

Rating sentences: landing page sequence with consent information

Hi! These are the instructions. Please read them carefully, there will be a short quiz at the end.

This is part of a study being run by the University of Michigan. By clicking 'Next', you are agreeing to take part in it. To participate, you must be over 18. You should know that you're free to withdraw at any time (although you'll only be paid on completion), and that although data gained from this study may be published or viewed by University of Michigan staff and relevant government offices, you will not be identified and your personal details will not be divulged, nor will anything be linked to your Turk ID. Any identifiable data will be used for administration only and deleted on completion of the study, non-identifiable data may be shared and used in future research. Please direct any questions about this study to Steven Langsford at **slangsfo at umich dot edu**. The principle investigator is Prof. Richard Lewis.

If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, or wish to obtain information, ask questions, or discuss any concerns about this study with someone other than the researcher(s), please contact the Health Sciences and Behavioral Sciences review board at **irbhsbs at umich dot edu**, or phone (734) 936-0933, toll free (866) 936-0933.

This study takes about 15 minutes, please only continue if you have 15 minutes free without interruptions. Although you will not directly benefit from being in this study, the results will help linguists and modellers build more accurate descriptions of how language works. We don't believe there are any risks from participating in this research.

This study is about what makes a sentence well-formed in English.

There are probably lots of things that contribute to how 'good' a sentence sounds, including how easy it is to process, whether it makes sense, and whether or not it's grammatical.

In this study, we're looking at grammar specifically and how that relates to overall acceptability.

There will be two blocks of questions. One will ask you to rate how acceptable a sentence is, and the other will ask you to indicate if a sentence is grammatical or not.

A sentence is **grammatical** if it 'follows the rules' for constructing an English sentence. A sentence doesn't have to be a good sentence, or even make any sense at all to be grammatical.

The most famous example of this is the sentence 'colorless green ideas sleep furiously'. Even though this sentence doesn't make sense, it 'follows the rules' for constructing an English sentence. English speakers mostly agree that 'colorless green ideas sleep furiously' is grammatical while 'green furiously ideas colorless sleep' is not.

In the grammar block, please use the buttons on the screen to say how confident you are that the sentence is grammatical or ungrammatical. Please label all sentences with a grammatical error as ungrammatical, even if the error is small, and label all sentences with no errors as grammatical, even if they are badly written or unclear.

In contrast, 'acceptability' is a broader concept that is more about how natural a sentence sounds.

Among all grammatical sentences, some will be highly acceptable and 'sound good' while others will be not very acceptable and 'sound bad', even though they're all grammatical. Similarly, although ungrammatical sentences tend to 'sound bad', some are worse than others.

In the acceptability block, please rate each sentence on the acceptability scale provided. Sentences that sound natural should get higher ratings, sentences that sound bad should get lower ratings.

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