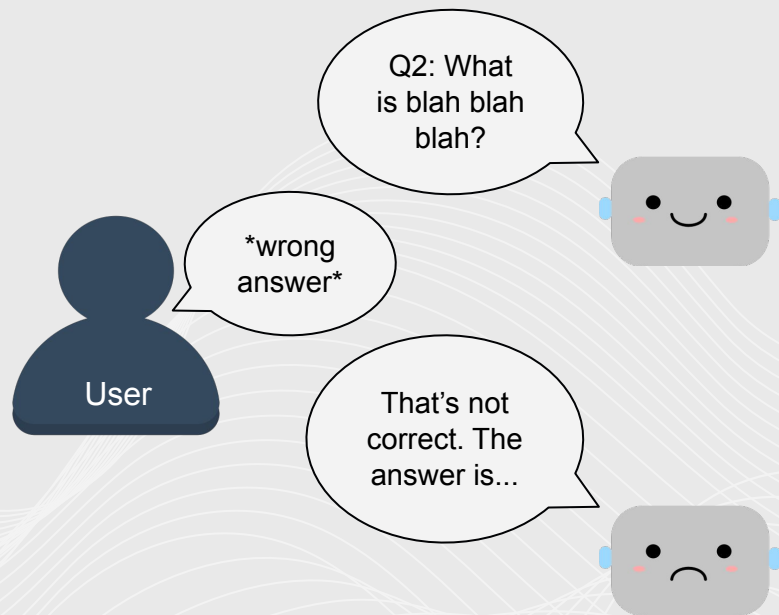
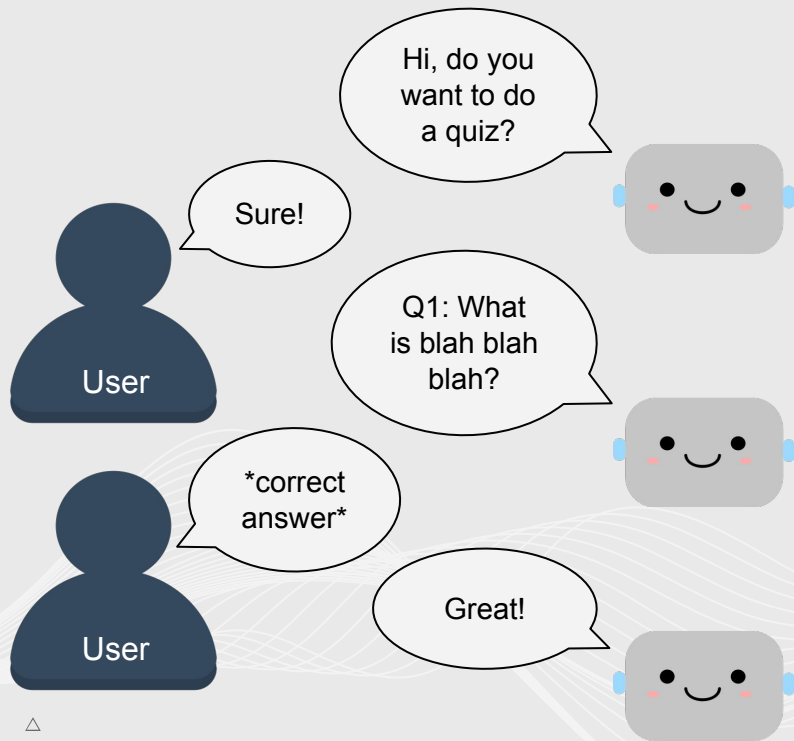
Thank you for listening!

Questions?

Schedule



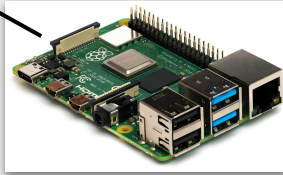
Interaction



Hardware

Computation

Raspberry Pi



PC

or



Interaction

Display



Speakers



Microphone



Human Interface

- Voice 2 text - SpeechRecognition library (Python)
- Text 2 Voice
- Simple screen (text + LEDs)

Example Question

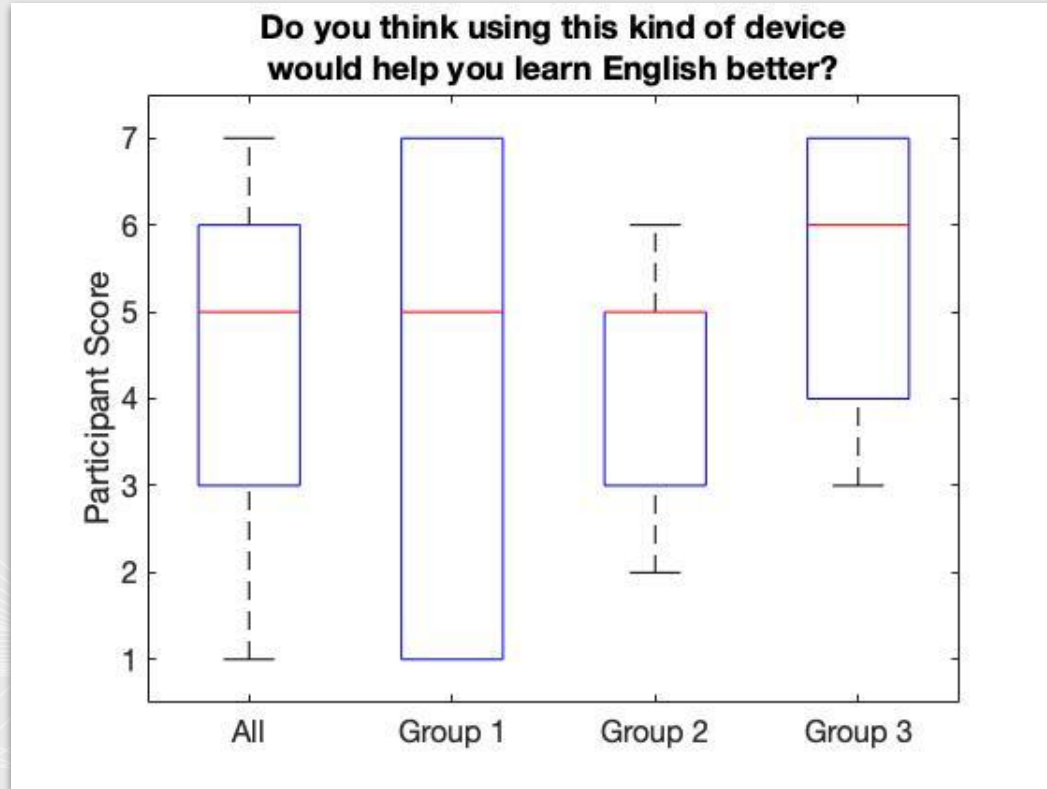
Question: "Do we know what happened to Nancy yesterday?"

Answers:

1. "She wrote down a list of instructions.",
2. "They say she retired last week.",
3. "She said she felt a pain in her chest, then passed out.",
4. "I will see her tomorrow."

Correct answer index - 3.

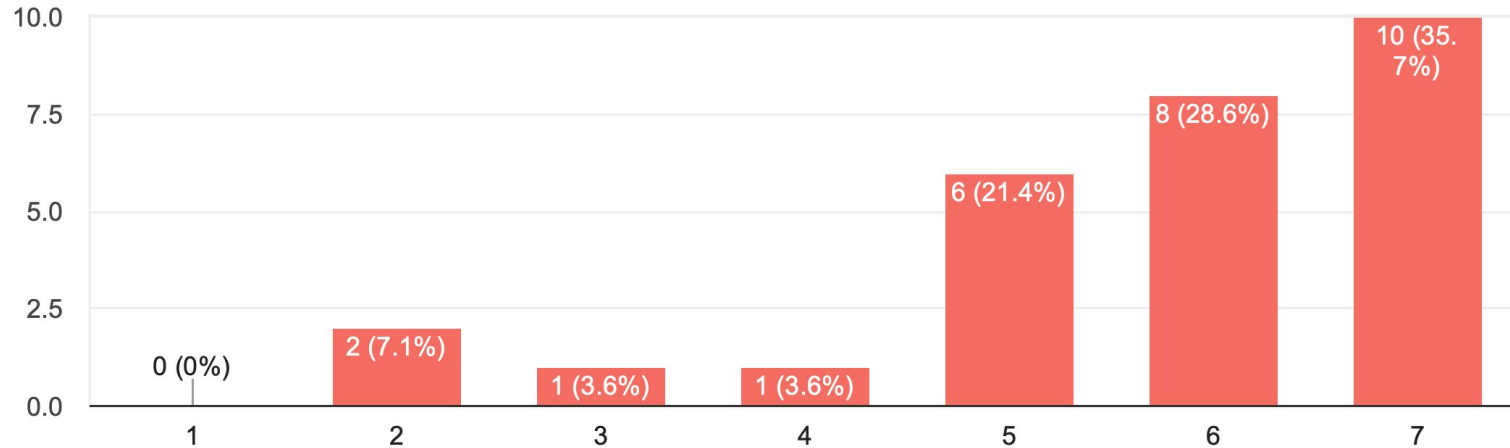




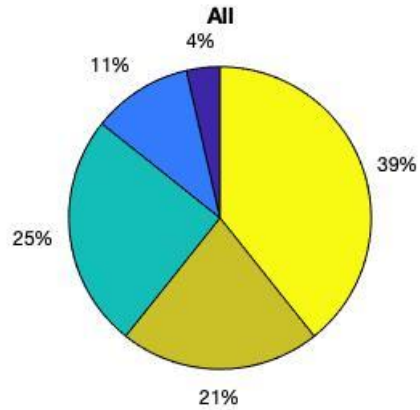
Other Questions

Hearing the robot speak to me and ask me questions was more interesting than if I would have just read the questions.

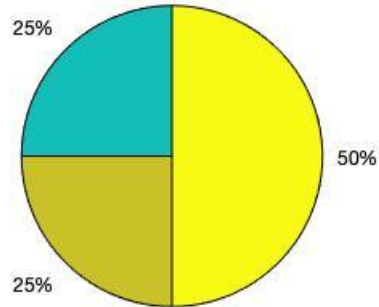
28 responses



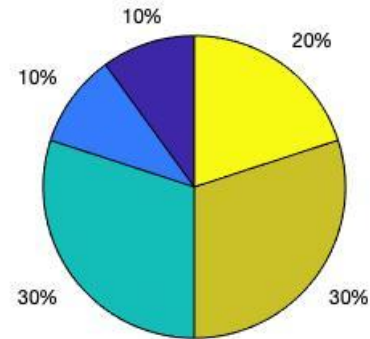
English Level



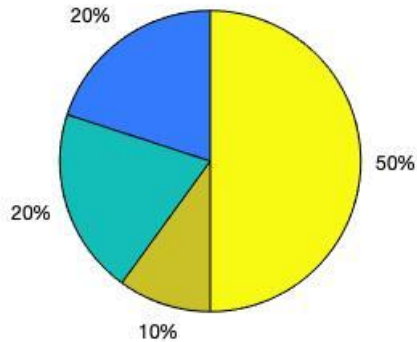
Group 2



Group 1



Group 3



-  I am fluent: English is my first language.
-  I am fluent: I have been using English in a professional environment for three years or more.
-  I have a basic knowledge of spoken and written English.
-  I have extensive knowledge of spoken and written English.
-  I have qualifications for spoken and written English.