

Informed Consent Agreement for Participation in a Research Study

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Title of Research Study: How does background music influence players' performance in rhythm games?

Sponsor: Prof. V.J.Manzo, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Introduction:

You are being asked to participate in a research study. Before you agree, however, you must be fully informed about the purpose of the study, the procedures to be followed, and any benefits, risks, or discomfort that you may experience as a result of your participation. This form presents information about the study so that you may make a fully informed decision regarding your participation.

Purpose of the study: From past research and experience of music game players, there are two main skills involved with note tapping accuracy: note reading and background music listening. In our experiment, we want to find out the degree of influence both factors have on a player's performance(specifically, note tapping accuracy).

Procedures to be followed: Participants would be asked to complete a pre-test survey, to give us information about their experience with music games/ instruments. After that, we are going to conduct our experiment for around an hour. We will conduct the experiment via Zoom, where we will let the participants play the game "Bemuse". During the process, we would first let the participants play two songs just to get them familiar with the UI and controls. Then, we will give them three songs of different levels of difficulty, and let them play with and without background music. During the process, we will monitor the process and collect the note-tapping accuracy that they had after each song. Finally, we are going to collect data and ask them post-test questions to conclude the research.

Risks to study participants: There is no risk to participating in this research.

Benefits to research participants and others: There is no obvious benefit to the participants besides gaining experience with rhythm games.

Record keeping and confidentiality: The experiment data, which doesn't include any confidential information about the participants, will be kept in a private google drive only

accessible to the investigators and will be deleted after the experiment. These data will be used for analyzing players' performance in a rhythm game under different circumstances.

Compensation or treatment in the event of an injury: This experiment does not pose any risk to you. You do not give up any of your legal rights by signing this statement.

For more information about this research or about the rights of research participants, or in case of research-related injury, contact:

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Human Protection Administrator: Gabriel Johnson, Tel. 508-831-4989, Email: gjohnson@wpi.edu

Your participation in this research is voluntary. Your refusal to participate will not result in any penalty to you or any loss of benefits to which you may otherwise be entitled. You may decide to stop participating in the research at any time without penalty or loss of other benefits. The project investigators retain the right to cancel or postpone the experimental procedures at any time they see fit.

By signing below, you acknowledge that you have been informed about and consent to be a participant in the study described above. Make sure that your questions are answered to your satisfaction before signing. You are entitled to retain a copy of this consent agreement.

Study Participant Signature

Date: _____

Study Participant Name (Please print)

Signature of Person who explained this study

Date: _____