Introduction

Rutgers Laboratory for Developmental Language Studies
Acquisition, Development, and Representation of Linguistic Knowledge

<u>INFORMED CONSENT FORM</u> – Adults, Subject Pool, Online

You are invited to participate in a research study that is being conducted by Dr. Kristen Syrett, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Linguistics and the Center for Cognitive Science at Rutgers University – New Brunswick. The purpose of this research is to investigate what children and adults understand about aspects of meaning in their native language and how this knowledge is acquired.

In this study, we will ask you to read some words or sentences, or look at some images or videos. You will be asked to provide your judgment about these materials, make a selection given certain instructions, or follow the experimenter's directions to perform some action with the materials. Your reaction time may be monitored. You may provide your consent to be audio and/or video-recorded. Over the course of this particular study, approximately 20 to 100 participants will participate. The study lasts between 20 and 45 minutes.

You will receive course credit (extra credit or points towards the fulfillment of your experimental requirement) for your participation in this study, according to the guidelines of the subject pool and/or your instructor. If you choose not to participate, you will be offered other opportunities to earn experimental course credit and/or extra credit in your course, such as video viewing or a short report. These guidelines will be provided by your instructor and may be listed on your course syllabus.

Participation in this study is voluntary. You will not be compensated for your participation in this study. While your linguistic skills are not likely to improve from participation in this research, your responses may provide us with valuable data about the process of child language acquisition and development, and the nature of the adult grammar and language processor.

There are no foreseeable risks to participation in this study. You may choose not to participate, and you may withdraw at any time during the study procedures without any penalty to you. In addition, you may choose not to answer any questions with which you are not entirely comfortable.

This research is confidential. *Confidential* means that we will collect information from you, including your gender, age, race and ethnicity, other expertise, and possibly your IP address, which will remain on file. This information will not be used to identify you in any way, and your IP address will not be used for any purposes other than to ensure that you do not participate in the same study twice. We use this information to understand more about our findings and the factors involved in language development and comprehension. Responses and demographic information are collected for all participants and analyzed to report trends <u>across participants</u>. This information will be stored in such a manner that some link between your identity and responses in the research will exist. You will be assigned an arbitrary code that will be associated with your data. Should an individual response be used as example, personal identifying information will be removed beforehand. Please note that we will keep this information confidential by limiting access to the research data and keeping it in a secure location in our lab. All electronic files are password-protected.

Our research team and the Institutional Review Board at Rutgers University are the only parties that will be allowed to see the data, except as may be required by law. If a report of this study is published, or the results are presented at a professional conference, no results that can be linked to an individual will be presented. All study data will be kept for the duration of the study and its publication for a finite period of time between three and ten years.

If you have any questions about the study procedures, you may contact Dr. Syrett at
Rutgers Center for Cognitive Science (RuCCS)
152 Frelinghuysen Road, Psychology Building Addition

Please fill out the following fields.

First name

Last name

4-digit SONA ID

Training

In the following screens, you will read a series of short scenarios one by one.

Read each one carefully. At the end, someone will deliver an utterance. This will be followed by a question asking how likely a person's response it.

Your job is to respond by moving the slider the appropriate amount according to your response.

We will now go through 2 examples.

Example story.

Ozzy and Ronnie are looking at rare collector's books on bird-watching. They mapped out all the used and rare bookstores within 10 miles of their house.

Later, their friend Tony asks Ronnie, "What stores did you go to?"

How likely is Ronnie to give an answer like, "Barnes and Noble"?

Unlikely					Likely
0	1	2	3	4	5

Example story.

Mo and Lou went to the mall last weekend. Mo wanted to buy a leather jacket, but all the stores were closed.

Later, their friend Sterling asks Mo, "What were you looking for?"

How likely is Mo to respond with an answer like, "A leather jacket"?

	Unlikely					Likely
	0	1	2	3	4	5

likely_nomod_MO

Fido the dog buried his toys in the backyard last week. He hid them so well that now he cannot seem to find any. A neighbor, Jill, comes over to help Mary, Fido's owner, find the toys in the yard.

Fido hid his toys behind the shed, next to the large tree, under the swing set, and under the deck. No toys were in the middle of the yard, on the side of the house, or near the mailbox.

Jill asks Mary, "Where did Fido hide his toys?"

If Jill concludes, "Mary knows where Fido hid his toys", how likely is it that Mary gave an answer like, "Behind the shed"?

	Unlikely					Likely
	0	1	2	3	4	5

Davey bought too much chocolate from Costco the other day. He asks his friend Mackenzie to hide the chocolate for him, or else he will eat it all.

Mackenzie stored the chocolate in the dresser drawers, in the linen closet, and inside Davey's suitcase, but not in the freezer or in Davey's desk.

Later, Davey asks his friend Joe, "Where did Mackenzie store the chocolate?"

If Davey concludes, "Joe knows where Mackenzie stored the chocolate", how likely is it that Joe gave an answer like, "In the dresser drawers"?

	Unlikely					Likely
	0	1	2	3	4	5

Billy, Susie and their neighbors are playing hide and seek in the park. It is his turn to close his eyes and count to ten.

His friends hide under the slide, in the tunnel, and behind the swings, but not in the tree.

Later, Billy's mom asks Susie's dad, "Where did the kids hide?"

If Billy's mom reports, "Susie's dad knows where the kids hid", how likely is it that Susie's dad gave an answer like, "Under the slide"?

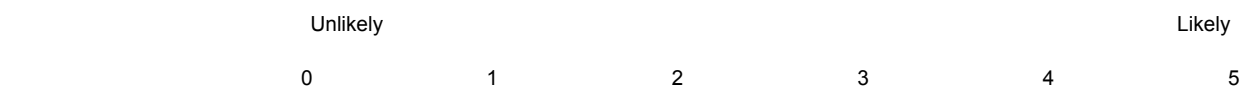|	Unlikely					Likely
	0	1	2	3	4	5

The Paris Hotel only accommodates seven people in a hotel room. The Vellucis have decided to go on vacation and stay in a fancy hotel. Mom and Dad allowed Amanda to invite three friends to come on vacation with them.

Amanda invited Jenny, Buster, and Janice, but not Robbie or Sally.

Mom asks Dad, "Who did Amanda invite?"

If Mom concludes, "Dad knows who Amanda invited", how likely is it that Dad gave an answer like, "Jenny"?

	Unlikely					Likely
	0	1	2	3	4	5

Christina and Gabe are deciding who they're going to select for office party planning committee this year. They ask Bill, Jimmy, Cate, and Veronica, but not Sam or Ezra to be on the committee.

Their boss asks the manager, "Who did Christina and Gabe select?"

If the boss concludes, "The manager knows who Christina and Gabe selected", how likely is it that the manager gave an answer like, "Bill"?

	Unlikely					Likely
	0	1	2	3	4	5

There are six sales associates working at Nordstrom's on Black Friday. A notoriously difficult but regular customer has come into the store today. The manager and assistant manager, who usually help this customer, are very busy.

Dana, Crystal and Molly are all very professional sales associates, and helped the customer with their needs. Parker and Taylor were unhelpful and inattentive to the customer.

The manager asks the assistant manager, "Who helped the customer?"

How likely is the assistant manager to give an answer like, "Dana"?

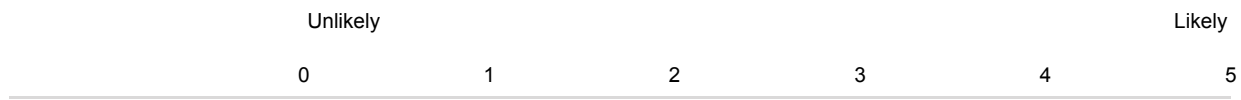| Unlikely					Likely
0	1	2	3	4	5

For a summer trip, two friends Meg and Xavier are traveling to Petra in Jordan. Petra, an ancient city, has walls surrounding the city, so you can only enter at certain places and you have to pay an entrance fee.

Two days they snuck into the city, and two days they paid the entrance fee. They also had the option to work in exchange for free entrance, but they did not choose that option.

Later, their two friends Tonia and Jill are discussing Meg and Xavier's trip. Tonia asks Jill, "How did they get into Petra?"

If Tonia concludes, "Jill knows how they got into Petra", how likely is it that Jill gave an answer like, "They snuck into the city"?

Unlikely					Likely
0	1	2	3	4	5

Tim needs some advice about what he should do after high school because he's not sure about going to college just yet.

He asked his friends for advice, he read several coming-of-age memoirs about college, and then he went to the guidance counselor's office. He thought about asking his parents' advice, but didn't do that.

His brother asks his sister, "How did Tim decide about college?"

If his brother reports, "She knows how Tim decided about college", how likely is it that his sister gave an answer like, "He asked his friends for advice"?

	Unlikely				Likely
0	1	2	3	4	5

Zack is going on vacation to California and really wants to see the Hollywood Sign.

He ended up seeing the sign while hiking in Beachwood Canyon, while walking through Lake Hollywood Park, and when he was visiting the Griffith Observatory. However, he couldn't see it from Downtown or while he was hiking in Runyon Canyon Park.

Later, his dad asks his sister Fiona, "How did Zack see the Hollywood sign?"

If his dad reports, "Fiona knows how Zack saw the Hollywood sign", how likely is it that Fiona gave an answer like, "While hiking in Beachwood Canyon"?

	Unlikely				Likely
0	1	2	3	4	5