

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET AND INFORMED CONSENT FORM

Project title: Orthographic informativity and the optimal viewing position (SL31)

Lead researcher: Jon Carr (jcarr@sissa.it)

Principal investigator: Davide Crepaldi

Institution: International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA), Trieste, Italy

What is this document?

This document explains what kind of study we are conducting, what your rights are, and how your data will be processed. You may keep this document for your records. Before deciding if you want to participate in this study, you should read this information carefully and ask the researcher any questions you might have using Prolific's messaging tool or by sending an email to jcarr@sissa.it

Nature of the study

We are investigating how people learn to read words. In order to do this, we will teach you an artificially constructed language (the "alien" language) which has particular properties that we are interested in.

Procedure

There are two main parts to the experiment. In the first part, we will teach you the alien language. In the second part, we will test your ability to quickly identify the alien words. The experiment should take around 23 minutes to complete.

Compensation

You will be rewarded with £3.00 for participating, plus an additional bonus of £0.01 for every correct answer. The total reward can therefore be up to £4.20 in total. This is compliant with Prolific's "fair pay" policy.

Risks and benefits

There are no known risks to taking part in this study, and there are no benefits beyond the financial compensation for your time.

Confidentiality and the use of your data

During the experiment, we will record various pieces of information about your performance on the task, such as your button clicks and reaction times. We will analyze this data only for the stated purposes of this study. We will *not* collect any personal information about you, such as your name or geographic location. The

only piece of identifying information we collect is your Prolific participant ID. This is so that we can pay you and so that we can delete your data should you wish to withdraw from the study in the future.

The anonymous data we collect from you will be stored on a secure web server located in Frankfurt, Germany, and later it will be moved to secure servers maintained by SISSA in Trieste, Italy. This data may eventually be made freely and publicly available in research archives or in scientific publications along with that of many other participants. However, we will *never* disclose your Prolific participant ID, nor any other personal information.

More generally, your data will be processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) of the European Union. You have the right to access the information we hold about you, and you also have rights of correction, erasure, and objection. Questions, comments, or requests about the data we have collected or about your rights may be addressed to SISSA's Data Protection Officer (DPO), Valentina Carollo, by emailing dpo@sisssa.it

Voluntary participation and the right to withdraw

Your participation in this research project is entirely voluntary. You may withdraw at any time up to 31 July 2021 without having to provide an explanation. After this date we cannot guarantee that your fully anonymous data will not have been placed into the public domain. If you withdraw from the study during or after data collection, we will delete your data at that time and there is no penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

By accepting and participating in this study, you agree to the following:

1. I confirm that I am at least 18 years old.
2. I have read the above information relating to the purpose and procedures of this study.
3. I have been informed about the aims and objectives of this research.
4. I have had the opportunity to ask questions about the experimental procedure and I have obtained satisfactory answers.
5. I am aware of any risks related to taking part in this experiment.
6. I have received satisfactory assurances on the confidentiality of my data.
7. I understand that the anonymous data I produce may be kept permanently in archives and made freely available online.
8. I am aware that I am free to withdraw from the study at any stage.