

Shari R. Speer
Linguistics Department
1712 Neil Ave. #222 Oxley Hall
Phone: 292-5389
e-mail: speer@ling.ohio-state.edu

Anouschka Bergmann
Linguistics Department
1712 Neil Ave. #222 Oxley Hall
Phone: 688-3108
e-mail: anouschka@ling.ohio-state.edu

Kiwako Ito
Linguistics Department
1712 Neil Ave. #222 Oxley Hall
Phone: 292-1841
e-mail: ito@ling.ohio-state.edu

Instructions for “Give me a break”

Explanation of the purpose of the study. This experiment is intended to find out how fast you can decide whether a word you hear appears or does not appear in a sentence you are reading.

Expected duration of your participation. We expect that it will take two hours or less for you to finish the study.

Foreseeable risks or discomforts. None.

Benefits. Although participating in this research will not benefit you directly, it is of general social benefit because it will increase our understanding of how people communicate.

Confidentiality. We assure you that your name will not be associated in any way with the research findings. Data collected from this experiment may be made available to other researchers, but all data will be preserved or distributed in a completely anonymous format – with no personal identification marks.

Participation is voluntary. Your participation is voluntary. Refusal to participate will involve no penalty or loss of benefits to which you would otherwise be entitled. You are free to withdraw consent at any time and to discontinue participation in the study without prejudice.

Contact information. Shari R. Speer, 222 Oxley Hall, 1712 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43210, 614-292-5389 or Anouschka Bergmann, 222 Oxley Hall, 1712 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43210, 614-688-3108

Instructions. In each trial of the experiment, you will be recorded reading aloud a sentence. After each sentence you are asked to answer a comprehension question about the sentence. Detailed instructions are provided below:

You will read 100 sentences which will be presented on a computer screen. The presentation of a sentence is preceded by the prompt “Ready for the sentence? Then press 1.” Once one have pressed 1 and a sentence is presented on the screen, you should read it aloud. After you have read the sentence aloud, press 1 on the response box. When you press 1, the sentence will disappear and a comprehension question with three answer choices will be shown on the screen. Press 2, 3 or 4 depending on your answer choice. The choices and button numbers will be displayed on the monitor along with the question. Upon answering a question, you will see the prompt for the next sentence (“Ready for the sentence? Then press 1”). Several times during the experiment, you will be able to take a break. Please only take a break when you see the following prompt: “You may take a break now if you wish. To continue, press 1.”

Before the experiment, you have the opportunity to practice the task and to ask any question you may have about the experiment.