

Consent Form for Participation in a Research Study
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Researcher(s):

Shota Momma, PhD

Study Title:

Language production study – online, oral production: 2019-2020

1. WHAT IS THIS FORM?

This form is called a Consent Form. It will give you information about the study so you can make an informed decision about participation in this research. We encourage you to take some time to think this over and ask questions now and at any other time. If you decide to participate, you will be asked to sign this form and you will be given a copy for your records.

2. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF THIS RESEARCH STUDY THAT I SHOULD BE AWARE OF?

- 1) Your participation to this study is completely voluntary.
- 2) The purpose of this study is to investigate the cognitive processes involved in producing English sentences. You will be asked to read (silently or aloud) or hear words phrases or sentences, and/or describe pictures of objects or events in English. You may also be asked to answer some questions about the sentences or the pictures you saw using a keyboard or by speaking to the microphone of their own computers. You may also be asked to solve simple arithmetic questions. You will be audio-recorded during the study. This study should take approximately 30 minutes.
- 3) Potential risks: There is no known to risk physical well being. There is no risk to economic wellbeing. There is a minimal risk of psychological discomfort from speaking complex sentences multiple times. There is a minimal risk of social discomfort from speaking to microphones and being audio recorded. There are only minimal risks to psychological and social wellbeing, as language and picture materials do not have inflammatory content, and as we will ensure that we only activate participants' microphone (with prior notification and consent) during the critical part of the experiment. You will be able to see whether the microphone is being activated or not at any moment during the study. A risk of breach of confidentiality always exists and we have taken the steps to minimize this risk as outlined in section 9 below.
- 4) Potential benefits: You may not directly benefit from this research; however, we hope that your participation in the study may help us better understand the processes involved in sentence production.

3. WHY ARE WE DOING THIS RESEARCH STUDY?

The purpose of this study is to investigate the cognitive processes involved in producing English sentences. We are interested in how speakers plan the structures of sentences as they speak sentences with varieties of structural configurations.

4. WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN THIS RESEARCH STUDY?

In order to be eligible to participate in this experiment, you must be a native speaker of English. You must have normal or corrected-to-normal vision, must not have a history of language or reading disorders, and must be at least 18 years old.

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5. WHERE WILL THIS RESEARCH STUDY TAKE PLACE AND HOW MANY PEOPLE WILL PARTICIPATE?

The experiment will take place online. Approximately 500 participants will participate in this study.

6. WHAT WILL I BE ASKED TO DO AND HOW MUCH TIME WILL IT TAKE?

If you agree to take part in this study, you will be asked to read (silently or aloud) or hear words phrases or sentences, and/or describe pictures of objects or events in English. You may also be asked to answer some questions about the sentences or the pictures you saw using a keyboard or by speaking to the microphone of their own computers. You may also be asked to solve simple arithmetic questions. You will be audio-recorded during the study. This study should take approximately 30 minutes.

7. WILL BEING IN THIS RESEARCH STUDY HELP ME IN ANY WAY?

You may not directly benefit from this research; however, we hope that your participation in the study may help us better understand the processes involved in sentence production.

8. WHAT ARE MY RISKS OF BEING IN THIS RESEARCH STUDY?

There is no known to risk physical well-being. There is no risk to economic wellbeing. There is a minimal risk of psychological discomfort from speaking complex sentences multiple times. There is a minimal risk of social discomfort from speaking to microphones and being audio recorded. There are only minimal risks to psychological and social wellbeing, as language and picture materials do not have inflammatory content, and as we will ensure that we only activate participants' microphone (with prior notification and consent) during the critical part of the experiment. You will be able to see whether the microphone is being activated or not at any moment during the study. A risk of breach of confidentiality always exists and we have taken the steps to minimize this risk as outlined in Section 9 below.

9. HOW WILL MY PERSONAL INFORMATION BE PROTECTED?

The following procedures will be used to protect the confidentiality of participants' study records. The researchers will keep all electronic files records (including any codes to your data) in (a) password protected lab computer, (b) password protected lab server, and (c) private, password-protected repository in the Open Science Foundation. Your data will be given random identifiers, and the link between your information and participant identifier will not be recorded anywhere, destroying the link between your identity and your data. At the conclusion of this study, the researchers may publish their findings and their data, and de-identified data (except audio recordings) will be made public on the Open Science Framework. Information will be presented in summary format in publication, and any data shared on the Open Science Framework will be completely de-identified and could not be traced back to you. You will not be identified in any publications or presentations. Audio data will never be made public, and they will be deleted 5 years after data collection. You will not be identified in any publications or presentations.

10. WILL MY INFORMATION (BIOSPECIMENS OR PRIVATE INFORMATION) BE USED FOR RESEARCH IN THE FUTURE?

The de-identified information may be used for future research without additional informed consent from you.

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11. WILL I BE GIVEN ANY MONEY OR OTHER COMPENSATION FOR BEING IN THIS RESEARCH STUDY?

You will be compensated be compensated with \$5 USD. Your participation in the experiment is voluntary and you can withdraw at any time without penalty. Your compensation is prorated, and it is not contingent upon completion of all study procedures.

12. WHO CAN I TALK TO IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

If you have further questions about this project or if you have a research-related problem, you may contact the principal investigator, Shota Momma, snegishi@umass.edu. If you would like to speak with someone not directly involved in the research study, you may contact the Chair of the Linguistics Department, Dr. Joe Pater, at pater@linguist.mass.edu, or by phone at (413) 577-1308, or the Human Research Protection Office at the University of Massachusetts via email at humansubjects@ora.umass.edu; telephone at (413) 545-3428; or mail at the Human Research Protection Office, Research Administration Building, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 70 Butterfield Terrace, Amherst, MA, 01003-9242.

13. WHAT HAPPENS IF I SAY YES, BUT I CHANGE MY MIND LATER?

You do not have to be in this study if you do not want to. If you agree to be in the study, but later change your mind, you may drop out at any time. There are no penalties or consequences of any kind if you decide that you do not want to participate.

14. WHAT IF I AM INJURED?

The University of Massachusetts does not have a program for compensating subjects for injury or complications related to human subjects research, but the study personnel will assist you in getting treatment

15. SUBJECT STATEMENT OF VOLUNTARY CONSENT

By clicking “I agree” below you are indicating that you are at least 18 years old, have read this consent form and agree to participate in this research study. You are free to skip any question that you choose. Please print a copy of this page for your records.

I Agree

I Do Not
Agree

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