

# Pre-task

Good day!

First of all, we'd like to thank you for participating in our study. I'm Jesper and this is Erik.

This study aims to investigate if code maintainability can affect the feelings of software practitioners. Have you previously participated in any studies?

This study is not a test of any kind. There are no right or wrong answers, and we will not judge your performance in any way. And we will definitely not report your answers to your manager or your peers.

We will ask you to perform a couple of programming-related tasks on code examples and then report your feelings with an instrument called SAM, which we will introduce later. Again, there are no right or wrong answers to these tasks. They simply serve to guide your interaction with the code examples and make them more concrete.

Before we start, we'd like you to read and sign a confidentiality agreement. Any data you provide will be anonymized so that it cannot be linked back to you. The only way to link your data to you will be with a single physical list which will be destroyed at the conclusion of our study. Normally, the list will never have to be used, unless

- you happen to think about something that might invalidate your data; or
- if you want us to erase your data; or
- if we need some clarification of your responses.

If you for any reasons want to get into contact with us, please find our email address at the back of the agreement.

Before we start, is there anything we can clarify?

We will now play an audio file which explains how to use the measurement instrument, as well as your task in the experiment. Please, listen.