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The set of 60 video clips was made available for Experiment 1 by Prof. Christiane von Stutterheim, Heidelberg, German https://www.hulclab.eu/.

A. Instructions for Experiment 1 on single events

Please, first, download the video clips from Dropbox at the address (removed). You will see a set of 60 video clips showing everyday events which are not in any way connected to each other. Before each clip starts, a blank screen with a white focus point will appear.

The white focus point marks the start of the next video clip. Your task is to tell "what is happening", and you may begin as soon as you recognise what is happening in the clip.

It is not necessary to describe the video clips in detail (e.g. "the sky is blue"). Please focus on the event only answering the task question, i.e. "what is happening", in one sentence.

Record your sentences. For each clip, do the recording during the time when the white focus point appears. Please, make sure that your voice will be recorded clearly because it happens that the recording fails. Do not re-record the requested task.

You are asked to retell only the event of each short clip. The task should be done without previous practice.

Attached please find also a file with a few questions about your language background. You can answer them in the questionnaire. In order to save your answers in the questionnaire, it has to be saved on your computer as a file first. Then it will be possible to save the answers. The questionnaire should be answered after doing the main task.

I thank you in advance for your contribution.

Sincerely,

Somaje Abdollahian
Doctoral student of English Linguistics
Department of English
Stockholm University
Sweden

A self-prepared questionnaire was developed on the basis of the needs of the study.

B. Language background and proficiency of English for Experiment 1

Please, fill in the information about:
- your language background (native and other languages, your field),
- your language environment (city of your recent studies), and
- your proficiency of English (personal evaluation and degree).

Write your answers in red.

Q 1: MOTHER TONGUE: _____ AGE:_____

Q 2: WHAT IS YOUR LEVEL OF PROFICIENCY OF ENGLISH?
a. beginner b. intermediate c. advanced d. native-like

Q 3: WHAT OTHER LANGUAGES DO YOU SPEAK ON A DAILY BASIS? _____

Q 4: THE MOST RECENT UNIVERSITY STUDIES:

DEGREE and YEAR: (Please, answer both a and b)

a. I have received a DEGREE of:_____ YEAR:_____

b. I am studying for a DEGREE of:_____ YEARS:_____

FIELD OF STUDY:_____

CITY of your university studies:_____

Any comments related to any part of the task (the instructions, the task given, your own performance of the task, or any other thoughts about it etc.):

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE RESEARCH.

C. Instructions for Experiment 2 on narratives

I thank you for your offer of taking part in my research for a PhD thesis. I would like to ask you to do the attached English language research task. The research will compare narrations in English and Persian.

Below you will get the instructions for the language task. It has two parts:
1. to retell and record the story of the film Quest (in 5 episodes, and in English)
2. to fill in a language background questionnaire

The recording of the retold events can be done on your computer, recording device or cell phone.

Quest is available at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uTyev6OaThg. It is produced by Thomas Stellmach 1996. The task starts as follows:

First watch the entire film without interruption from beginning to end. It is animated and has no speech. You will realize that the eleven-minute-long film is in short episodes showing four different kinds of worlds of sand, paper, stone, and metal. The episode of the metal world is divided into two episodes, episodes 4 and 5, in the place where the character takes a running jump. Retell the whole film in 5 episodes. Watch the film only once to get ready for the task.

Task: Go back to the beginning and watch each of the episodes in turn. Pause the film at the end of each episode, and tell what happened in the scene which you just saw. Do each episode in the same way. This way it is easier to remember the content and it increases comparability of the narrations across the two languages.

Record your story. Do the recording after each episode you watched and paused. Please, make sure that your voice will be recorded clearly because it happens that the recording fails. The recording should be done without re-recording and erasing parts of the story you first told.

You are asked to retell the events of the whole 11-minute-long video clip. The only question for the task is What happened? The task should be done without previous practice.

You need not talk about, for example, what you saw meant, symbolised or what you understood of it. This will increase comparability between the two languages. The sound recording made as a sound file should be sent to the researcher at the e-mail address: (removed).

Attached please find also a file with a few questions about your language background. You can answer them in the questionnaire. In order to save your answers in the questionnaire, it has to be saved on your computer as a file first. Then it will be possible to save the answers. The questionnaire should be answered after doing the main task. Reserve 25-30 min. for the film and the questionnaire. Preferably, do not spend longer time on the task.
I thank you in advance for your contribution.

Sincerely,
Somaje Abdollahian
Doctoral student of English Linguistics
Department of English, Stockholm University, Sweden

A self-prepared questionnaire was developed on the basis of the needs of the study.

D. Language background questions for Experiment 2

Fill in the requested information and answer the questions about your language background. (The same questionnaire is used for all informants.)Please, write/mark your answers **in red**.

Q 1: PLACE OF BIRTH: (City) _____(Country)_____

Q 2: MOTHER TONGUE: _____ AGE:_____

Q 3: THE LANGUAGE(S) YOU SPEAK AT HOME WITH YOUR FAMILY:
_____

Q 4: What languages have you studied? Name languages 1, 2 and 3 separately below.

Language 1: _____

AT SCHOOL/UNIVERSITY(Which?): _____ HOW MANY YEARS? _____

CLASSES OUTSIDE SCHOOL: _____ HOW MANY YEARS? _____

AT WHAT LEVEL ARE YOU NOW?
a. beginner b. intermediate c. advanced d. native-like

Language 2: _____

AT SCHOOL/UNIVERSITY(Which?): _____ HOW MANY YEARS? _____

CLASSES OUTSIDE SCHOOL: _____HOW MANY YEARS? _____

AT WHAT LEVEL ARE YOU NOW?
a. beginner b. intermediate c. advanced d. native-like

Language 3: _____

AT SCHOOL/UNIVERSITY(Which?): _____ HOW MANY YEARS? _____

CLASSES OUTSIDE SCHOOL: _____HOW MANY YEARS? _____

AT WHAT LEVEL ARE YOU NOW?
a. beginner b. intermediate c. advanced d. native-like

Other languages, if any: _____

Q 5: CITY OF HIGH SCHOOL / UNIVERSITY STUDIES(concerns the most recent studies):

CITY:_____ YEARS:_____

FIELD OF STUDY:_____ DEGREE:_____

Q 6: HAVE YOU STUDIED/HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TAUGHT HOW TO TELL STORIES IN ENGLISH?
NO: _____

YES: How long time ago? _____

Q 7: DID YOU PRACTISE TELLING THE STORY BEFORE STARTING THE RECORDING?
NO: _____

YES: a. very little

b. some practice

c. very much

Q 8: DID YOU RE-RECORD OR ERASE PARTS OF THE STORY YOU FIRST TOLD?
NO: _____

YES: To what extent? _____

What parts of the story? _____

Q 9: HOW DID YOU RECORD THE STORY?
a. I paused the film between the episodes to record the story; 5 pauses.
b. While watching the film I told and recorded the story.
c. Doing both a and b, in some parts a and in other parts b.
d. Not exactly the way mentioned in a, b, or c. Please, describe._____

Q 10: USUALLY A STORY IS TOLD TO SOMEONE. WHILE NARRATING THE EVENTS OF THE FILM DID YOU 'FEEL SOMEHOW' OR IMAGINE UNCONSCIOUSLY YOU WERE TELLING THE EVENTS TO SOMEONE? NO: _____

YES: Who is the person?_____

Q 11: EVALUATE HOW WELL AND EASILY YOU TOLD THE STORY:

Answer: It was difficult/ easy/ very easy for me to tell it.

Q 12: EVALUATE HOW INTERESTING THE STORY OF THE FILM WAS:

Answer: Boring/ interesting/ very interesting

Comments related to any part of the task (the instructions, the task given, your own performance of the task, or any other thoughts about it etc.):
THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE RESEARCH.

Nelson English tests, published in Fowler, W.S. & Coe, N. (1976). *Nelson English tests*. Middlesex: Nelson and Sons, provide tests for all levels of proficiency. The leveled tests are compiled in ten sets from elementary to very advanced level. Each set includes four leveled tests, i.e. A, B, C, and D, making totally 40 tests, each with 50 questions. Test 250C was selected for this project. It belongs to the slot 19 out of the 40 slots of the total battery. The multiple-choice questions were checked with a native English professional and 5 inadequate questions relevant to pronunciation were omitted. In addition, a few modifications of the grammar questions were made, aiming at including questions that involve a contrast for the Persian L2 English learner with respect to the grammars of the two languages. The omissions and modifications provide an appropriate grammar test for very advanced Iranian learners of L2 English who have learnt the language in a classroom setting.

E. Nelson English test, 45 questions for Experiment 2

Choose the correct answer. Only one answer is correct. Mark the correct answer in red.

When I went to bed last night, I ..1.. asleep immediately. I ..2.. tired because I ..3.. so hard for several hours. So I forgot to close the windows before ..4.. into bed. If I had remembered, the thief ..5… But ..6.. a perfect opportunity to enter the house. The next time I ..7.. late I will lock the house carefully.
A policeman came to see me about the theft. "..8.. investigate," he said. "So I ..9.. ask you some questions. First, how ..10..?" I told him that I ..11.. the window open. "You ..12.. more careful," he said. I understood that if people ..13.. their houses properly, the police would not have so much work to do.

1. A fell
   B did fall
   C was falling
   D have fallen

2. A had to be
   B ought to be
   C must have been
   D needed to be

3. A have been working
   B had been working
   C have being working
   D had being working

4. A getting
   B to get
   C going
   D to go

5. A has not got in
   B had not got in
   C would not get in
   D would not have got in

9. A would
   B would to
   C am wanting to
   D want to

10. A the thief got in
    B was the thief getting in
    C has the thief got in
    D did the thief get in

11. A left
    B had left
    C was letting
    D was leaving

12. A would be
    B ought be
    C should be
    D had to be

13. A looked after
    B look after
    C have looked after
    D should look after

6. A it was given to him
   B there was given to him
   C he has been given
   D he was given

7. A shall work
   B will work
   C work
   D will be working

8. A I've been said to
   B I've been told to
   C It has been said to me
   D It has been told me

Choose the correct answer. Only one answer is correct. Mark the correct answer in red.

14. There are so many cars ..... nowadays.
   A for all places B in all the place C anywhere D everywhere

15. Ask him to go to the post office ……some stamps.
   A to get B for getting, C in order he gets D that he gets

16. The reason ..... I can't come is that I have to work late.
   A because B for C as D why

17. She cut the cloth with .. . . . scissors.
   A a couple of B a pair of C two D a

18. .....me…….. .
   A Tell/where are you going B Tell/where you are going
   C Say/where are you going D Say/where you are going

19. The children .....play with them.
   A want that I B want me for
   C want me to D are wanting that

20. He may be able to come to the party. ..... the other hand, he may be too busy.
   A On B In C By D For

21. I haven't seen him…….. .
   A last week B during last week
   C for last week D since last week

22. I'm fond .....music.
   A to the B to C of the D of

23. John is .....
   A a friend of me B a friend mine

C a friend of mine D one friend of mine

24. She's the girl .....
A whose money was stolen B the which money was stolen
C whose money was as robbed D the which money was robbed

25. It's the .....film I've ever seen.
A more interesting B most interesting
C more interested D most interested

26 He doesn't know the answer .....I've told him several times.
A in spite B even C while D although

27. …….English ?
A How long time are you studying B How long do you study
C How long have you been studying D How long time have you studied

28 The little boy keeps the insect in a ...
A match box B box of matches C box of the match D box match

29. She's going to the photographer's ……. .
A to take her photograph B to have taken her photograph
C to have her photograph taken D that he takes her photograph

30. He looks .....
A to be unhappy B unhappily
C unhappy D that he's unhappy

31. Where have you been? I've been playing…….
A the tennis B at tennis C at the tennis D tennis

32. It's very kind ..... invite me.
A from you to B of you to *C* by you to D that you

33. I can't break it. It's .....iron.
A as hard as B so hard as C as hard than D so hard than

34. I didn't know .....him or not.
A whether to help B if to help
C to help D if that I should help

35. …….. of them knew about the plan because it was secret.
A Some B Any C No one D None

36. Mont Blanc, ... we visited last summer, is the highest mountain in Europe.
A where B which C that D what

37. This question is …….. difficult for me.
A so much B too much C too D enough

38. It .....the village where we spent our holidays last summer.
A reminds me of B remembers me of
C reminds me to D remembers me to

39. Living here at the top of the mountain with no one else near you must be very ....
A sole B alone C only D lonely

40. The tailor made him a new……
A clothes B suit C dress D wear

41. The clock .....and we realised it was two o'clock.
A hit B struck C turned D rang

42. Good ……! I hope you win the race.
A sort B wish C luck D chance

43. My car ……so I had to come by bus.
A fell down B fell over C broke down D broke up

44. Look what father ..... me when he came home from work.
A brought B took C carried D fetched

45. Tell me who ……. blue eyes.
A is having B are having C has D have