Consent Form

Study Title: Cross-linguistic Studies on Human Communication

Principal Investigator: T. Florian Jaeger (University of Rochester)

Study Coordinator: Andrew Watts (University of Rochester)

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.

The study staff will explain this study to you. Please ask questions about anything that is not clear before you agree to participate or at any time. You may take this consent form home to think about and discuss with family or friends.

- Being in this study is voluntary — it is your choice.
- If you join this study, you can change your mind and stop at any time.
- 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.
- There are minimal risks from participating in this study

Introduction:

You are being asked to participate in this study because you can provide information about how normal adults communicate. To participate you must be 18 years of age and you must be a fluent native speaker of English. We consider you a native speaker of a language, if you have grown up or spend most of your childhood speaking that language.

This study is being conducted by T. Florian Jaeger of the University of Rochester's Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences.

Purpose of Study

Meliora Hall
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Rochester NY 14627-0268
The purpose of the study is to improve our understanding of human communication.

**Description of Study Procedures**

If you decide to participate in this study, you will also be asked to read sentences one word at a time, classify sequences of sounds or words, recall sentences, learn an artificial language, describe scenes presented in photos or drawings, or to rate or complete sentences.

After the experiment you will be presented with an optional questionnaire that will provide us with information that will help us better conduct the experiment and analyze the data from the experiment, and provide us with information regarding participant demographics (age, race, sex, etc.) that is often requested by groups monitoring and/or funding our research. If after you complete and turn in the questionnaire you later decide that you wish to amend or erase any information you supplied us, please let us know. Your personal information will never be supplied to any outside agencies or groups.

**Number of Subjects**

Approximately 3000 people are expected to participate online each year of the study, which will run for approximately 6 years.

**Duration of the Study**

You may do as many or few HITs as you choose. On average each participant does one to three. Depending on the HIT, your participation could last from one minute to one hour, and the expected length per HIT will be indicated in the Mechanical Turk interface.

**Risks of Participation**

There are minimal risks associated with participation in this study. If you are uncomfortable for any reason and wish to discontinue the experiment, please inform the experimenters. You are free to stop and any time for whatever reason, and will not be penalized for choosing to end the experiment.

**Benefits of Participation**

There is no direct benefit to you that you can expect to receive as a result of participating in this study.

**Sponsor Support**
The University of Rochester is receiving payment from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for conducting this research study.

**Costs**

There will be no cost to you to participate in this study.

**Payments**

You will be provided payment by Amazon.com and it varies depending on the amount per trial indicated by the Mechanical Turk interface.

**Confidentiality of Records**

While we make every effort to maintain confidentiality. Mechanical Turk provides no personal information to the requester. The results of this research study may be presented at meetings or in publications, however, your name and identity will be kept private.

**Contact Persons**

For more information concerning this research or if you feel that your participation resulted in any emotional or physical discomfort, please contact: T. Florian Jaeger at 585.276.3611 or Andrew Watts (lab manager) at 585.273.1050 or email JaegerLab@bcs.rochester.edu. 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;
- To provide input concerning the research process;
- In the event the study staff could not be reached.

**Voluntary Participation**

Participation in this study is voluntary. You are free not to participate or to withdraw at any time, for whatever reason, without risking to be jeopardized for any current, past, or potential future relationships with any members of the department. In the event that you do withdraw from this study, the information you have already provided will be kept in a confidential manner.
After reading and discussing the information in this consent form you should understand:

- Why this study is being done;
- What will happen during the study;
- Any possible risks and benefits to you;
- Other options you may have instead of being in the study;
- How your personal information will be protected;
- What to do if you have problems or questions about this study.