



Consent for Participation in a Qualitative Study on Second Language Acquisition, Data Use, and Data Storage

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<b>Study title:</b>	Case Study of an Adult Polish Native Speaker under Presumed Attrition from English.
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	Professor Antonella Sorace
<b>Researcher collecting current data:</b>	Julia Maciejczak

**What is this document?** This document explains what kind of study we're doing, what your rights are, and what will be done with your data. If there are any special benefits or risks, they will be explained here. By filling in, signing and dating this document, you will be agreeing to participate and to let us use your data in specific ways. Please read the information below, then turn to the next page, tick all boxes that apply, and, if you are happy to proceed, sign and date where indicated at the end of the form.

**Nature of the study.** I am asking for your help in a study of 'attrition', understood as loss of nativelike fluency in some aspects of one's native language due to a long-term exposure and immersion in a foreign language. As this is a case study, upon agreeing you will be the main participant. The Polish language will be the only language under investigation and all the tasks will be carried out in Polish. I will audio-record your answers to three tasks and subsequently transcribe them, so that I can study them in more detail. All your data productions will be translated into English too. The study will concern grammar and lexical fluency. If you agree to participate, you will take part in a series of language tests without use of experimental equipment. These tasks will include:

- 1) A semi-autobiographical interview (with an emphasis on your reasons for emigration to the United Kingdom, your experience of living in Poland, education, work and knowledge of languages) as well as your opinions and views on some general matters, such as current political and social affairs. You are allowed to refuse to answer any of the questions or introduce a new topic to the conversation. It is your spontaneous production that interests me most and I will not impose any questions on you, only start or maintain the conversation. It will be audio-recorded. I predict about 30 minutes for this task.
- 2) A written language test; you will be asked to assess the test items according to instruction. There will be a time limit for this task. I predict about 30 to 45 minutes for this task.
- 3) A story-retelling task: after hearing a tale read out by the researcher, you will be asked to retell this tale according to specific criteria. There will be no time specification and you will decide when to finish. It will be audio-recorded. I predict about 30 minutes for this task.
- 4) Verbal fluency tasks: uttering words belonging to two categories specified by the researcher under time limit. It will be audio-recorded. I predict about 10 minutes for this task.

The sessions will take place in a place offering you both comfort and privacy, agreed on together with the researcher depending on what is most convenient for you. Once you finish, I may have some questions about your experience. You will be given full instructions and will be able to ask any questions you may have. The study is predicted to last a maximum of four separate sessions whose time and place will be agreed upon by you and the researcher in such a manner that the process is convenient for you.

The content of your oral-production (tasks 1,3 and 4) will be transcribed, translated into English as the language of instruction at the University of Edinburgh and stored securely at an encrypted personal platform as well as in a secure data service of the University of Edinburgh. The audio-recordings you contribute will be deleted.

The written test (task 2) will be scanned into PDF and also stored in the two afore-mentioned secure systems. The original paper form will be destroyed. This test will not reveal your identity.

**Compensation.** The study offers no financial compensation.

**Risks and benefits.** There are no known risks to participation in this study. The only benefits to you personally are those you draw from making a contribution to our knowledge about language and its use.

**Confidentiality.** The data we collect will not be associated with your name or with any other personal details that might identify you.

No identifiable data (in this case, your audio-recordings and your consent forms) will be made accessible to anyone apart from the research team.

Your identity will not be revealed in the write-up of the dissertation.

Only the anonymous transcriptions of your oral tasks and the anonymous written test may be shared with other researchers but this would be done only with your consent (*see, page 3*). You would not be identifiable through this data and your audio-recordings or consent forms will never be made available to anyone apart from the research team.

The anonymized data- transcriptions of your oral tasks and a scan of your anonymous language test will be shared through the University's specially designated database should you consent to that.

**Voluntary participation and right to withdraw.** Your participation is voluntary, and you may withdraw from the study at any time and for any reason, including after the data collection ends. If you withdraw from the study, we will destroy your data and there will be no penalty or other consequences for you.

**Contact information.** This research is being conducted by the above-listed researchers at the University of Edinburgh. The Principal Investigator can be contacted at 0131 650 3493 or a.sorace@ed.ac.uk for questions or to report a research-related problem. Contact the Linguistics & English Language Ethics committee at 0131 651 5510 or lel.ethics@ed.ac.uk if you have concerns regarding your rights as a participant in the research.

If you have any questions about what you've just read, please feel free to ask them now.

Thank you for your help!

Now please complete the consent form on the next page.



Consent for Participation, Use of Data, and Data Storage

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PLEASE MARK EITHER 'YES' OR 'NO' FOR EVERY STATEMENT BELOW:

<b><u>Consent for participation:</u></b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
I consent to having my responses recorded for the specific research project identified above. I have been given the opportunity to ask questions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I understand that I have the right to terminate this session at any point. My data will be deleted at that time.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b><u>Researcher use of data:</u></b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
I agree that the data I produce may be <b>kept permanently in Edinburgh University archives</b> and used <b>for the specific research project</b> which made them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I agree that the data I produce <b>may be used by the above-named researchers, as well as by other qualified researchers, for teaching or research purposes, and in professional presentations and publications.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b><u>General public use:</u></b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
I agree that that the anonymized data I produce <b>may be made publicly available for general use</b> , e.g. used in radio or television broadcasts, or put on the world-wide web.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: /d /m /y