

## Welcome and consent form

# Introduction

In this task, you will read some quotes from the news and answer some questions. This task is part of a research project. We are interested in what you think without the help of external resources. You will be compensated \$1.50 for your participation.

## Microsoft Research Project Participation Consent Form

### INTRODUCTION

Thank you for taking the time to consider volunteering in a Microsoft Corporation research project. This form explains what would happen if you join this research project. Please read it carefully and take as much time as you need. Email the study team to ask about anything that is not clear.

Participation in this study is voluntary and you may withdraw at any time.

### TITLE OF RESEARCH PROJECT

Comprehension of news articles

Principal Investigator: Dan Goldstein

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this project is to study how people process information in news articles.

### PROCEDURES

During this project, you will read some news quotes. Then you will be asked some questions about the quotes as well as a few other questions.

Microsoft may document and collect information about your participation by recording your answers to multiple choice and free response questions.

Approximately 100 participants will be involved in this study.

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Aside from your Mechanical Turk ID, no personal information will be collected during this study. Your Mechanical Turk ID will not be shared outside of Microsoft Research and the confines of this study without your permission, and will be promptly deleted after compensation has been successfully provided (30 days or less). De-identified data may be used for future research or given to another investigator for future use without additional consent.

- Microsoft Research is ultimately responsible for determining the purposes and uses of data collected through this study.

For additional information or concerns about how Microsoft handles your personal information, please see the [Microsoft Privacy Statement](https://privacy.microsoft.com/en-us/privacystatement) (<https://privacy.microsoft.com/en-us/privacystatement>).

## BENEFITS AND RISKS

**Benefits:** There are no direct benefits to you that might reasonably be expected as a result of being in this study. The research team expects to learn about human cognition from the results of this research, as well as any public benefit that may come from these research results being shared with the greater scientific community.

**Risks:** If you are unable to submit a HIT due to technical difficulties on your end there is a risk of loss of payment. To mitigate participants can reach out to the research team for input on resolving any difficulties encountered.

## PAYMENT FOR PARTICIPATION

You will receive \$1.50 after completing the entire study.

Your data and/or samples may be used to make new products, tests or findings. These may have value and may be developed and owned by Microsoft and/or others. If this happens, there are no plans to pay you.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Should you have any questions concerning this project, or if you are injured as a result of being in this study, please contact us at [dgg@microsoft.com](mailto:dgg@microsoft.com)

Should you have any questions about your rights as a research subject, please contact Microsoft Research Ethics Program Feedback at [MSRStudyfeedback@microsoft.com](mailto:MSRStudyfeedback@microsoft.com).

## CONSENT

By clicking "I agree" below, you confirm that the study was explained to you, you had a chance to ask questions before beginning the study, and all your questions were answered satisfactorily. By clicking "I agree" below, you voluntarily consent to participate, and you do not give up any legal rights you have as a study participant. You will be provided a link to download this form. On behalf of Microsoft, we thank you for your contribution and look forward to your research session.

**If you consent to participate, click the next button below. If you don't, return the HIT.**

### Attention check 1

This is a psychology experiment. We are interested in how people think. You are not being paid based on the correctness of your answers. You are supposed to take your best guesses when answering questions. Please do not look up information on the internet. Please do all work in your head. Please do not write anything down.

Based on the paragraph above, please check all statements that apply.

- ☐ This study is a psychology experiment and I'm not being paid based on the correctness of my answers
- ☐ I'm supposed to type random answers, not my best guesses
- ☐ I'm supposed to work from information in my head and not record or write down any information I see
- ☐ I'm not supposed to look up answers on the internet
- ☐ I'm supposed to take my best guesses

### Attention check 2

**Sorry, you did not answer this question correctly. Please try again.**

This is a psychology experiment. We are interested in how people think. You are not being paid based on the correctness of your answers. You are supposed to take your best

guesses when answering questions. Please do not look up information on the internet. Please do all work in your head. Please do not write anything down.

Based on the paragraph above, please check all statements that apply.

- ☐ I'm supposed to take my best guesses
- ☐ I'm not supposed to look up answers on the internet
- ☐ I'm supposed to work from information in my head and not record or write down any information I see
- ☐ This study is a psychology experiment and I'm not being paid based on the correctness of my answers
- ☐ I'm supposed to type random answers, not my best guesses

### Before reading quotes

We're going to show you a few quotes from the news and then ask you some questions. Please read each article carefully.

### Read round numbers

## Who Got into the University of California?

In 2019, the University of California introduced its then largest crop of students admitted for the upcoming academic year.

**Among the admitted freshmen were 30,000 transfer students who were offered spots at U.C. campuses, out of 40,000 applicants.**

"Yet another year of record-setting admissions underscores the tremendous interest in the world-class education at U.C.," Janet Napolitano, the university's president, said in a statement.

Along with Texas, New York and Florida, California has the highest number of college students in the US. Not surprisingly, these four states also boast the highest population. California, in particular, has a population of 39,613,493 in 2021.

## **Hope Dwindles for Hondurans Living in Peril**

Although Honduras was spared the civil wars of its neighbors in the 1980s and 1990s, the regional instability set the stage for a surge of migration that rapidly accelerated after Hurricane Mitch devastated the country in 1998. The storm killed thousands of people in Honduras, left one million homeless and destroyed what was left of a declining Banana industry, once the country's lifeblood, as well as other vital crops.

By 2000, the number of Honduran immigrants in the United States, mostly without proper visas, was 300,000 and it now stands at 500,000 according to a Migration Policy Institute report.

They have come to prop up the economy back home, with the \$3 billion sent back last year accounting for 20 percent of the economy, the highest proportion in Latin America.

## **The Case Against a Mammoth Frick Collection Addition**

New York City's Landmarks Preservation Commission would do well to turn down the Frick Collection's proposed expansion, which imagines replacing a prized garden on East 70th Street in Manhattan with a clumsy addition.

Of the 40,000 square feet the Frick wants to add, only 4,000 of it would be for showing art.

That's actually plenty. The Frick doesn't need more room for art.

Otherwise the proposal calls for a new auditorium and for rationalizing back-of-the-house practical stuff like office space, classrooms, the conservation lab and wheelchair access, although while at it, the expansion includes a new boardroom, cafe and gift shop.

## Read precise numbers

### Who Got into the University of California?

In 2019, the University of California introduced its then largest crop of students admitted for the upcoming academic year.

Among the admitted freshmen were 28,752 transfer students who were offered spots at U.C. campuses, out of 41,282 applicants.

"Yet another year of record-setting admissions underscores the tremendous interest in the world-class education at U.C.," Janet Napolitano, the university's president, said in a statement.

Along with Texas, New York and Florida, California has the highest number of college students in the US. Not surprisingly, these four states also boast the highest population. California, in particular, has a population of 39,613,493 in 2021.

### Hope Dwindles for Hondurans Living in Peril

Although Honduras was spared the civil wars of its neighbors in the 1980s and 1990s, the regional instability set the stage for a surge of migration that rapidly accelerated after Hurricane Mitch devastated the country in 1998. The storm killed thousands of people in Honduras, left one million homeless and destroyed what was left of a declining Banana industry, once the country's lifeblood, as well as other vital crops.

By 2000, the number of Honduran immigrants in the United States, mostly without proper visas, was 282,852 and it now stands at 487,745 according to a Migration Policy Institute report.

They have come to prop up the economy back home, with the \$3 billion sent back last year accounting for 20 percent of the economy, the highest proportion in Latin America.

### The Case Against a Mammoth Frick Collection Addition

New York City's Landmarks Preservation Commission would do well to turn down the Frick Collection's proposed expansion, which imagines replacing a prized garden on East 70th Street in Manhattan with a clumsy addition.

**Of the 40,108 square feet the Frick wants to add, only 3,792 of it would be for showing art.**

That's actually plenty. The Frick doesn't need more room for art.

Otherwise the proposal calls for a new auditorium and for rationalizing back-of-the-house practical stuff like office space, classrooms, the conservation lab and wheelchair access, although while at it, the expansion includes a new boardroom, cafe and gift shop.

## Before recalling

We're going to ask you to recall a few things from the news quotes that we showed you earlier.

Try to recall each number we ask for as best as you can. If you can't recall it exactly we're just interested in your best guess at what you read.

## Trap

*Answer the questions below with your best guess at the numbers you read in the article.*

## California Boasting the Highest Public College Enrollment in the US

Along with Texas, New York and Florida, California has the highest number of college students in the US. Not surprisingly, these four states also boast the highest population. California, in particular, has a population of \_\_\_\_\_ in 2021.

Enter your answer as a number only without any units, and write out zeros instead of using words like "hundreds", "thousands", "millions", or "billions".

What is the population of California in 2021,

according to the article?

## Recall numbers

*Answer the questions below with your best guess at the numbers you read in the article.*

### Who Got into the University of California?

In 2019, the University of California introduced its then largest crop of students admitted for the upcoming academic year.

Among the admitted freshmen were \_\_\_\_\_ transfer students who were offered spots at U.C. campuses, out of \_\_\_\_\_ applicants.

"Yet another year of record-setting admissions underscores the tremendous interest in the world-class education at U.C.," Janet Napolitano, the university's president, said in a statement.

Along with Texas, New York and Florida, California has the highest number of college students in the US. Not surprisingly, these four states also boast the highest population. California, in particular, has a population of 39,613,493 in 2021.

**Enter your answer as a number only without any units, and write out zeros instead of using words like "hundreds", "thousands", "millions", or "billions".**

How many transfer students were offered spots at U.C. campuses?

How many transfer student applicants to the U.C. campuses were there?

*Answer the question below with your best guess at the numbers you read in the article.*

### Hope Dwindles for Hondurans Living in Peril



Although Honduras was spared the civil wars of its neighbors in the 1980s and 1990s, the regional instability set the stage for a surge of migration that rapidly accelerated after Hurricane Mitch devastated the country in 1998. The storm killed thousands of people in Honduras, left one million homeless and destroyed what was left of a declining Banana industry, once the country's lifeblood, as well as other vital crops.

By 2000, the number of Honduran immigrants in the United States, mostly without proper visas, was \_\_\_\_\_, and it now stands at \_\_\_\_\_, according to a Migration Policy Institute report.

They have come to prop up the economy back home, with the \$3 billion sent back last year accounting for 20 percent of the economy, the highest proportion in Latin America.

Enter your answer as a number only without any units, and write out zeros instead of using words like "hundreds", "thousands", "millions", or "billions".

Based on this article, how many Honduran immigrants were in the United States in the year 2000?

At the time the article was published, how many Honduran immigrants were in the United States?

*Answer the questions below with your best guess at the numbers you read in the article.*

## **The Case Against a Mammoth Frick Collection Addition**

New York City's Landmarks Preservation Commission would do well to turn down the Frick Collection's proposed expansion, which imagines replacing a prized garden on East 70th Street in Manhattan with a clumsy addition.

Of the \_\_\_\_\_ square feet the Frick wants to add, only \_\_\_\_\_ of it would be for showing art.

That's actually plenty. The Frick doesn't need more room for art.

Otherwise the proposal calls for a new auditorium and for rationalizing back-of-the-house practical stuff like office space, classrooms, the conservation lab and wheelchair access, although while at it, the expansion includes a new boardroom, cafe and gift shop.

Enter your answer as a number only without any units, and write out zeros instead of using words like "hundreds", "thousands", "millions", or "billions".

How many total square feet was the Frick's proposed addition?

How many square feet of the proposed addition would be used for showing art?

## Before calculating

We're going to ask you to calculate a few things based on the news quotes that we showed you earlier.

Please give an approximate answer to each, we're interested in your best guesses. In particular, **DON'T USE A CALCULATOR**, as exact answers are no better than your best guesses for the sake of this study.

## Calculate

*Answer the question below with your best guess at the numbers you read in the article.*

### Who Got into the University of California?

Based on this article, what **percentage** of transfer student applicants were offered spots at the University of California system?

*Enter your answer as a number between 0 and 100 only without any units or percent signs.*

*Answer the question below with your best guess at the numbers you read in the article.*

### Hope Dwindles for Hondurans Living in Peril

Based on this article, approximately how many **more** Honduran immigrants lived in the U.S at the time of the article compared to in the year 2000?

Enter your answer as a number only without any units, and write out zeros instead of using words like "hundreds", "thousands", "millions", or "billions".

*Answer the questions below with your best guess at the numbers you read in the article.*

## **The Case Against a Mammoth Frick Collection Addition**

Based on this article, what **percentage** of the square feet in the proposed museum addition would be used for showing art?

*Enter your answer as a number between 0 and 100 only without any units or percent signs.*

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