



Information sheet for participants

Study title:	Testing your memory for stories
Principal Investigator:	Prof Kenny Smith
Researcher collecting data:	Shiru Xiong

What is this document? This document explains what kind of study we're doing, what your rights are, and what will be done with your data. You should print this page for your records.

Nature of the study. You are invited to participate in a study which involves reading short stories and subsequently recalling them from memory by typing the story in the text box on your computer screen to the best of your ability. Your session should last around 5 minutes. You will be given full instructions as you progress through your experiment.

Compensation. You will be paid £1 for your participation in this study.

Risks and benefits. There are no known risks to participation in this study. Other than the payment mentioned, there are no tangible benefits to you, however you will be contributing to our knowledge about language.

Confidentiality and use of data. All the information we collect during the course of the research will be processed in accordance with Data Protection Law. In order to safeguard your privacy, we will never share personal information (like your Prolific ID) with anyone outside the research team named above. Your data will be referred to by a unique participant number rather than by name. Please note that we will temporarily collect your Prolific ID to prevent repeat participation, however we will never share this information with anyone outside the research team named above. We will store any personal data (i.e., Prolific ID) on password-protected secure encrypted storage services. The anonymised data collected during this study will be used for research purposes and may be shared widely.

What are my data protection rights? The University of Edinburgh is a Data Controller for the information you provide. You have the right to access information held about you. Your right of access can be exercised in accordance with Data Protection Law. You also have other rights including rights of correction, erasure and objection. For more details, including the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office, please visit www.ico.org.uk. Questions, comments and requests about your personal data can also be sent to the University Data Protection Officer at dpo@ed.ac.uk.

Voluntary participation and right to withdraw. Your participation is voluntary, and you may stop at any time and for any reason. If you withdraw from the study during or after data gathering, we will delete your data and there is no penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. Please note that if you wish to withdraw more than 2 weeks after participating, we may not be able to delete your anonymised data from e.g. public repositories of research data, but we will be able to delete all of your personal data from our records.

If you have any questions about what you've just read, please feel free to ask, or contact us later. You can contact us by email at S.Xiong-10@sms.ed.ac.uk. This project has been approved by PPLS Ethics committee. If you have questions or comments regarding your rights as a participant, they can be contacted at 0131 650 4020 or ppls.ethics@ed.ac.uk.

By continuing with this task, you consent to the following:

1. **I agree to participate in this study.**
2. I confirm that I have read and understood **how my data will be stored and used.**
3. I understand that I have the **right to terminate this session** at any point. If I choose to **withdraw after completing the study**, my data will be deleted at that time.
4. I am at least 18 years of age.
5. I am a native speaker of English.