

# Voice rating

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## Start of Block: Introduction

Hello! Thank you for your interest in our experiment! It will take you approximately 5 - 10 minutes.

We recommend to do the experiment on your Laptop or PC. Mobile devices sometimes run into technical issues during the study.

This experiment is part of a Master's thesis project in the MSc Voice Technology program. The aim of the project is to investigate the naturalness of synthetic voices. By participating in the experiment you will contribute to the improvement of this technology!

Please note that fluent English skills are required for participation and that you cannot participate if you have a hearing impairment. We also ask you to use headphones for this experiment.

You will be asked to listen to short utterances and to rate them with regard to their naturalness (detailed instructions will follow later on). Before the experiment you will also be asked to fill in a short questionnaire about your background and familiarity with synthetic voices.

### Data protection:

All data will be collected anonymously and used strictly for the research purposes. The collected data is controlled by the researcher and may be shared with the researcher's supervisor (see contact details below). Your participation in the research is completely voluntary and you can quit the experiment without giving any reason at any time by closing the tab. You can also pause the experiment and resume it later. If you have any questions about this study please feel free to contact the researcher or the supervisor via e-mail.

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Please confirm that you understand your rights and give your consent to participate in the experiment:

- ☐ Confirm and participate in the experiment
- ☐ Do not confirm and quit the experiment

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**Start of Block: Demographic data**

Do you speak English fluently?

- ☐ yes
- ☐ no

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Do you have a hearing impairment?

- ☐ yes
  - ☐ no
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How old are you?

- ☐ Under 18
  - ☐ 18-24 years old
  - ☐ 25-34 years old
  - ☐ 35-44 years old
  - ☐ 45-54 years old
  - ☐ 55-64 years old
  - ☐ 65+ years old
- 

What is your native language?

- ☐ English
  - ☐ Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- 

Do you speak languages fluently besides English and your native language? If so, which one(s)?

- ☐ No
  - ☐ Yes (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
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How often did you listen to or interact with synthetic voices (e.g., speaking car navigation system, virtual assistants such as Siri or Alexa, read-aloud applications, etc.) over the last 12 months?

- ☐ Never
- ☐ Rarely
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Often
- ☐ Every day

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How familiar are you with the technology behind synthetic voices?

- ☐ Not familiar at all
- ☐ Slightly familiar
- ☐ Moderately familiar
- ☐ Very familiar
- ☐ Extremely familiar

**End of Block: Demographic data**

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**Start of Block: Instructions**

In the following step, you will rate the naturalness of short utterances. You will be asked to rate the naturalness of each utterance on a scale of 5: 'bad', 'poor', 'fair', 'good', or 'excellent'. You will also have the option to choose values in between these categories (e.g., between 'fair' and 'good').

Please use headphones for listening.

You can start the audio by clicking the play button (▶). You can listen to each audio as often as you like.

#### End of Block: Instructions

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#### Start of Block: Rating

How do you rate the naturalness of this utterance?

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
bad		poor		fair		good		excellent

➔ *This was shown 24 times, each time with a different stimulus*

#### End of Block: Rating

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We thank you for your time spent taking this survey. Your response has been recorded.