

Consent Form

Study Title: Constructing and Testing Hypotheses in Language Learning

Principal Investigator: Chigusa Kurumada, Ph.D.

Co-Investigators: Amanda Pogue, Andres Buxo-Lugo

Study Coordinator: Chigusa Kurumada

This consent form describes a research study, what you may expect if you decide to take part and important information to help you make your decision. Please read this form carefully.

This form describes a research study that is being conducted by Principal Investigator Chigusa Kurumada from the University of Rochester's Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences.

- Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. You are free not to participate or to withdraw at any time, for whatever reason.
- If you choose not to take part, your ability to participate in future studies from this lab on Mechanical Turk will not be changed in any way.

Purpose of Study

The purpose of this study is to investigate how language users from various age groups and social backgrounds learn, comprehend and produce language.

Description of Study Procedures

If you decide to take part in this study, you will be asked to complete at least 1 HIT (Human Intelligence Task) using Amazon Mechanical Turk (MTurk). While you may do as many or few HITS as you choose, we may limit your participation in our HITs to a limited number of times (1-3 times) to avoid repeated testing in related trial conditions in our study. Depending on the HIT, your participation could last about 5 to 60 minutes to

complete the tasks. Eligibility due to previous participation and expected duration per HIT will be indicated in the Mechanical Turk interface.

Each HIT will have different sentences and/or pictures, and will ask questions about those sentences and/or pictures. Typically we ask participants to listen to sound clips and/or read instructions and provide linguistic judgments. While most of the tasks constitute multiple-choice questions, participants may also be asked to provide a written paragraph to answer a question. Depending on a type of task, we may ask participants to be in a certain listening condition (e.g., quiet space) and/or to use equipment that aids effective listening of our audio stimuli (e.g., a headset).

Number of Subjects

Approximately **440 subjects will take part in this study per year.**

Risks of Participation

There are minimal risks involved in participation in this study. Occasionally, sitting still can make participants temporarily uncomfortable. We minimize discomfort due to boredom by making our studies engaging as possible. There is no risk of discomfort lasting after the study session.

This study will use Amazon's MTurk platform to collect your research data and, therefore, your user information may be used per Amazon's privacy policy.

Benefits of Participation

You will not benefit from being in this research study.

Payments

You will be paid \$0.08 to \$3.00 per HIT via the Mechanical Turk interface, with possible bonuses based on choices made during the HIT. No direct payments will be sent from the University of Rochester research team.

Confidentiality of Records

The University of Rochester makes every effort to keep the information collected from you private. To protect the confidentiality of the data, responses will be transmitted in an encrypted format (readable only to the research team). MTurk worker IDs will only be collected for purposes of distributing payments and will not be included with your study responses or the study's data set.

Contact Persons

For more information concerning this research or if you feel that your participation has resulted in any emotional or physical discomfort please contact: Dr. Chigusa Kurumada at 585-275-0760 or email rockinderlab@gmail.com. Please provide the experiment ID given at the top of the experiment page (starting with ID-).

Please contact the University of Rochester Research Subjects Review Board at 265 Crittenden Blvd., CU 420315, Rochester, NY 14642, Telephone (585) 276-0005 or (877) 449-4441 for the following reasons:

- You wish to talk to someone other than the research staff about your rights as a research subject;
- To voice concerns about the research;
- In the event the study staff could not be reached.

Voluntary Participation

Taking part in this study is voluntary. You are free not to take part or to withdraw at any time, for whatever reason. No matter what decision you make, there will be no penalty or loss of benefit to which you are entitled. In the event that you do withdraw from this study, the information you have already provided will be kept in a confidential manner.