

Research on Reading, Music, and Memory

This is a questionnaire and assessment for a research study being undertaken by Tara Trivedi, a junior at Pleasantville High School enrolled in AP Research. This research will evaluate the relationship between different modes of delivery of information (reading and singing), on the one hand, and memory and understanding, on the other. The study will also ascertain how these modes of presentation are received by different racial/ethnic and gender groups. If you agree to participate in this study, you have the option of being entered into a raffle to win one of two prizes worth \$50 and \$25. If you are a winner, you have the choice of opting for a cash prize, an Amazon gift card, or making a donation to a charity of your choice. Your likelihood of winning depends on how many people participate in the study.

In this research you will listen to either a reading or a song focusing on the preamble of the U.S. Constitution. After you listen, you will be asked a series of questions to evaluate your memory of what you just heard. Please listen carefully just once when you have been asked to do so and please do not look up answers. Listening more than once or looking up answers will interfere with the research. The study should take you approximately 10-15 minutes.

This study has been approved by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) at Pleasantville High School (PHS). Participation in this study is strictly voluntary and the researcher will not collect identifying information. If you are under 18 years old, you must have at least one parent or guardian provide consent to participate in this study, but you are welcome to join this study if they approve your participation. If there are any questions you do not feel comfortable answering, you may skip them. If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, you may contact Mr. Finnan, the director of the IRB at Pleasantville High School (FinnanJ@pleasantville.org).

Please feel free to reach out to Tara Trivedi, the investigator for this study, if you have any questions about this research. You may contact her via email (Taratrivedi813@gmail.com).

* Indicates required question

- /
1. Do you consent to participate in this study? Please note that if you are under 18 years of age, you are required to have a parent or guardian complete this question for you. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

Demographic Questions

In this section we will collect some socio-demographic background information about you.

2. What is your gender?

Mark only one oval.

Male

Female

Non-binary/Other

3. Which of the following racial/ethnic categories do you most closely identify with?

Mark only one oval.

African American/Black

American Indian/Native American/Alaskan Native

Asian/Pacific Islander

Caucasian/White

Hispanic/Latina/Latino/Latinx

Mixed Race

4. What is your age?

5. Were you born in the US?

Mark only one oval.

No

Yes *Skip to question 7*

Country of Birth

This is to collect information on those who were foreign-born.

6. What country were you born in?

This question is for the country that people currently are residing in and consider home.

7. Is the US currently your "home country" (the country where you primarily reside nowadays)?

Mark only one oval.

No

Yes *Skip to question 9*

This is to collect information on people living outside the United States.

8. What country is your "home country"?

Recall and Comprehension Tasks

Before we begin, we would like to ascertain your familiarity with the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution. Please try your best, but do not look up any answers. Please indicate the single missing word the immediately would follow each statement in the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution below. Again, we do not expect that everyone will get all the questions correct and responding honestly will contribute to scientific advancement

9. We the _____
10. Ensure domestic _____
11. On a scale of 1 (completely unfamiliar with it) to 9 (have it memorized), please rate your knowledge of the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution.

Mark only one oval.

Completely unfamiliar with it

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

Have it completely memorized

Preamble Audio

Please **pay close attention** and please listen to the following audio **just once**. Please **do not proceed** to the next section until you have listened to the audio.¹

<https://tinyurl.com/Preambleversion1>

<https://tinyurl.com/preambleversiontwo>

<https://tinyurl.com/Preambleversion3>

12. On a scale of 1 (really disliked) to 9 (really liked), please rate the audio you just listened to.

Mark only one oval.

Really disliked

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

Really liked

¹ Note: respondents were randomly assigned to one of the 3 audio variants.

familiar) to 9 (very familiar), please rate your familiarity with the specific audio you just listened to (before you just listened to it).

Mark only one oval.

very unfamiliar (I have never heard it)

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

very familiar (I have heard it numerous times)

The following question assesses your understanding and memory of what you just heard. Please try your best but do not look up any answers.

14. Which of the following does the Preamble (only refer to what you listened to) of the Constitution outline as its goals? (Check all that apply.)

Check all that apply.

- ☐ It outlines a plan for a country that will be more perfect
- ☐ It seeks to establish a secure military
- ☐ It seeks a healthcare system for all
- ☐ It seeks to ensure peace
- ☐ It seeks to guarantee liberty to future generations
- ☐ It seeks equality for all men
- ☐ It outlines a plan for a representative government

Recall and Comprehension Tasks

This next set of questions evaluates your memory of the audio. The following are statements taken from the Preamble of the U.S. constitution that you just listened to. Please indicate the single missing word that immediately would follow. Again, we do not expect that everyone will get all the questions correct and responding honestly will contribute to scientific advancement!

15. We the _____

16. In order to form a more perfect _____

17. Establish _____

18. Ensure domestic _____

19. Provide for the common _____

20. Promote the general _____

21. And secure the blessings of _____

22. For ourselves and our _____

23. Do ordain and _____

24. This _____ for the United States of America.

Reflections on Exercise

25. Please reflect on how you felt listening to the audio. In particular, how did you feel about the audio you listened to? Were there particular aspects of it that you liked or didn't like (voice, elements of the audio, tempo, etc.)?

26. Do you feel that your racial or ethnic background or gender played any role in terms of how you felt about the audio (voice, elements of the audio, tempo, etc.)? If so, please describe.

27. Please reflect on how you felt listening to the content of the audio. In particular, how did you feel about the content (lyrics, words, information) you listened to? Were there particular aspects of it that you liked or didn't like (phrases, items included/excluded)?

28. Do you feel that your racial or ethnic background or gender played any role in terms of how you felt about the content (lyrics, words, information) of the audio? If so, please describe.

29. Do you have any thoughts, comments, or reflections that you'd like to share about this experiment?

The raffle

Thank you for participating in this study! Before you leave, we just have a quick question so that we can contact you if you are selected as a winner in the raffle!

30. Please indicate a way to get in touch with you in the event that you win the raffle (it can be an email address or cell phone number). If you are selected as a winner, we will contact you and you can let us know how you would want your prize delivered! If you do not wish to participate in the raffle, you may indicate so below.

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