# Procedural preferences for autonomy: an experimental study with Colombian workers Experimental protocol in english

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**General note:** Scripts for participants in control are locked in  $\{\ \}$ . Scripts for participants in treatment 1 are locked in  $[\ ]$ . Scripts for participants in treatment 2 are locked in  $\langle\ \rangle$ . Scripts specific for not coordinators are in italics.

Each participant only sees the scripts that correspond to their treatment and role.

#### Consent

You will participate in a game of economic decisions. Your earnings in this activity will be in a range between 10,000 and 30,000 COP. Earnings will depend on your choices and the decisions of other participants in this activity.

The project researchers will use your information (decisions and earnings) confidentially and for strictly academic purposes.

Your participation is voluntary. You can withdraw at any time. However, if you decide to retire before the exercise ends, you will not receive any profit. You may also be removed from the activity if you do not continue with the indicated tasks after a second wake-up call for doing other activities. In this case, you will also not receive any profit.

If you complete the activity, your earnings will be processed after you finish answering a survey in which you will need to answer some questions about yourself and the activity.

After knowing your earnings, you must fill out a payment questionnaire with your personal data (name, identity document, and bank account). We will transfer your earnings 48 business hours after receiving your information. Your banking information will be deleted once your

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payment is made. If you want a copy of this informed consent, please ask us for it, and we will send it to you by email.

ACCEPTANCE: Click the two boxes if you agree to continue. Please close this window and leave the game session if you decide not to continue with the study.

- I understand the above information and my rights and commitments during this exercise.
- I understand that I will receive my payment within 48 business hours after successfully submitting my banking information.

To start, please enter the initials of your first and last name followed by your date of birth. For example, if your name is Lina Rios and you were born on February 11, 1995, you must enter LR11021995. Type everything in uppercase. This label is important to ensure your participation in the rest of the activity and the realization of payments.

## Welcome and general instructions

Bienvenid@!

You will perform two tasks in which you will translate a sequence of numbers into a series of **vowels** or **consonants**. We will call them "vowel task" and "consonant task." Your earnings will depend on how many sequences of numbers you translate into various stages of this activity.

Please silence your mobile phone and avoid any distracting elements that may interrupt it for the next few minutes.

The activity will have three (3) stages:

**Stage 1 – Individual Practice Round** You will participate in the "vowel task" and "consonant task" for 90 seconds.

For each combination of letters translated correctly, you will receive 500 pesos.

After participating in both tasks, you will have to choose the task you prefer.

#### Stage 2 – Task in Pairs

You will be matched with another participant who has performed similarly in the Practice Round. Each member of the group will have to do one of two tasks.

{ It will be chosen at random which member of the group will do the vowel task and which will do the consonant task. }

[A member of the group will be chosen to be the Coordinator. The Coordinator will decide whether to assign the other person the task of vowels or the task of consonants. The Coordinator will perform the other task.]

 $\langle$  A group member will be chosen to be the Coordinator. The Coordinator will decide whether to assign the other person the task of vowels or the task of consonants. The Coordinator will perform the other task. Before assigning tasks, the Coordinator will know what the other group member's preferred task is.  $\rangle$ 

The assigned task, whether vowels or consonants, must be done for 3 minutes.

At this stage, you will receive 1000 pesos for each combination of numbers translated correctly in the task you perform.

#### Stage 3 – Task in Pairs or Individual

You will do one of the tasks again for 3 minutes. You will receive 1000 COP for each combination of numbers translated correctly.

The novelty at this stage is that you can choose between:

- 1. Do the task individually
- 2. Do homework in pairs

If you prefer to do the task individually, you will have to pay an amount of money, which will be deducted from your earnings from the activity.

{If you choose the task in pairs, the task will be randomly reassigned. }

[If you choose the task in pairs, the Coordinator will be randomly chosen again. The Coordinator will decide whether to assign the other person the task of vowels or the task of consonants. The Coordinator will perform the other task.]

〈 If you choose the task in pairs, the Coordinator will be chosen again at random. The Coordinator will decide whether to assign the other person the task of vowels or the task of consonants. The Coordinator will perform the other task. Before assigning tasks, the Coordinator will know what the other group member's preferred task is. 〉

At the end, you will be presented with 5 situations in which, depending on your decisions and chance, you can obtain an additional profit.

At the end of the three stages, we will inform you of your total earnings from the activity.

## Do you have questions?

Please write us by chat. One of the monitors will contact you and offer help.

# **Verification survey**

Answer the following questions to verify that you understood the experiment.

Who will perform the assignment of tasks within each couple?

- The computer randomly
- The player assigned as Coordinator
- Each one chooses the task to perform

How many types of translation tasks are in the game?

- 1, the consonant task
- 2, the consonant task and the vowel task
- 1, the vowel task

At what stage will you be able to pay a sum of money to play individually?

- At all stages
- In stage 3 Task in Pairs or Individual
- In stage 2 Task in Pairs

# **Answers – Comprehension Survey**

The following are the correct answers to the comprehension survey. Make sure you understand the correct answer to each question.

**Question 1**: Who will perform the assignment of tasks within each couple?

Answer: The player assigned as Coordinator.

{Answer: The computer randomly}

**Question 2**: How many types of translation tasks are in the game?

Answer: 2, the task of consonants and the task of vowels

Question 3: At what stage will you be able to pay a sum of money to play individually?

Answer: In stage 3 - Task in Pairs or Individual Please write to us via Zoom's private chat if you have any questions.

# **Stage 1: Individual Practice Round**

Then you will perform the tasks of vowels and consonants.

Both tasks consist of taking each combination of 5 numbers, a code, and doing the respective translation into VOWELS or CONSONANTS.

Make sure you understand the instructions for the two tasks before you begin the practice round.

## Write vowels

You will see a sequence of numbers that you must translate into a series of vowels (A, E, I, O, U). Since each **NUMBER corresponds to a VOWEL**, you must type this vowel as a response in each box.

Each time you complete a sequence, make *click* on the "Submit" button.

If the translation has errors, the computer will ask you to correct them. If the translation is error-free, the sequence will be complete.

The NUMBERS and associated VOWELS will change at the end of a sequence. That is, each translation is different from the previous one.

#### Write consonants:

You will see a sequence of numbers that you must translate into a series of consonants (Z, D, J, K, L). Since each **NUMBER corresponds to a CONSONANT**, you must write this consonant as a response in each box.

Each time you complete a sequence, make click on the "Submit" button. If the translation has

errors, the computer will ask you to correct them. If the translation is error-free, the sequence will be complete.

The NUMBERS and associated CONSONANTS will change at the end of a sequence. That is, each translation is different from the previous one.

#### How to do the translation?

Below you can see the screen you will see during the consonant task. The vowel task screen is similar.

You find a table with the keys to translate into consonants or vowels at the top.

You find a table with 5 numbers and 5 empty boxes at the bottom. You must write the CONSONANT or VOWEL that corresponds to each NUMBER.

We want to remind you that there are only five consonants in translation, and they will be the same in all consonant tasks. The image below shows the location of those five consonants, just below the five vowels. This can be confirmed on your keyboard.

In each task, you will have **90 seconds** to successfully complete as many sequences as you can. You will earn 500 pesos for each sequence successfully.

After completing each task, you must answer which task you would prefer to perform at the next stage if this decision was up to you.

Please press next to get started. Once you click, time will start running.

## Task change

You have finished the task of "Writing consonants/vowels." Once you click on "next" the time of the task "Write consonants/vowels" will begin to run.

#### **Preferences**

If you could choose which task to play in the next stage of the game, which of the task would you prefer to perform?

- Write consonants
- Write vowels

## Stage 2: Task in pairs

You will be paired with another participant. Both performed similarly on the two coding tasks. Each group member will have to do one of the two coding tasks at this stage.

{It will be chosen at random which member of the group will do the vowel task and which will do the consonant task. }

[A member of the group will be chosen to be the Coordinator. The Coordinator will decide whether to assign the other person the task of vowels or the task of consonants. The Coordinator will perform the other task.]

.  $\langle$ A member of the group will be chosen to be the Coordinator. The Coordinator will decide whether to assign the other person the task of vowels or the task of consonants. The Coordinator will perform the other task. Before assigning tasks, the Coordinator will know what the other member of the group's preferred task is.  $\rangle$ 

The assigned task, whether vowels or consonants, must be done for 3 minutes.

At this stage, you will receive 1000 pesos for each combination of numbers translated correctly.

# **Pairing**

You have been matched with another person of similar performance. {The computer will randomly assign which task you will perform. The other task will be assigned to the other member of your team. }

[You are the Coordinator, you will assign the tasks. / You are NOT the Coordinator. The other member of your team will assign the tasks.]

(You are the Coordinator, you will assign the tasks after knowing the task preferred by the other team member. / You are NOT the Coordinator. The other team member will assign the tasks after knowing your preferred task. )

**Assignment** (Only applies for treatments 1 and 2)

You are the Coordinator.

⟨ The other member of your group prefers the task of CONSONANTS/VOWELS. ⟩

Please assign tasks.

- I will do the CONSONANTS task, and the other player will do the VOWELS task
- I will do the VOWELS task, and the other player will do the CONSONANTS task

The other member of your team is the Coordinator. Please wait for me to decide on the assignment of tasks.

⟨The Coordinator has been informed that you prefer the task of CONSONANTS/VOWELS.⟩

## Assignment results

{You were randomly assigned to the task of "CONSONANTS"/"VOWELS." }

[ \( \text{According to your choice, you will perform the task of "Task Chosen." The other group member will perform the task ("Task not chosen").

The Coordinator has chosen the task of "Task chosen." Therefore, he assigned you the task of "Task not chosen." Each will have 3 minutes to perform the assigned task.]

## Stage 2 results

During this stage, you code X2 sequences of numbers correctly.

Your earnings at this stage are *X*2*x*1000

## Stage 3: Pairs or Individual Task

You will do one of the tasks again for 3 minutes. You will receive 1000 pesos for each combination of numbers translated correctly.

The novelty at this stage is that you can choose between:

- 1. Pay an amount of money, which will be deducted from your earnings from the activity, if you prefer to do the task individually
- 2. Redo homework in pairs

If you choose the individual task, you can decide if you want to do the CONSONANT or VOWEL TASK. But you will have to pay random price. This amount will be deducted from your round winnings.

{If you choose the task in pairs, the task will be randomly reassigned. }

[If you choose the task in pairs, the Coordinator will be randomly chosen again. The Coordinator will decide whether to assign the other person the task of vowels or the task of consonants. The Coordinator will perform the other task.]

 $\langle$  If you choose the task in pairs, the Coordinator will be chosen again at random. The Coordinator will decide whether to assign the other person the task of vowels or the task of consonants. The Coordinator will perform the other task. Before assigning tasks, the Coordinator will know what the other group member's preferred task is.  $\rangle$ 

You may be assigned with a different participant but who also performed similarly in Stage 1.

### underlineStage 3: Pairs or individual task

Do you agree to pay *F* to play individually and choose between the CONSONANTS or VOW-ELS task?

So far, you have earned *X* pesos for your participation in this activity.

- Accept
- Does not accept

## Stage 3: Results

You agree to pay *F* to move to the individual scheme. Therefore, during this round you will participate individually.

( You do NOT agree to pay *F* to move to the individual scheme. Therefore, during this round, you will participate in a group, as in Stage 2. )

#### **Pairing**

(For those who are still in the group scheme)

You have been matched with another person of similar performance. (However, this person decided to pay to move to the individual scheme. Therefore, at this stage, you will play with

the computer as a couple. )

{The computer will randomly assign which task you will perform. The other task will be assigned to the other member of your team. }

[You are the Coordinator, you will assign the tasks. / You are NOT the Coordinator. The other member of your team will assign the tasks.]

⟨You are the Coordinator, you will assign the tasks after knowing the task preferred by the other team member. / You are NOT the Coordinator. The other team member will assign the tasks after knowing your preferred task. ⟩

## Assignment

You are the Coordinator.

 $\langle$ The another member of your group prefers the task of CONSONANTS/VOWELS.  $\rangle$  Please assign tasks.

- I will do the CONSONANTS task, and the other player will do the VOWELS task
- I will do the VOWELS task, and the other player will do the CONSONANTS task

The other member of your team is the Coordinator. Please wait for me to decide on the assignment of tasks.

*\langle The Coordinator has been informed that you prefer the task of CONSONANTS/VOWELS\rangle.* 

(For those who choose the individual scheme)

What task do you want to perform at this stage?

- Write consonants
- Write vowels

#### **Assignment results**

{You were randomly assigned to the task of "CONSONANTS"/"VOWELS." }

⟨ [ According to your choice, you will perform the task of "Task Chosen." The other member
of your group will perform the task of ("Task not chosen")./

The Coordinator has chosen the task of "Task chosen." Therefore, you will perform the task of "Task not chosen." Each will have 90 seconds to perform the assigned task.]

# Stage 3 results

During this stage, you code X3 sequence of numbers correctly.

Your earnings at this stage are X3 \* 1000 pesos.

You decided to pay *F* to do homework individually.

Your final earnings at this stage are (X3 \* 3000) - F pesos.

#### Overall results.

(This page is shown after completing the three stages and the demographic survey)

Please read the information on this page carefully and correctly follow the instructions at the end.

You have completed all three stages of this experiment.

In Stage 1 you won gain1 on the individual task

In Stage 2 you won gain2 on the group task

In Stage 3 you won gain3 on the individual/group task

Your total profit from participation in this experiment is *XXX* 

Please note that payment for your participation will be made electronically within 48 business hours from the time you fill out the payment form.

Payment form instructions

1. Copy (ctrl + c) the following code:

#### **AEBCDE**

2. Click on the link below to access the form. Once there, paste the code into the question that requests it and finish filling out the form.

https://surveys. urosary. edu.co/index. php/846598? lang=en

Thank you for participating!