



Name of Researcher, Faculty, Department, Telephone & Email:

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Title of Project:

Variability in measures of English Language Proficiency.

This consent form, a copy of which has been given to you, is only part of the process of informed consent. If you want more details about something mentioned here, or information not included here, you should feel free to ask. Please take the time to read this carefully and to understand any accompanying information.

The University of Calgary Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board (REB20-1326) has approved this research study. Participation is completely voluntary, and confidential. You are free to discontinue participation at any time during the study.

Purpose of the Study

This study is trying to learn how to improve English language tests that are used for university admission, for employment, and for immigration. If you agree to participate in this study, the information given to the researchers will be used to help evaluate language tests.

What Will I Be Asked To Do?

Participation in this study is completely voluntary. You may refuse to participate altogether, and you may withdraw from the study at any time.

If you agree to participate in this study, you will be asked to complete a short survey:

- 1) Complete a short survey.
 - a. The survey will ask you approximately 10 questions, and will take about 10-15 minutes to complete.
 - b. The survey will ask you questions about your experiences with tests that are used for study, work or immigration.
 - c. The survey will ask you to provide your previous scores on language tests you have taken.

What Type of Personal Information Will Be Collected?

If you decide to participate in this study, the following personal information will be collected by the research team:

- Your date of birth
- Your gender.
- Your country of residence.

- Your first language.
- Your previous experiences with tests used for study, work or immigration.
- Your previous scores on these tests.
- Your email address. (Note: You do not have to provide your email address to participate in this study. However, there are prizes for participation. If you would like to enter the draw to receive a prize, we need your email address in order to contact you to award the prize. Data will be checked for duplicate submissions prior to the prize draw.)

Participation in this study is completely voluntary. You may refuse to participate. If you agree to participate, but later change your mind, and if you have provided your email address, you can contact the research team to withdraw your participation (see contact information below). If you choose to withdraw permission for your participation, your data will be permanently deleted and will not be included in the findings of the study. You can opt to withdraw your data from inclusion in the study up until midnight, December 31, 2020. If you completed the survey but did not initially provide your email address, your data is anonymous and cannot be withdrawn from the study.

You may refuse to answer any or all questions in the survey. However, if you wish to be entered in the draw for the prizes, you must answer all of the questions.

Are there Risks or Benefits if I Participate?

Risk: Members of the research team may see your email address.

Benefit: If you complete all the questions in the survey, you can be entered into a draw for prizes, such as test preparation resources.

What Happens to the Information I Provide?

Please note that only the research team will have access to the information you provide. You will not be asked to give your name. When the researchers analyze the information you provide about your test-taking experiences, only numerical identifiers will be used. No one outside of the research team will be able to connect your email address with the test-taking information you provide. The data will be stored indefinitely for future research.

The research team may use the data from the study to present their research at conferences or in academic journals, and to inform policy-makers about language testing for study, work or immigration. The findings, after the conclusion date of the research, may inform the development of a proprietary software tool for language test prediction. The research team may use the data to inform the development of a software tool to help test-takers prepare for language tests.

If you choose to withdraw permission for your participation, data will be permanently deleted and will not be included in the findings of the study. If you wish to withdraw from the study at any point, please email Dr. Gregory Tweedie (Werklund School of Education, University of Calgary) at gregory.tweedie@ucalgary.ca or call 403-220-7514 to notify the researchers of your decision. You can opt to withdraw your data from inclusion in the study up until midnight, December 31, 2020.

By clicking the select boxes on the survey entry page, you indicate that 1) you understand to your satisfaction the information provided to you about your participation in this research project, and 2) you agree to participate in the research project.

In no way does this waive your legal rights nor release the investigators, sponsors, or involved institutions from their legal and professional responsibilities. You are free to withdraw from this research project at any time. You should feel free to ask for clarification or new information throughout your participation.

Questions/Concerns

If you have any further questions or want clarification regarding this research and/or your participation, please contact:

Dr. M. Gregory Tweedie
Werklund School of Education
Phone: 403-220-7514 Email: gregory.tweedie@ucalgary.ca

If you have any concerns about the way you've been treated as a participant, please contact the Research Ethics Analyst, Research Services Office, University of Calgary at (403) 220-6289/220-4283; email cfreb@ucalgary.ca. Please print a copy of this consent form for your records and reference. The investigator has kept a copy of the consent form.