A better stroop test, in Qualtrics

By Antonio Pagano,

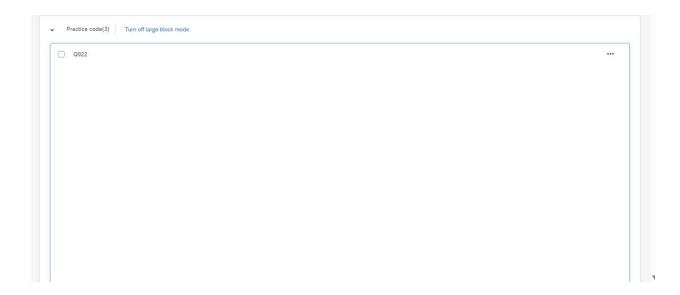
To accompany: Pagano, Antonio, "Cognitive and Social Behavioral Effects of War" (2024). Master's Theses. 1580. https://repository.usfca.edu/thes/1580\

This guide illustrates how to create an Emotional Stroop test as described here: <u>The Emotional Stroop Task: Assessing Cognitive Performance under Exposure to Emotional Content - PMC (nih.gov)</u>.

The experiment this is accompany to (Pagano, 2024) uses an improved Emotional Stroop test with causal measurements as tested through an experiment. In a difference-in-difference experimental methodology, this tests for changes in executive control as caused by viewing emotionally reactive words.

This guide contains the necessary encoding to create the stroop task itself in Qualtrics. This method is improved on other methods as it allows for multiple

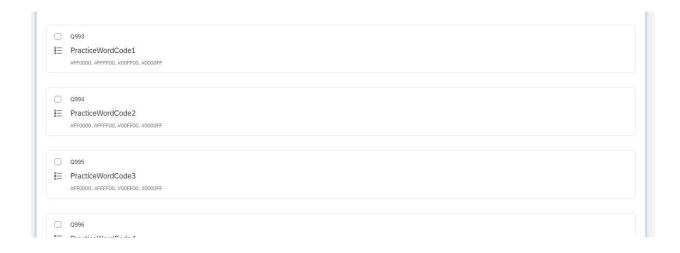
- First, create a block to contain the encoding for the words the subject will see on the stroop test.
 These words can be anything relevant. For control trials, use emotionally neutral shapes intermixed with colors.
 - (1) Create a large empty question to hide the text below it.

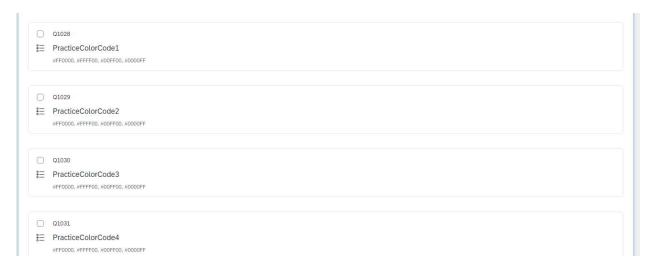


(2) Create the lists of the words that will flash on the screen. I created around 90 iterations of the words to last the subject 45 seconds. You have to create questions with response options that are the words you want to use. Name them sequentially. You need a list for the shapes or emotional words, a list for the color words you want to show, and a list for the numerical color encoding of each of the texts.

\Box	Q923		
Ξ	PracticeWord1		
	square, circle, triangle, rectangle, pentagon, hexagon, heptagon, octagon, oval, rhombus, sphere		
)	01063		
Ξ	PracticeWord2		
	square, circle, triangle, rectangle, pentagon, hexagon, heptagon, octagon, oval, rhombus, sphere		
	01064		
Ξ	PracticeWord3		
	square, circle, triangle, rectangle, pentagon, hexagon, heptagon, octagon, oval, rhombus, sphere		
)	Q1065		
Ξ	PracticeWord4		
	square, circle, triangle, rectangle, pentagon, hexagon, heptagon, octagon, oval, rhombus, sphere		

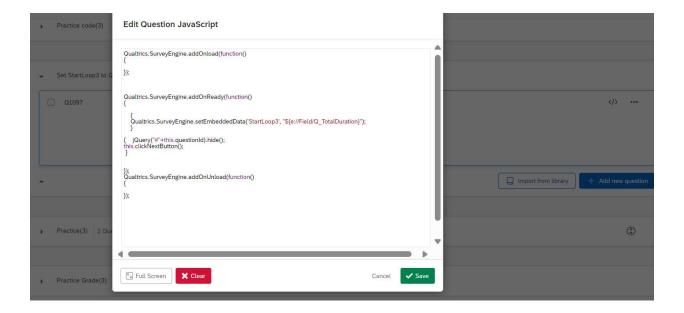
	Q958	
<u>=</u>	PracticeColor1	
	red. yellow, green, blue	
0	Q959	
<u>=</u>	PracticeColor2	
	red. yellow, green, blue	
0	Q960	
<u>=</u>	PracticeColor3	
	red. yellow, green, blue	
0	0961	
<u>=</u>	PracticeColor4	
	red, yellow, green, blue	



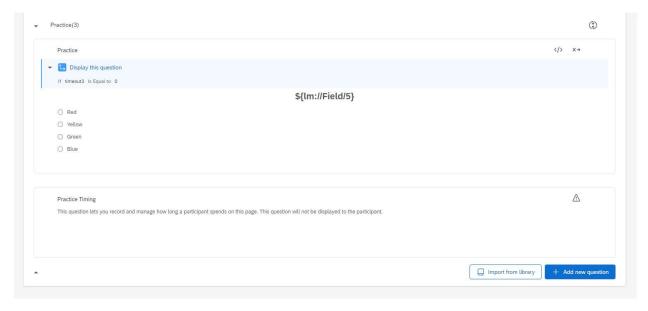


Set them to only display one question randomly

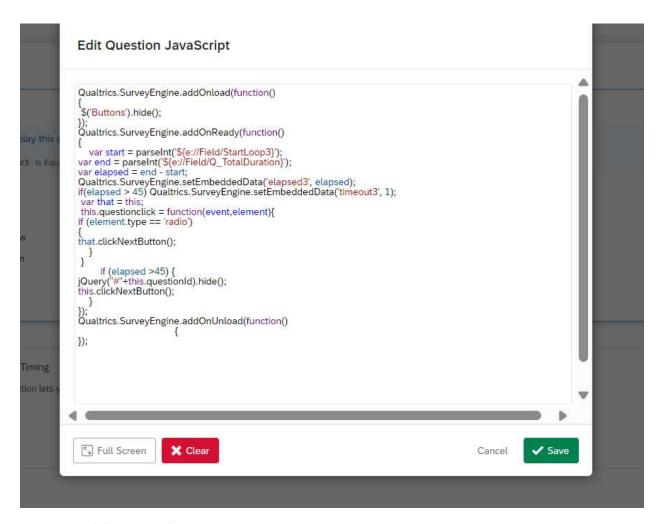
2. Now, in a new blank block, set a variable for the start of the loop to track the time the loop was started in the game:



- 3. Now create the game the user will play.
 - (1) This is how the front end of the block should look:



(2) And the javascript coding looks like this:

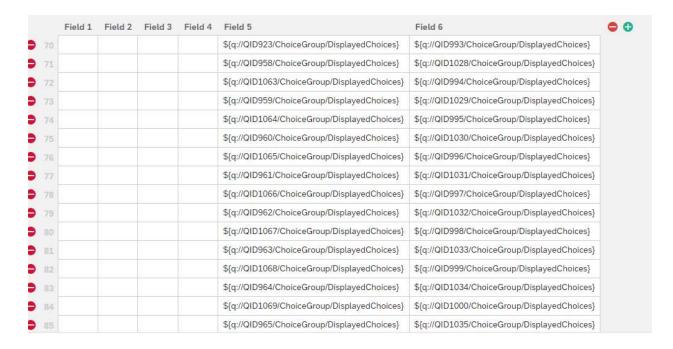


(3) Add the following in the content editer:



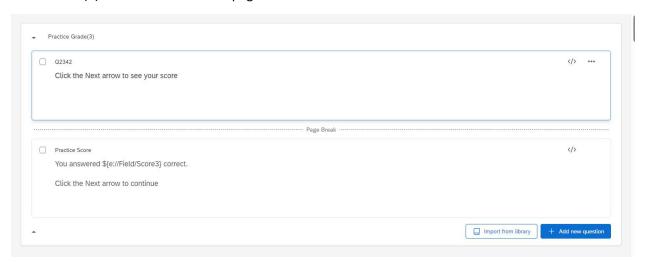
This code creates the 45 second round.

(4) And now, set the question to loop and merge in any order you want over the randomly displayed encoded response options you created before.

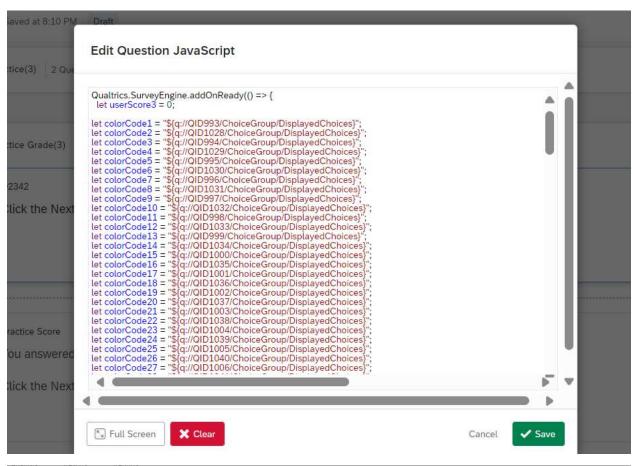


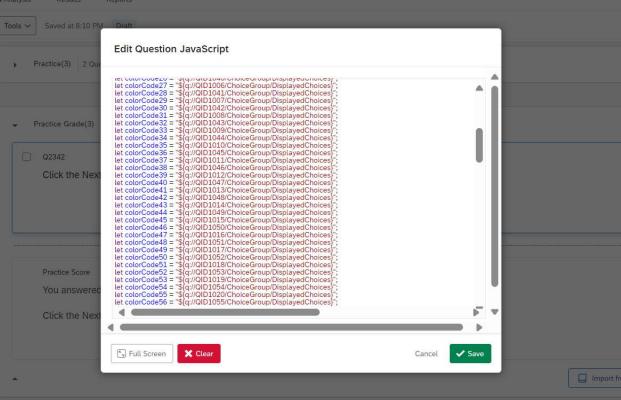
4. Grade and show the subject their score:

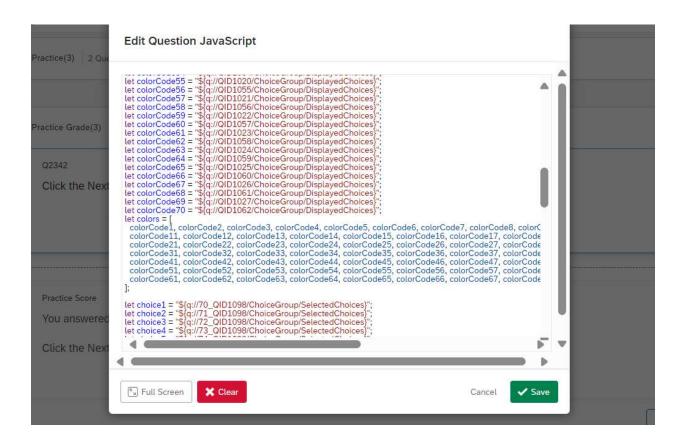
(1) The front end of this page:

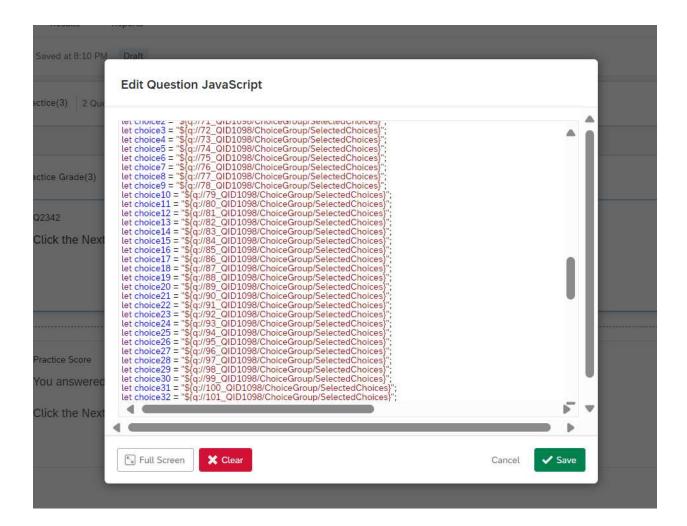


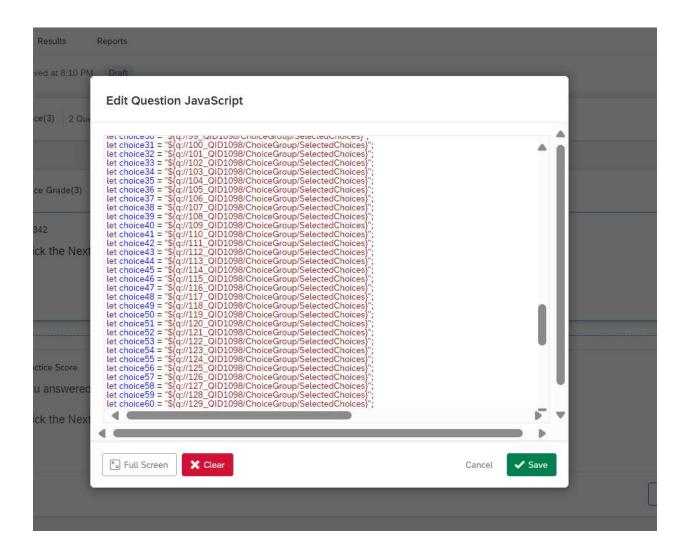
(2) And the javascript encoding:

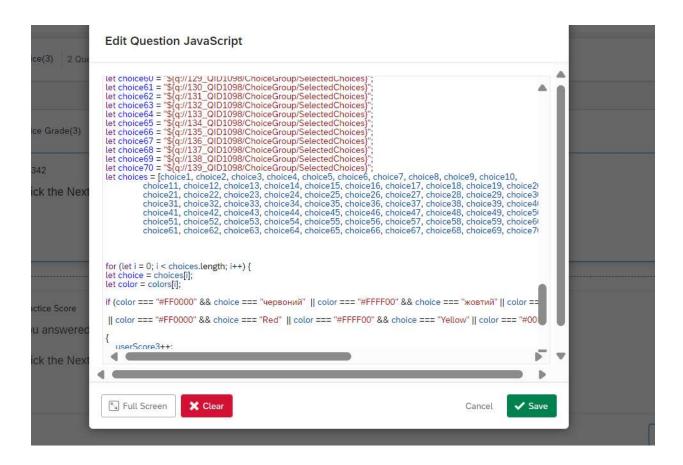


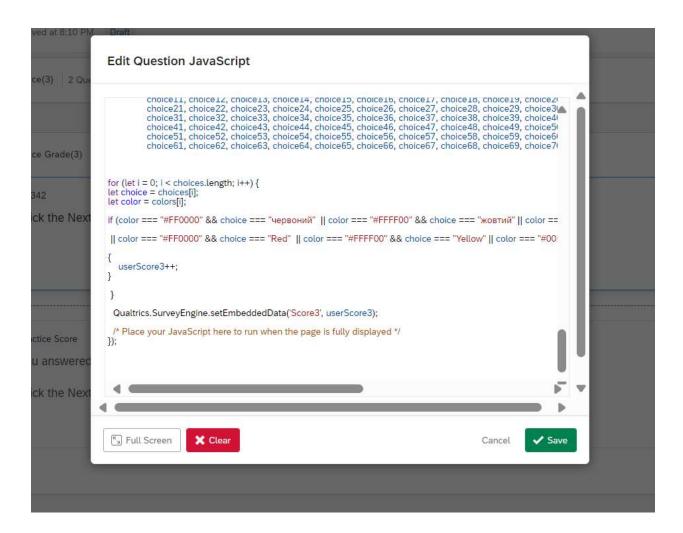






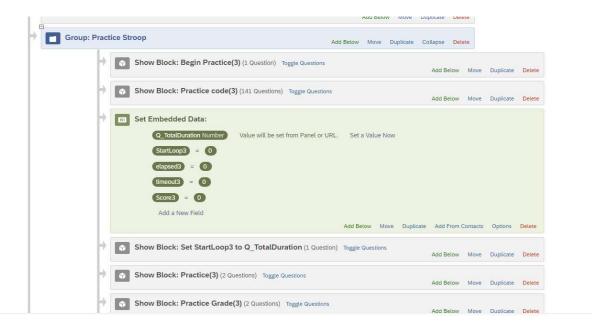






5. Set up the initialized variables in the survey flow section.

Make sure the survey flow is as follows, and the variables are initialized:



Great! Now you have all the encoding to program your stroop task in Qualtrics! If you have any questions or issues regarding survey creation in Qualtrics please email aspagano@dons.usfca.eud]]du