



School of Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences
Whiteknights, Reading, RG6 6AL

Study: Slow or quick?
How do we experience time in the presence of swear words?

STUDY CONSENT FORM

Supervisor:
Prof. Philip Beaman

Email
c.p.beaman@reading.ac.uk

Phone:
0118 378 7637

Experimenter:
Jiewei Zheng

jiewei.zheng@student.reading.ac.uk

Please read the following, and tick the box preceding it, to confirm you have read and agree to it.

- ☐ I understand participation is entirely voluntary and that I have the right to withdraw from the study at any time, without detriment, by simply closing my browser window.
- ☐ I have read the information sheet regarding the project: *'Slow or quick? How do we experience time in the presence of swear words?'* and understand the experimental procedure – especially that it involves repeatedly hearing a list of words, including swearwords that are considered offensive.
- ☐ I confirm that I have contacted the researchers prior to this study to ask any questions that I may have about the study, and these have been answered to my satisfaction
- ☐ I understand what information is collected about me, how it will be used in relation to the study, how it will be kept safe, and my rights in relation to my data.
- ☐ I understand that the data collected as part of this study will be preserved and made openly available in an anonymized form, so that they can be consulted and re-used by others.
- ☐ I understand that I can download the study 'Information Sheet' and this 'Consent Form' by clicking the link at the bottom of this form, or by requesting copies by emailing the experimenter listed above.
- ☐ I confirm that I am over the age of 18.
- ☐ I confirm that I am a native English speaker.
- ☐ Please tick the preceding box if you are happy to be contacted about future studies (optional)
- ☐ I understand that by clicking '**Continue**' that I provide **informed consent** to take part in this study.

Name:

Email Address:

This study has been reviewed by the School Research Ethics Committee and has been given a favourable ethical opinion for conduct (####-###-##; expiry date: 30/09/2024).

Thank you for taking part in our study.

Prof. Philip Beaman and Jiewei Zheng



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STUDY INFORMATION SHEET

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We would be grateful if you could assist us by participating in our study '*Slow or quick? How do we experience time in the presence of swearwords?*'.

What will I be asked to do?

You will be presented with a sequence of stimuli – either words or dots – on the screen and asked to press a button when you judge that the stimulus has been presented on the screen for three seconds. The words include swear words and “neutral” (non-swear words). At various points you will also hear words spoken aloud. Again, these words might include swear words, as well as “neutral” words. You should do your best to ignore these words and you will not be tested on them in any way. The words were recorded spoken in a normal, conversational level (i.e., no louder than a normal conversation) but we recommend that you complete the experiment in a quiet, private place. We also recommend that, if possible, you wear headphones (or earbuds) when participating in this study so that you do not disturb or offend anyone who might accidentally happen to be within earshot. We are also collecting basic demographic information to monitor the diversity and inclusivity of those who take part.

Who can participate in this study and are there any benefits to taking part?

You can participate in this study if you are over 18 years old.

Are there any risks or disadvantages to taking part?

This study is investigating how being exposed to swearwords influences people’s perception of the passage of time, and whether time appears to go either faster or slower when exposed to “taboo” language. The swear words have been chosen from amongst those independent raters indicated they were regularly exposed to and would use themselves. If you are at all uncomfortable with this aspect of the study, we, would advise you not to take part.

What will happen to my data/how will it be protected?

Your data will be kept anonymous, confidential, and securely stored, with only a random ID identifying it. The final dataset collected from this study will be preserved and made available in anonymised form, so that data can be re-used by others. This dataset will contain the mean of your estimates for how much time has



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passed in a number of different experimental conditions, and your demographic information. No identifiable information will be contained within this dataset.

Who can I contact about data privacy and storage?

The organisation responsible for protection of your personal information is the University of Reading (the Data Controller). Queries regarding data protection and your rights should be directed to the University Data Protection Officer at imps@reading.ac.uk, or in writing to: University of Reading, Information Management & Policy Services, Whiteknights House, Pepper Lane, Whiteknights, Reading, RG6 6UR.

The University of Reading collects, analyses, uses, shares, and retains personal data for the purposes of research in the public interest. Under data protection law we are required to inform you that this use of the personal data we may hold about you is on the lawful basis of being a public task in the public interest and where it is necessary for scientific or historical research purposes. If you withdraw from a research study, which processes your personal data, dependant on the stage of withdrawal, we may still rely on this lawful basis to continue using your data if your withdrawal would be of significant detriment to the research study aims. We will always have in place appropriate safeguards to protect your personal data.

As part of consenting to take part in this study, you will be asked if you are happy to be contacted about future research. This is entirely optional; you can still take part in the study even if you do not wish to be contacted in the future about other studies. Additionally, if you agree to be contacted but later change your mind, you can be removed from the list by emailing the study supervisor – Prof. Philip Beaman (c.p.beaman@reading.ac.uk).

You have certain rights under data protection law which are:

- Withdraw your consent, for example if you opted in to be added to a participant register
- Access your personal data or ask for a copy
- Rectify inaccuracies in personal data that we hold about you
- Be forgotten, that is your details to be removed from systems that we use to process your personal data
- Restrict uses of your data
- Object to uses of your data, for example retention after you have withdrawn from a study

Some restrictions apply to the above rights where data is collected and used for research purposes. You can find out more about your rights on the website of the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) at <https://ico.org.uk>. You also have a right to complain the ICO if you are unhappy with how your data has been handled. Please contact the University Data Protection Officer in the first instance.



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Who has reviewed this study?

This application has been reviewed by the School of Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences Research Ethics Committee and given a favourable ethical opinion for conduct (#####-###-##; expiry date: 30/09/2024).

Where can I get more information/who I can contact about this study?

Before taking part in this study, please make sure that you have asked any questions you may have and that you have received a satisfactory answer. If you do have questions and/or concerns about this study, please contact Jiewei Zheng (jiewei.Zheng@student.reading.ac.uk) before continuing.

Thank you for taking part in our study.

Prof. Philip Beaman and Jiewei Zheng