

## Recruitment + Pre-study Setup

### For choosing participants:

- Reach out to people who we aren't close with to take part in our study. Could be a classmate we know. The people we choose don't need to know anything beforehand because we're studying the natural way any human would work/understand new game

### Setup –prior to an in-person study:

- Make sure you have the consent form the participants will have to sign.
- Since each study conductor will be interviewing participants on two different games, make sure we have a cheat sheet for the instructions of the games unless we know it by heart.
- **Print this document** and use it to conduct study.
- Find a room / setup a room where you have a table and two chairs facing each other, with the table between them. The table should be small enough that the people can draw on the sheet of paper, without having to pass the paper across the table.
- Have multiple sheets of blank white paper (printer papers) which will be used to play the game on. Place one sheet in the center of the table, between the people.
- Prepare two pencils and an eraser, place them beside the paper.
- Bring a tripod and set up your phone to use as a camera.
  - Ensure that you have enough space to record 30 minutes of video without incident.
  - Ensure that you are recording audio and double-check that the audio quality is good enough (with a practice recording beforehand).
  - **Ensure that the camera is pointed just at the piece of paper and capable of capturing what is being drawn, not the faces of the participants (e.g., it should only capture the paper and the immediate space around the paper).**
- If possible, bring a second audio-recording device like your laptop, as a back-up, in case the audio is poor on the camera.

# Interview Protocol Form

Date :

Time :

Location :

Interviewer :

## Consent Procedure + Introductory Protocole (Script)

“ Thank you for participating in our study. The purpose of our research is to understand how humans comprehend and apply the rules of a new game. Your participation will help us gain insights into gameplay behavior and decision-making strategies.”

“ Before we get started, we ask that you complete two quick steps. First, we have a consent form that we’d like you to review and sign. Next, we’ll ask you to fill out a brief questionnaire that will help us gather general information about your background. This should only take a few minutes.”

[Hand them the consent form]

[Provide a device or link for them to fill out the Google form]

“Here’s a breakdown of the study :

For about the first ten minutes, we will explain to you the rules of the game and how to play. Feel free to ask a question if anything seems confusing at any part---this should feel like a natural conversation.”

“Second, after explaining the game, we will start playing the game on paper. We can play more than one round, if there’s time. At any point, once again, feel free to chat and ask questions as you would normally if a friend was teaching you a new game.”

“And finally, we will have a short debrief on how the game was and ask you a few questions. We would like to remind you again to feel free to ask questions or speak your mind at any point during the study.”

“Now, please review the consent form and sign if you wish to continue. And would also like to inform you that the video being recorded will be collected to further advance in our research. This is a condition of participation in the study. We are only capturing the paper shared between us and the audio of our conversation, and we will transcribe the video into text (the video itself will remain private to the research team).”

[Only proceed if they sign, and **double-check that they have ticked the box for video recording!**]

- ☐ Participants signed and have ticked the box for video recording.
- ☐ Participants filled out the Google form : <https://forms.gle/EWXuPmXPNVWMXNdA9>

### **Step 1: Explanation of game rules and instructions (~ 10 min)**

### **Step 2: Play the game using the blank sheet of paper (~ 10 min)**

- Make sure you draw the grid or the “playground” inside which you will be playing the game
- Leave space on the side to keep track of points or state of game

### **Step 3: Debriefing with post-study questions (~ 5 min)**

- How did you find the game? Was the objective of the game clear?
- Were there any rules you found confusing?
- Did you think of any strategies to win during the gameplay?
- Do you have any suggestions or comments that could make the game better?