Moral asymmetries and the semantics of "many"
Supplemental Material

Paul Egré, Florian Cova

AGE :

SEXE :

Un incendie s'est déclaré dans une école dans laquelle se trouvaient 10 enfants. 5 des enfants ont survécu, les 5 autres sont morts.

QUESTION :

Diriez-vous que beaucoup d'enfants ont survécu ?

- o OUI
- o NON

AGE :

SEXE :

Un incendie s'est déclaré dans une école dans laquelle se trouvaient 10 enfants. 5 des enfants ont survécu, les 5 autres sont morts.

QUESTION :

Diriez-vous que beaucoup d'enfants sont morts ?

- o OUI
- o NON

AGE :

SEXE :

Un incendie s'est déclaré dans une école dans laquelle se trouvaient 10 enfants. 5 des enfants ont survécu, les 5 autres sont morts.

QUESTIONS:

*A partir de quel nombre d'enfants ayant survécu diriez-vous que beaucoup d'enfants ont survécu ?

*A partir de quel nombre d'enfants morts diriez-vous que beaucoup d'enfants sont morts ?

AGE :

SEXE :

Un incendie s'est déclaré dans une école dans laquelle se trouvaient 10 enfants. 5 des enfants ont survécu, les 5 autres sont morts.

QUESTIONS:

*A partir de quel nombre d'enfants morts diriez-vous que beaucoup d'enfants sont morts ?

*A partir de quel nombre d'enfants ayant survécu diriez-vous que beaucoup d'enfants ont survécu ?

Age:

Gender:

10 children were present in a school when a fire broke out. 5 children survived, the other 5 died.

Would you say that many children survived?

- o YES
- o NO

Would you say that many children died?

- o YES
- o NO

*From which number of children having survived would you say that many children survived? (Give an answer between 1 and 10)

*From which number of children being dead would you say that many children died? (Give an answer between 1 and 10)

First, some information about you:

A. What is your gender?

Male

Female

B. What is your age?

Please, read the following texts, then answer each question without ever going back or revising your answer:

Question 1:

A boat sailing on a shallow river with 120 passengers on board hits a sandbank and begins to sink.

How many passengers do you think will survive? (Give an answer between 0 and 120)

Question 2:

A boat sailing on the ocean with 120 passengers on board blows up due to motor malfunction.

How many passengers do you think will survive? (Give an answer between 0 and 120)

Thank you for answering this survey!

Please provide any comments you may have below, we appreciate your input!

First, what is your mother tongue?

A. What is your native language?

Please. Participate to this experiment ONLY if your native language is ENGLISH.

Please, read the following text, then answer each question without ever going back or revising your answer:

A boat sailing on a shallow river with 10 passengers on board hits a sandbank and begins to sink.

5 of the 10 passengers drown and die, 5 are able to reach the shore.

Would you say that many passengers died?
- o YES
- o NO

Starting from which number of dead passengers would you agree to say that many passengers died? (Give an answer between 1 and 10)

Now, some information about you:

What is your gender?
- o Male
- o Female

What is your age?

Please, read the following text, then answer each question without ever going back or revising your answer:

A boat sailing on a shallow river with 10 passengers on board hits a sandbank and begins to sink.

5 of the 10 passengers drown and die, 5 are able to reach the shore.

Would you say that many passengers survived?
- o YES
- o NO

Starting from which number of survivors would you agree to say that many passengers survived? (Give an answer between 1 and 10)

Thank you for answering this survey!

Please provide any comments you may have below, we appreciate your input!

High probability of survival:

A boat sailing on a shallow river with 10/60/120 passengers onboard hits a sandbank and begins to sink.
5/30/60 of the 10/60/120 passengers drown and die, 5/30/60 are able to reach the shore.

Would you say that many passengers survived/died?
- o YES
- o NO

Starting from which number of survivors/dead passengers would you agree to say that many passengers survived/died? (Give an answer between 1 and 120)

Low probability of survival:

A boat sailing on the ocean with 10/60/120 passengers onboard blows up due to motor malfunction.
5/30/60 of the 10/60/120 passengers drown and die, 5/30/60 are able to cling to the remains of the boat and, two days later, are saved by a cargo ship that luckily sees them.

Would you say that many passengers survived/died?
- o YES
- o NO

Starting from which number of survivors/dead passengers would you agree to say that many passengers survived/died? (Give an answer between 1 and 120)

First, some information about you:

A. What is your gender?

   Male

   Female

B. What is your age?

Please, read the following texts, then answer each question without ever going back or revising your answer:

On a university campus, a college fraternity organizes a small student party. 10 show up to the party.

As planned by the organizers, the music at the party is played by a famous and talented band they booked weeks in advance. Also, there is a lot of alcohol, more than students at the party could ever drink.

How many students do you think stayed until the end of the party? (Give an answer between 1 and 10)

How many students do you think left before the end of the party? (Give an answer between 1 and 10)

Thank you for answering this survey!

Please provide any comments you may have below, we appreciate your input!

First, what is your mother tongue:

A. What is your native language?

Please. Participate to this experiment ONLY if your native language is ENGLISH.

Please, read the following text, then answer each question without ever going back or revising your answer:

On a university campus, a college fraternity organizes a big student party. 120 show up to the party.

However, the famous and talented band that was planned cannot come and is replaced at the last minute by an unknown local band. Moreover, alcohol supplies are too short and run out long before the end of the party.

60 of the students left the party before the end, while 60 others stayed until the end.

How many students stayed until the end?

Would you say that many students stayed until the end?
   o   YES
   o   NO

Starting from which number of students staying until the end would you agree to say that many students stayed? (Give an answer between 1 and 120)

Now, some information about you:

What is your gender ?

- o Male
- o Female

What is your age?

Please, read the following text, then answer each question without ever going back or revising your answer:

On a university campus, a college fraternity organizes a big student party. 120 show up to the party.

However, the famous and talented band that was planned cannot come and is replaced at the last minute by an unknown local band. Moreover, alcohol supplies are too short and run out long before the end of the party.

60 of the students left the party before the end, while 60 others stayed until the end.

How many students left before the end?

Would you say that many students left before the end?
- o YES
- o NO

Starting from which number of students leaving before the end would you agree to say that many students left? (Give an answer between 1 and 120)

Thank you for answering this survey!

Please provide any comments you may have below, we appreciate your input!

Good party case:

On a university campus, a college fraternity organizes a small / - / big student party. 10/60/120 show up to the party.

As planned by the organizers, the music at the party is played by a famous and talented band they booked weeks in advance. Also, there is a lot of alcohol, more than students at the party could ever drink.

5/30/60 of the students left the party before the end, while 5/30/60 others stayed until the end.

How many students left before/stayed until the end?

Would you say that many students left before/stayed until the end?
- o   YES
- o   NO

Starting from which number of students leaving before/staying until the end would you agree to say that many students left/stayed? (Give an answer between 1 and 10/60/120)

Bad party case:

On a university campus, a college fraternity organizes a small / - / big student party. 10/60/120 show up to the party.

However, the famous and talented band that was planned cannot come and is replaced at the last minute by an unknown local band. Moreover, alcohol supplies are too short and run out long before the end of the party.

5/30/60 of the students left the party before the end, while 5/30/60 others stayed until the end.

How many students left before/stayed until the end?

Would you say that many students left before/stayed until the end?

- o YES
- o NO

Starting from which number of students leaving before/staying until the end would you agree to say that many students left/stayed? (Give an answer between 1 and 10/60/120)

First, what is your mother tongue:

A. What is your native language?

Please. Participate to this experiment ONLY if your native language is ENGLISH.

Please, read the following text, then answer each question without ever going back or revising your answer:

60 students are taking a Chinese exam to prove that they have adequate skills in Chinese. Usually, about 25% of examinees succeed in this exam.

This time, 30 of the 60 students pass the exam, while 30 fail.

How many students failed?

Would you say that many students failed?
- o YES
- o NO

Starting from which number of students failing would you agree to say that many students failed? (Give an answer between 1 and 60)

Now, some information about you:

What is your gender?
- o Male
- o Female

What is your age?

Please, read the following text, then answer each question without ever going back or revising your answer:

60 students are taking a Chinese exam to prove that they have adequate skills in Chinese. Usually, about 25% of examinees succeed in this exam.

This time, 30 of the 60 students pass the exam, while 30 fail.

How many students passed?

Would you say that many students passed?
- o YES
- o NO

Starting from which number of students passing would you agree to say that many students passed? (Give an answer between 1 and 60)

Thank you for answering this survey!

Please provide any comments you may have below, we appreciate your input!

Easy exam case:

10/60/120 students are taking a Chinese exam to prove that they have adequate skills in Chinese. Usually, about 75% of examinees succeed in this exam.

This time, 5/30/60 of the 10/60/120 students pass the exam, while 5/30/60 fail.

How many students failed/passed?

Would you say that many students failed/passed?
- o YES
- o NO

Starting from which number of students failing/passing would you agree to say that many students failed/passed? (Give an answer between 1 and 10/60/120)

Hard exam case:

10/60/120 students are taking a Chinese exam to prove that they have adequate skills in Chinese. Usually, about 25% of examinees succeed in this exam.

This time, 5/30/60 of the 10/60/120 students pass the exam, while 5/30/60 fail.

How many students failed/passed?

Would you say that many students failed/passed?
- o YES
- o NO

Starting from which number of students failing/passing would you agree to say that many students failed/passed? (Give an answer between 1 and 10/60/120)