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Collecting data from human participants

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Rationale

- UPSKILLS originally aimed at developing three sets of skills: research skills, data acquisition skills and data handling skills.
- Skills related to collecting data from human participants were thought as being part of the data acquisition skills.
- However, the needs analysis (IO1) did not reveal the need for these skills.
- Nevertheless, these skills are important for academic research and for research-based teaching.

Learning block basic information

Workload: 6 ECTS

Designers: Tihana Kraš (University of Rijeka), Martina Podboj (University of Rijeka), Marko Simonović (University of Graz)

Thematically, the learning block is divided into four modules:

1. General (1 ECTS)
2. Word-level phenomena (morphophonology and morphosyntax) (1.5 ECTS)
3. Second language acquisition (1.75 ECTS)
4. Sociolinguistics (1.75 ECTS)

+ Two optional student projects (3 ECTS)

- “Irregular” phonological alternations
- Second language acquisition of English morphosyntax

Learning outcomes

GENERAL

- Explain what data sources are used in linguistic research
- Explain what human participants are
- Choose a suitable method to collect data from human participants in linguistic research
- Apply ethical principles and practices to collect data from human participants in linguistic research
- Sample participants in linguistic research projects

WORD-LEVEL PHENOMENA

- Design a judgement elicitation survey/study targeting a word-level phenomenon
- Design an elicited production survey/study targeting a word-level phenomenon

Learning outcomes

SECOND LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

- Design a comprehension task in second language acquisition
- Design a production task in second language acquisition
- Design an acceptability judgement task in second language acquisition

SOCOLINGUISTICS

- Plan and conduct ethnographic fieldwork for a small-scale sociolinguistic study
- Plan and conduct data collection through sociolinguistic interviews
- Plan and conduct data collection through surveys and questionnaires in sociolinguistics

Thematic unit structure

Modules consist of thematic units (2-3). Each thematic unit includes:

- Preparatory reading assignment or a warm-up activity
- PPT presentation accompanied by notes for teachers and a handout for students, or by a screencast
- Reading assignment(s)
- Research assignment(s)
- Reading list
- Summative quiz

Activity example: Setting up an experiment/survey online

Section: *Word-level phenomena: Judgement tasks*

- *Intro to judgement data*
 - ...
- *Judgement tasks*
 - ...
- *Experiments and surveys*
 - ...
 - ***Setting up an experiment/survey online***
 - ...

Activity example: Setting up an experiment/survey online

Selected platforms: **Google forms & PsyToolkit**

The students set up an experiment, using provided templates and instructions.

The templates feature examples from the presentations.

Specifically, the stimuli are:

- nominalisations in **-ness** of adjectives that normally combine with **-ity** (e.g., **stupidness**) and
- nominalisations in **-ity** of adjectives that normally combine with **-ness** (e.g., **hardity**).

Provided templates

- Google forms: Likert scale

Word acceptability questionnaire

How acceptable does the word IN CAPS sound in your English?

* Required

They've had a chuckle at his STUPIDNESS. *

1 2 3 4 5

totally unacceptable totally acceptable

I felt like there was no MROUWSE in the room. *

1 2 3 4 5

totally unacceptable totally acceptable

We use stainless steel material to ensure its HARDITY. *

1 2 3 4 5

totally unacceptable totally acceptable

Provided templates

- Google forms: Likert scale
- Psytookit: Lexical Decision Task



Provided templates

- Google forms with a Likert scale
- Psytookit Lexical Decision Task
- Psytookit Survey
 - various presentation options

of items completed

To what extent is the following word acceptable in your variety of English?

Item	Acceptable	Somewhat degraded	Degraded	Heavily degraded	Unacceptable
hardity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Click this button to continue

Provided templates

- Google forms with a Likert scale
- Psytookit Lexical Decision Task
- Psytookit Survey
 - various presentation options

To what extent is the following word acceptable in your variety of English?

Item	Acceptable	Somewhat degraded	Degraded	Heavily degraded	Unacceptable
hartdity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
desk	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
sweetity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
stupidness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
diverseness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
mrowse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
lightity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
tleep	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
bwood	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
stupidness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
matureness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
highness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
electricity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
desk	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
chair	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
cookie	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

1 2 3 4 5
totally unacceptable totally acceptable

Incorporation into the thematic unit Experiments and surveys

1.
2.
3. Warm-up activity: Case studies students will work on
4. 15-minute lecture on Experiment creation
5. Familiarisation with online platforms for survey creation
6. Filler creation
7. Creating 2 experiments using the same stimuli
8. Final version of the experiment.
9.

Activity for today: Formal(ish) data collection in your classes

Can formal(ish) data collection be a minor homework activity?

Simple hypothesis that arise during your courses that can be tested in a mini experiment?

- 1-minute thinking + 1-minute discussion with your neighbour, then plenary
 - Example hypotheses
 - What kind of tools would you need to have in place for this?
 - Experiment templates, fillers?