

Molly Experiment Guide

Mollystudy

Molly User Study Signup

🕒 1 hr 20 min

📍 MIT Behavioral Research Lab, 400 Main St #435,
Cambridge, MA 02142

This is a 60 to 90-minute user study session.

- ⚠️: Do NOT consume alcohol, caffeine, or smoke before the study session.
- ⚠️ **Please use the stairs** instead of the elevator to the 4th floor!
- ⚠️ Please drink plenty of water (~ 3 cups) an hour before arrival

To cancel or reschedule, please do so at least 24 hours before the scheduled time.

01. Pre-experiment instructions

Just like the guide above, please give participants the instructions before starting the experiment.

Then ask the questions below once again.

If they say they haven't had water, please provide a cup.

- **Q1: Did you drink water? If not, please have a cup before we begin.**
- **Q2: If you did not take the elevator, please continue walking for a moment.**

Afterward, please ask the participant to rest for 7 minutes.

02. General behavior during the session

Today, please remind participants to:

- Keep their hands on their lap while completing the written tasks.
- Avoid speaking unless they are answering a question.
- Not fall asleep during the session.

03. Movie task instructions

Before starting the movie, please explain that you will highlight several detailed points about this scary film, so they should pay close attention.

Before we start the movie, you're going to explain some detailed points about this scary film, so please pay close attention.

Scary movie clips to show:

E 28DaysLater clip 2.avi

E 28DaysLater clip 7.avi

Shutter (2004) ORIGINAL TRAILER [SUB]

We will show three movies and then ask you some questions.

- Q1 : Which movie was the scariest?
- Q2 : Please describe the scariest scene for about thirty seconds to one minute.

Before beginning the session, also inform the participant:

"All tasks you complete today will be scored. You will be representing MIT students, and we plan to compare the performance between MIT and Harvard participants."

04. Stroop task

Use the following motivational lines during the task:

"You won't reach the average at this pace."

"MIT students finished this task on average within 1 minute and 15 seconds."

05. Subtraction Task

Please use the following lines depending on their performance:

- "Based on the average scores of MIT (or Harvard) students, they reached up to **3465.**" / "3265."
- "We plan to upload each school's average score in a month for comparison. You will be representing MIT."

If the participant reaches the average:

- "You've reached the average."

If the participant does not reach the average:

- "You won't reach the average at this pace. For now, I'll save your score as the MIT representative."

Stroop task

1 minute 15 seconds

(MIT students)

Harvard's average: 59 seconds

Stroop task

1 minute 15 seconds

(Harvard students)

MIT's average: 59 seconds

Subtraction task

3465

(MIT students)

Harvard's average: 3382

Subtraction task

3465

(Harvard students)

MIT's average: 3365