

**Debriefing Form*****Online and in-person behavioural paradigms for evaluating computer models of language meaning (CoMLaM)*****Purpose:**

In this experiment, you were presented with two parts: (1) a visual search task; and (2) a survey / questionnaire.

In the first part, you were asked to find a stimulus from an array of several pictures. Our dependent variable was response time. Previous research has found that people were faster at finding a stimulus object if the surrounding stimuli were unrelated. Our main goal was to see if this similarity effect extended to picture representations of 'interactions' (e.g., kiss, fight) and 'emotions' (e.g., angry, sad).

In the second part of the study, the survey questions were taken from the Autism Spectrum Quotient, which is freely available online. The questions are intended to measure 'level of autistic-like traits and tendencies'. The questions are not clinically-diagnostic, but, generally, autistic individuals have a higher number of traits/tendencies than those without autism. However, even if you had a high number of traits/tendencies, it does not mean that you have autism. Our main goal was to determine whether there was a relationship between number of autistic-like traits/tendencies and the similarity effect from above.

We would like to thank you very much for participating. Without the help of people like you, we could not address the most important questions in psychology. We have one last request: please don't tell other people about what we asked you to do in this research, because other students may participate in this study. It is very important that they approach the project as you originally did (i.e., without expectation and without full awareness of our objectives), because it is the only way that we can obtain objective and valid information.

**Contact information:**

If, after participating in the study, you have any questions about this research, please contact Dr. Alona Fyshe at [alona@ualberta.ca](mailto:alona@ualberta.ca) or Dr. Brea Chouinard at [breac@ualberta.ca](mailto:breac@ualberta.ca).

If you have any questions about your research participation, contact the Research Participation Coordinator at 780-492-5689 or [rescred@ualberta.ca](mailto:rescred@ualberta.ca).

The plan for this study has been reviewed for its adherence to ethical guidelines by a Research Ethics Board at the University of Alberta. For questions regarding participant rights and ethical conduct of research, contact the Research Ethics Office at [reoffice@ualberta.ca](mailto:reoffice@ualberta.ca).