



## Default Question Block

### **Information Sheet** **Opinions & Decision-making** **(Ethics Code: 2019\_06\_19\_EHS )**

#### **PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

#### **Invitation to take part in a research study**

You are invited to take part in a study named 'Opinions & Decision-making'. This study is being conducted by Dr. Paul J. Maher (Ethics Code: **2019\_06\_19\_EHS**)

#### **Why have you been invited to take part?**

- In this study, participants are asked to work alongside each other in real time with the aim of learning more about people's attitudes on a range of different topics.
- This study is also interested in individual responses in decision-making tasks.
  - We are aiming to recruit a broad and representative online sample.

#### **How will your data be used?**

- Identifying information will not be collected from you, but you will be requested to report demographic information such as age and gender.

- The data collected may be disseminated at conferences and published in scholarly journals, but only group-level data will be reported. No individual participant or their data will be identified.

### **What will happen if you decide to take part in this study?**

- This is a group study. Therefore, if you agree to take part in this study, you will be asked to report the extent to which you agree/disagree with a number of different attitude statements and to share these attitudes with other participants. After participants have reported their attitudes, you will be shown the attitudes of the other participants in your group, before moving onto the next attitude statement.
- You will be given a disclosure and more information about the purpose and procedures of the study, once you have completed the study.

### **How will your privacy be protected?**

- Confidentiality of your research records will be strictly maintained by Dr. Paul J. Maher.
- Identifying information will not be collected from you and it will be impossible to link any answers back to you.
- The data collected may be published in scholarly journals, but only group-level data will be reported. No individual participant or their data will be identified.

### **What are the risks?**

There are no known risks associated with this study. If you become upset or uncomfortable, you may stop participating in the study at any time.

### **Can I change my mind at any stage and withdraw from the study?**

Yes. You may decide to withdraw from this research at any time and you will still receive compensation and a full explanation of the study, if you do so.

### **How will I find out what happens with the project?**

You can contact the researchers at paul.maher@ul.ie for an update on this project.

I agree to the processing of my data in accordance with the information provided above and I am aware that I may withdraw from the study at any time.

☐ Yes

☐ No

## **Demographics**

What is your gender?

☐ Male

☐ Female

☐ Other

What is your age?

Below, please write the 4th word in the following sentence:  
"Stir us from our wanton slumber"

Please fill in your Prolific ID below.

## Explain lobby individual

You are about to take part in **a group task in real time**.  
Once you click next, you will **enter an online lobby** and be  
paired with other participants also taking part in the  
survey.

Following this, you will state your attitude (or opinion)  
towards given statements and **share these attitudes** with  
other participants.

After you have given your response to each statement, you will also see the responses of one other participant. Please note **these responses are completely anonymous and participants are only identified by the participants number they are assigned in the lobby.**

Throughout the task you will also be given a series of simple puzzles to complete.

Please click yes if you understand these instructions.

Yes ☐

No ☐

Please press next when you are ready to enter into the lobby.

**Joining 1**

**Please wait for other participants to join the lobby.  
This should only take a few seconds...**

**User 55:** Joined ...

**Participant\_57:** Joined ...



Please wait for other participants to join the lobby...

## **Joining 2**

**Please wait for other participants to join the lobby.  
This should only take a few seconds...**

**User 55:** Joined ...

**Participant\_57:** Joined ...

**Participant\_ 58:** Joined ...



Please wait for other participants to join the lobby...

## Join 3

**Please wait for other participants to join the lobby.  
This should only take a few seconds...**

**User 55:** Joined

**Participant\_57:** *Joined*

**Participant\_ 58:** *Joined*

**Participant\_ 60:** *Joined*

**Participant\_ 61:** *Joined*



Please wait for other participants to join the lobby...

## Successful lobby

You have successfully joined a lobby with 5 other participants. Please click next when you are ready to view the first attitude statement.

## Pencil valence

Please state your position on the following statement and answer the questions that follow. **Keep your answer in mind.** Once you have completed all questions please advance to the next page.



Statement 1: **Pencils are charming.**

Agree  
☐

Disagree  
☐

On a scale of 1–10, please rate how **certain** you are of this view.

Not at all	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Very certain
1	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	10

## 4 Thank you

Thank you.



Please wait for other participants to complete the task...

**Pencils Agree**

**Please observe and take a note of the other participants answer before clicking next to move onto the next round.**

**Pencils are charming.**

Participant\_57: [Agrees with this statement](#)

Did Participant\_57 give the same answer as you on this statement?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

**Pencils Disagree**

**Please observe and take a note of the other participants answer before clicking next to move onto the next round.**

**Pencils are charming.**

Participant\_57: Disagrees with this statement

Did Participant\_57 give the same answer as you on this statement?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

**Puzzle 1**

Throughout this study you will be asked to complete some short and simple maze tasks. Below is Task 1.

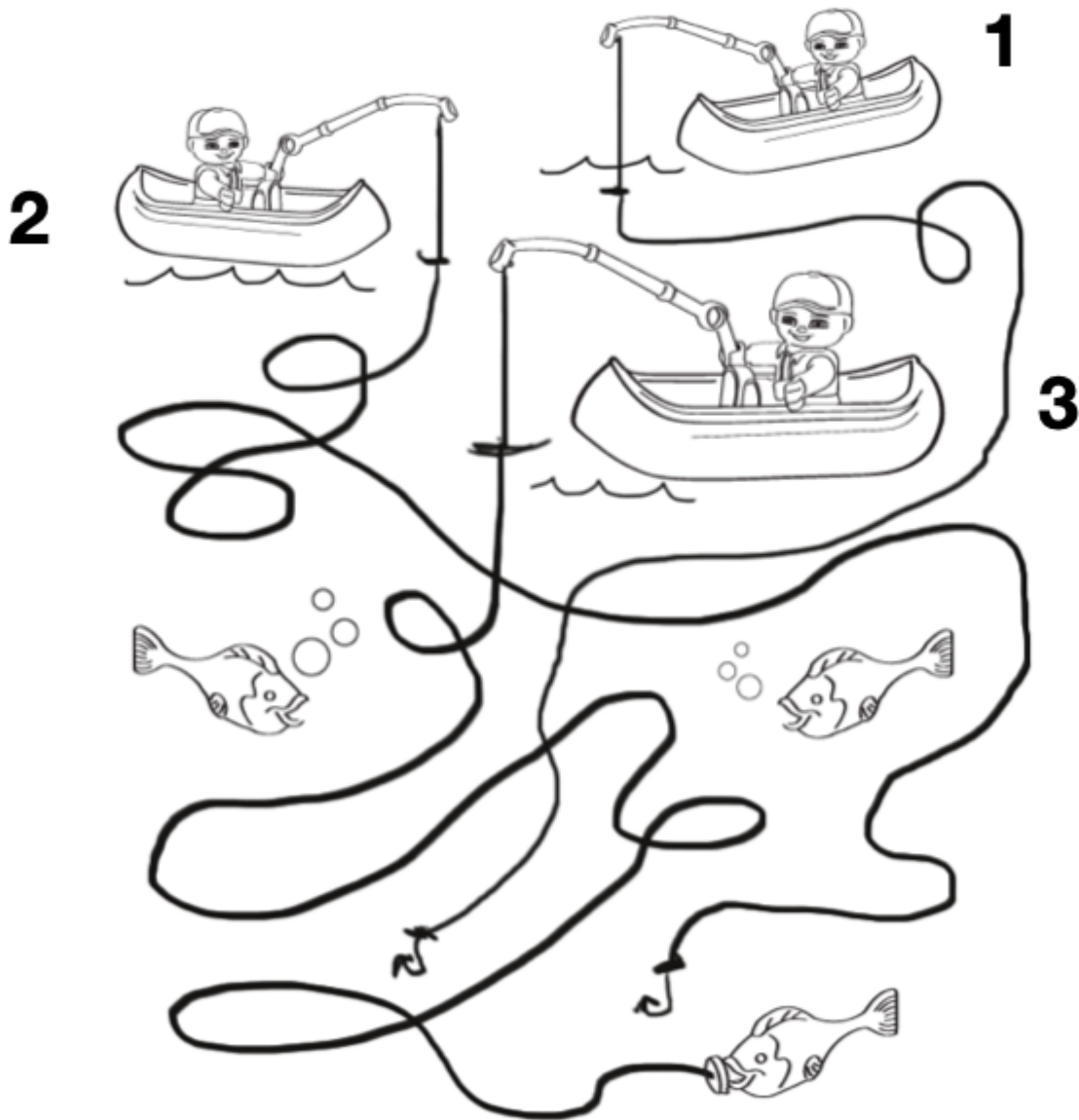
You will see in the image that there are 3 fishermen trying to catch a fish. The object of the task is to identify which fisherman has the line that leads to the fish.

You must trace the path of the fishing lines to solve this puzzle

Do you understand this task?

☐ Yes

☐ No



## Which fisherman's line leads to a fish?

- ☐ Fisherman 1
- ☐ Fisherman 2
- ☐ Fisherman 3

**Please make sure you have given the correct answer before moving on!**

## Pencils att. 2

Please consider your attitude position now...

**Pencils are charming.**

Agree

Disagree

On a scale of 1-10, please rate how **certain** you are of this view.

Not at all	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Very certain
1									10
<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"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Chalk valence

Please state your position on the following statement and answer the questions that follow. **Keep your answer in mind.** Please click next when you are done.

Statement 2: **Chalk is friendly.**

Agree  
☐

Disagree  
☐

On a scale of 1-10, please rate how **certain** you are of this view.

Not at all	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Very certain
1									10
<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"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Thank you 11

Thank you.



Please wait for other participants to complete the task...

## Chalk Agree

Please observe and take a note of the other participants answer before clicking next to move onto the next round.

## Chalk is friendly.

Participant\_60: [Agrees with this statement](#)

## Chalk Disagree

Please observe and take a note of the other participants answer before clicking next to move onto the next round.

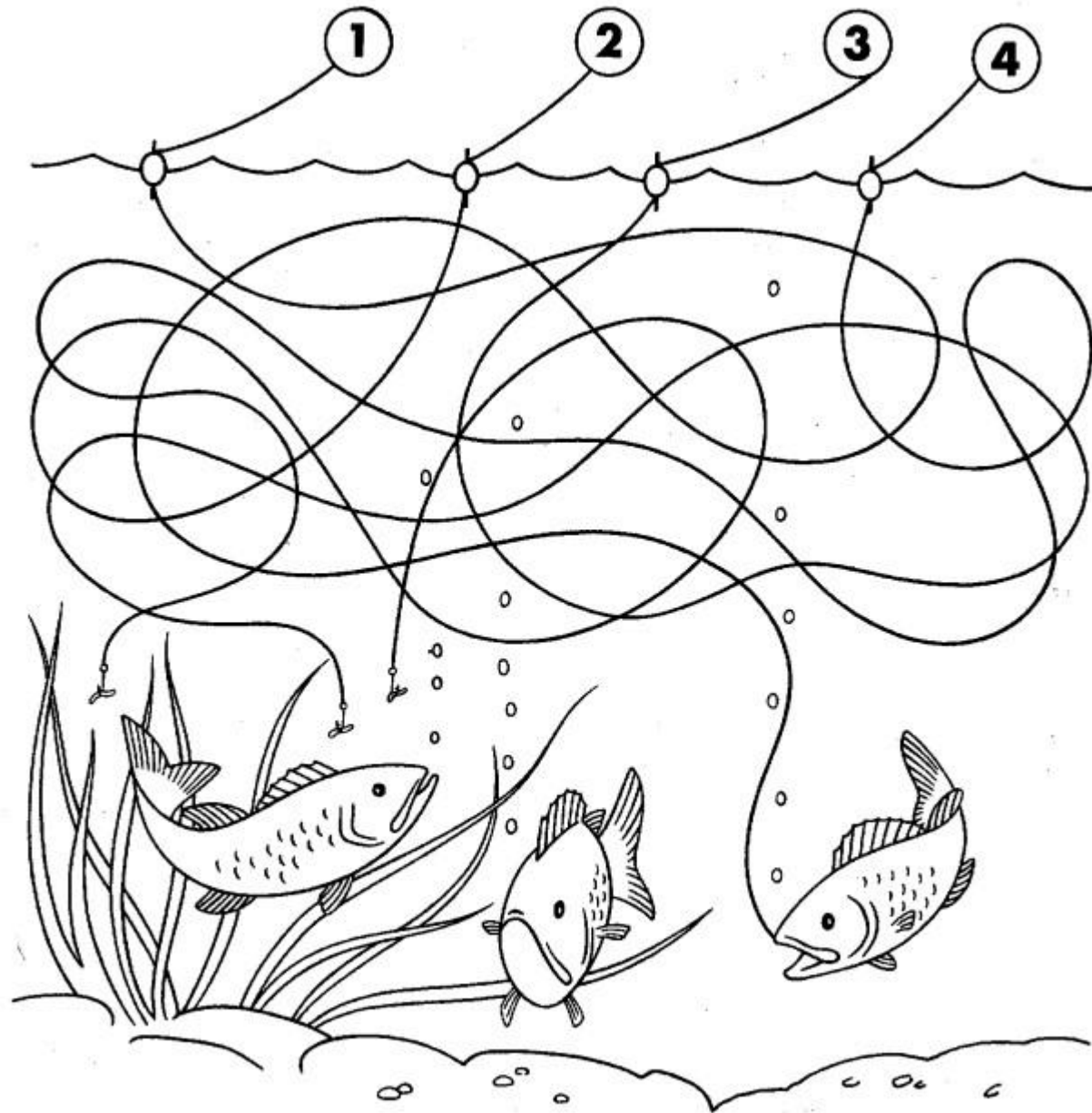
**Chalk is friendly.**

Participant\_60: Disagrees with this statement

## Puzzle 2

Below is Maze Task 2. You will see an image of 4 fishing lines, cast into the sea. Trace the path of the lines to complete the task





**Which line would you pull in to catch the fish?**

- ☐ Line 1
- ☐ Line 2
- ☐ Line 3

☐ Line 4

**Please double-check that you have answered correctly before continuing!**

## Chalk att. 2

Please consider your attitude positions now...

**Chalk is friendly.**

Agree  
☐

Disagree  
☐

On a scale of 1-10, please rate how **certain** you are of this view.

Not at all	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Very certain
1 <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"/>	10 <input type="radio"/>

Please make sure to click 'Yes' so we know you're paying attention.

Strongly  
disagree

☐

Somewhat  
disagree

☐

Yes

☐

Somewhat  
agree

☐

Strongly agree

☐

## P Valence

Please state your position on the following statement and answer the questions that follow. **Keep your answer in mind.** Please click next when you are done.

Statement 3: **The letter P is boring.**

Agree

☐

Disagree

☐

On a scale of 1-10, please rate how **certain** you are of this view.

Not at  
all

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

Very  
certain

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

## Please wait 9

Thank you.



Please wait for other participants to complete the task...

## P Agree

Please observe and take a note of the other participants answer before clicking next to move onto the next round.

**The letter P is boring.**

Participant\_58: [Agrees with this statement](#)

## P Disagree

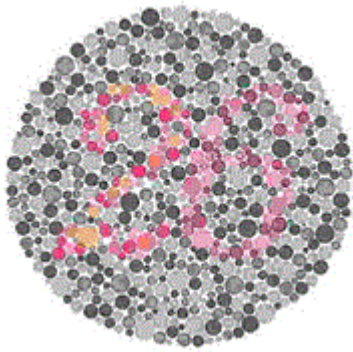
Please observe and take a note of the other participants answer before clicking next to move onto the next round.

**The letter P is boring.**

Participant\_58: Disagrees with this statement

## Puzzle 3

Please view these optical illusions and answer the questions associated with each. Please attempt to answer all questions as accurately as possible.

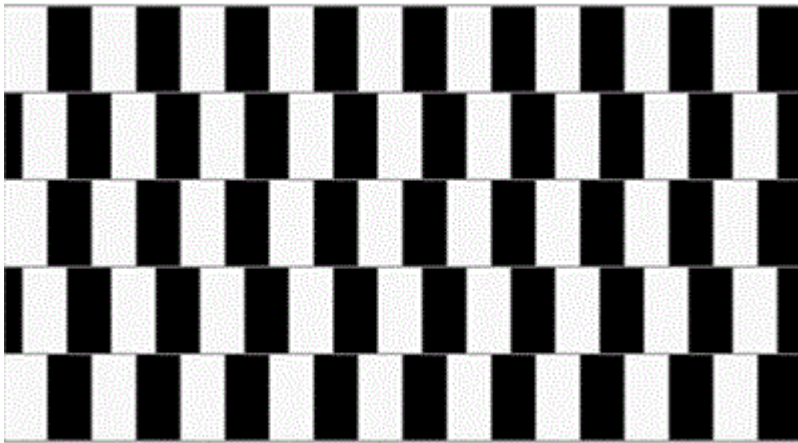


What number is pictured in the circle?

☐ 28

☐ 25

☐ 26



Are the horizontal lines sloping or straight?

☐ Sloping

☐ Straight

## The letter P att. 2

Please consider your attitude position now...

## The letter P is boring.

Agree

Disagree

On a scale of 1-10, please rate how **certain** you are of this view.

Not at  
all

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

Very  
certain

1

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

10

## Cinder valence

Please state your position on the following statement and answer the questions that follow. **Keep your answer in mind.** Please click next when you are done.

Statement 4: **Cinder blocks are problematic.**

Agree

Disagree

On a scale of 1-10, please rate how **certain** you are of this view.

Not at all	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Very certain
1									10
<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"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Cinder Agree

Please observe and take a note of the other participants answer before clicking next to move onto the next page.

## Cinder blocks are problematic.

Participant\_61: [Agrees with this statement](#)

## Cinder Disagree

Please observe and take a note of the other participants answer before clicking next to move onto the next page.

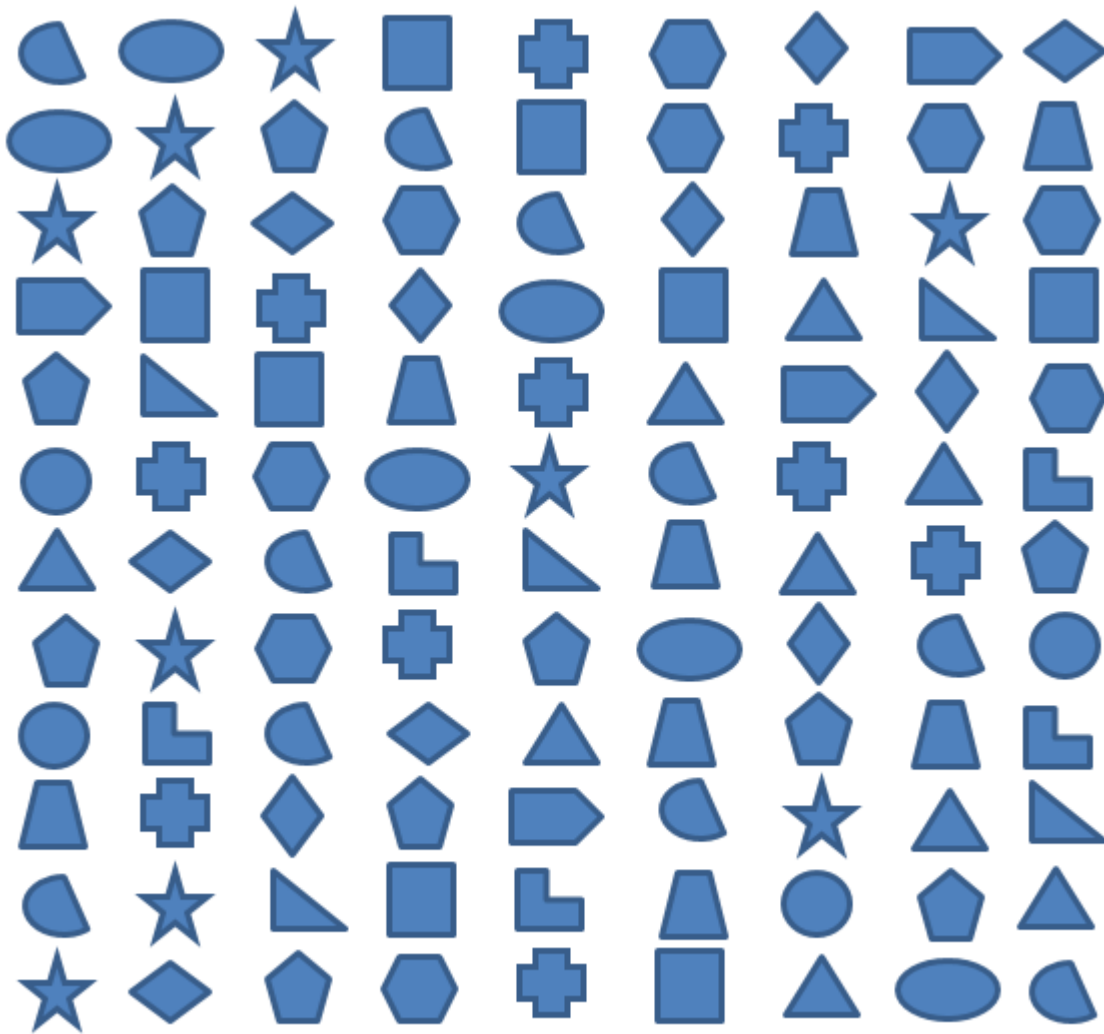


## Cinder blocks are problematic.

Participant\_61: Disagrees with this statement

## Puzzle 4

In the image below, please search for **4 sided shapes** and count how many of them are in the image.



How many 4-sided shapes did you count in the image above? Please type your answer below

**Cinder blocks att. 2**

Please consider your attitude position now...

## Cinder blocks are problematic.

Agree

Disagree

On a scale of 1-10, please rate how **certain** you are of this view.

Not at  
all

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

Very  
certain

1

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

10











## Circle valence

Please state your position on the following statement and answer the questions that follow. **Keep your answer in mind.** Please click next when you are done.

**Circle is a noble shape**

Agree  
Disagree  


On a scale of 1–10, please rate how **certain** you are of this view.

Not at all	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Very certain
1 									10 

## Circ agree

Please observe and take a note of the other participants answer before clicking next to move onto the next round.

## Circle is a noble shape

Participant\_60: [Agrees with this statement](#)

## Circ disagree

Please observe and take a note of the other participants answer before clicking next to move onto the next round.

## Circle is a noble shape

Participant\_60: Disagrees with this statement

## Puzzle 5

Give the **best guess** you can in answer to each of the questions below.

Please do not look up the answers.

What is the gestation period (i.e. pregnancy period) of an African Elephant?

How many days does it take Mars to orbit the Sun?

How many US states were there in 1840?

## Circle 2

Consider your position on this attitude now...

### Circle is a noble shape

Agree

Disagree

On a scale of 1-10, please rate how **certain** you are of this view.

Not at all	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Very certain
1									10
<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"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Table valance

Please state your position on the following statement and answer the questions that follow. **Keep your answer in mind.** Please click next when you are done.

### Tables are not pleasant

Agree  
☐

Disagree  
☐

On a scale of 1-10, please rate how **certain** you are of this view.

Not at all	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Very certain
1									10
<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"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Table Agree

Please observe and take a note of the other participants answers before clicking next to move onto the next round.

### Tables are not pleasant

Participant\_62: [Agrees with this statement](#)

## Table disagree

Please observe and take a note of the other participants answers before clicking next to move onto the next round.

### Tables are not pleasant

Participant\_62: [Disagrees with this statement](#)



## Puzzle 6

**What is the average gestation period for a human (in months)?**

Did you think of this number when answering the question about the average gestation period of an elephant?

☐ Yes

☐ No

**How many US states are there today?**

Did you think of this number when answering the question about US states in 1840?

☐ Yes

☐ No

**How many days does it take the earth to orbit the sun?**

Did you think of this number when answering the question about the orbit of Mars?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

## **Table 2**

Please consider your position on this statement now

**Tables are not pleasant**

☐ Agree

☐ Disagree

On a scale of 1–10, please rate how **certain** you are of this view.

Not at all	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Very certain
1									10
<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"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Group identity

The following questions refer to how you feel about the people who you took part in the game with. Please respond to the following questions by thinking about how you feel **at this moment**

I feel solidarity with this group

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

I feel strong ties with this group

Disagree

Agree

Strongly  
disagree

☐☐

Somewhat  
disagree

☐

Neither  
agree nor  
disagree

☒

Somewhat  
agree

☐☐

Strongly  
agree

☐

I identify with this group

Strongly  
disagree

☐

Disagree

☐

Somewhat  
disagree

☐

Neither  
agree nor  
disagree

☒

Somewhat  
agree

☐

Agree

☐

Strongly  
agree

☐

Please press next when you are ready to continue.

## Debrief

**Study Explanation**

**End of Study**

**Opinions & Attitudes**

**(Ethics Code: 2019\_06\_19\_EHS )**

Thank you for your participation. Your participation is greatly appreciated and helps us in our research.

## **Study Explanation**

In this study, we investigated if shared group identity formation could facilitate the strengthening of individual attitudes surrounding neutral statements.

Participants in this study recorded their attitudes privately before sharing their attitudes with other group members. Furthermore, participants were asked to complete a series of simple puzzles. Afterwards, attitude positions towards the attitude statements were reviewed for the strengthening of any attitudes.

By participating in this study, you have gained some insight into the nature of social psychological research. Procedures such as those used in the current study are of great importance for this research.

If you have further questions or wish to get more in-depth information on a specific topic, you can contact the researchers at [paul.maher@ul.ie](mailto:paul.maher@ul.ie)

If you have any concerns about this research please contact:  
[paul.maher@ul.ie](mailto:paul.maher@ul.ie)

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