

Melbourne School of Psychological Sciences

Plain Language Statement

PROJECT TITLE: Category learning and change

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Introduction

The purpose of this project is to acquire data about how people categorize simple objects. The data will be used to better understand how categories are formed and change over time.

What will I be asked to do?

First, we will have you read the instructions and answer some basic comprehension questions. If you can answer these questions, you will proceed to the experiment. In the experiment, you will view simple pictures and you will be taught the correct labels for these pictures. Pay attention and do your best to learn the correct labels. Please do not write anything down, we are interested in how people naturally learn the labels over time.

What are the risks?

Risks are minimal. The experiment will take 5-15 minutes, depending on which version of the experiment we have given you. There may be some risk of boredom. Just try to have fun learning the labels and see if you can improve over time.

What are the benefits?

Although much is known about human categorization behavior, we have surprisingly little data about how and why these categories change over time. The purpose of this experiment is to understand that more. The data will be used to better model category learning behavior over time. You will be paid for your contribution at a rate of \$10/hr.

How would my confidentiality be protected?

As an Amazon Worker, we do not have access to identifying personal details. You will be asked to contribute some demographic details (age and gender) but these are not sufficient to identify any distinct individuals. Our sample size will be large, making it even more difficult to identify any one person.

What if I want to withdraw from the Research?

Participation in this research is completely voluntary. You are free to withdraw at any time without penalty (other than not getting paid). To withdraw, just close the experiment browser and do not submit your HIT. If you withdraw, your data will not be used in our analysis or report.

Where can I get further information?

This research project has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee of The University of Melbourne. If you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of this research project, which you do not wish to discuss with the research team, you should contact the Manager, Human Research Ethics, Research Ethics and Integrity, University of Melbourne, VIC 3010. Tel: +61 3 8344 2073 or Email: humanethics-complaints@unimelb.edu.au All complaints will be treated confidentially. In any correspondence please provide the name of the research team or the name or ethics ID number of the research project. Funding is provided by ARC Discovery Project grant DP150103280.

How do I agree to participate?

If you wish to participate, please click on the link to the experiment (located on the HIT page). When the experiment page opens, tick the boxes to agree to participate. Then click the "Begin" button to begin the experiment.