



**Supplementary
materials for "The
effects of language
acquisition on
immigrant societal
participation"
project**

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Project Timeline

	Week One	Week Two	Week Three	Week Four	Week Five	Week Six	Week Seven
Research Data Sources	Find relevant individuals and organizations (university, bartender)	Attempt to find more relevant individuals and locations to survey					
Conduct Interviews		Initial Interviews	More new interviews		Follow-up Interviews		
Conduct and Distribute Surveys		Initial Surveying	Revised surveying methods		Follow-up Surveys		
Analyze Data				Initial Analysis	Incorporate Follow-ups	final analysis (should be light work)	
Draft Proposal				Revise D Term paper	Draft Outline	Add meat to the paper, finalize paper by THAT FRIDAY	practice presentation

Sample Survey Questions

Below is a comprehensive list of questions used to survey the general population. Note that when the survey was put together using Qualtrics we used branching logic based on each participant's demographic to assure that they only got relevant questions. Refer to Figures 1.1 - 1.2 at the end of this section on page 12

Question 1: How long have you lived in Iceland?

- Never lived in Iceland
- Fewer than 3 years
- 3 - 10 years
- Greater than 10 years

Question 2: What is your age?

- Under 18
- 18 - 24
- 25 - 34
- 35 - 44
- 45 - 54
- 55 - 64
- 65 - 74
- 75 - 84
- 85 or older

Question 3: Please select the option that best applies to you

- I am a native Icelander
- I am a first generation immigrant (born in another country)
- Other _____

Question 4: How many years ago did you move to Iceland?

- less than a year ago
- 1-2
- 2-5
- 5-10
- 10-20
- 20+
- Other _____

Question 5: What region of Iceland do/did you live in?

- Capital Region/Höfuðborgarsvæðið
- Southern Peninsula/Suðurnes
- West/Vesturland
- Westfjords/Vestfirðir
- Northwest/Norðurland vestra
- North East/Norðurland eystra
- East/Austurland
- South/Suðurland
- I'm not sure

Question 6: Which Languages do you speak at home?

- íslenskur
- English
- Polski
- Lietuvių
- Deutsch
- Dansk
- Português
- Pilipino
- Llatviski
- Other _____

Question 7: How many years of Icelandic schooling have you completed?

- None
- 1 - 3
- 4 - 6
- 7 - 9
- 10+

Question 8: Have you been employed in Iceland within the last 6 months?

- Yes
- No

Question 9: What industry did you work in?

Question 10: What was your job title?

Question 11: How many years of Icelandic schooling have you completed?

- None
- 1 - 3
- 4 - 6
- 7 - 9
- 10+

Question 12: Have you been employed in Iceland within the last 6 months?

- Yes
- No

Question 13: What industry did you work in?

Question 14: What was your job title?

Question 15: Which languages did you use at work? (choose all that apply)

- íslenskur
- English
- Polski
- Lietuvių
- Deutsch
- Dansk
- Português
- Pilipino
- Llatviski
- Other _____

Question 16: How many people used English in your workplace?

- Almost none
- Very few
- About half
- Very many
- Almost all

Question 17: How many people used Icelandic in your workplace?

- Almost none
- Very few
- About half
- Very many
- Almost all

Question 18: How many people were native Icelanders in your workplace?

- Almost none
- Very few
- About half
- Very many
- Almost all

Question 19: I feel that I can change careers in the next few years if I wanted to

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 20: I feel it is necessary to know Icelandic to advance my career

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 21: I feel it is necessary to know English to advance my career

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 22: I feel that my education level corresponds to the most recent job I have had

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 23: I feel that I have time outside of work to spend with family and be involved in my community

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 24: Which Icelandic elections are you eligible to vote in? (Select all that apply)

- Presidential
- Parliamentary
- Municipal
- None of the above
- Unsure or prefer not to say

Question 25: Have you voted in an Icelandic presidential election in the last 5 years?

- No
- Yes

Question 26: Have you voted in an Icelandic parliamentary election in the last 5 years?

- No
- Yes

Question 27: Have you voted in an Icelandic municipal election in the last 5 years?

- No
- Yes

Question 28: I feel it is necessary to know Icelandic to be able to fully participate in Icelandic politics

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 29: I feel it is necessary to know English to be able to fully participate in Icelandic politics

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 30: Have you voted in an Icelandic municipal election in the last 5 years?

- No
- Yes

Question 31: I feel it is necessary to know Icelandic to be able to fully participate in Icelandic politics

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 32: I feel it is necessary to know English to be able to fully participate in Icelandic politics

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 33: I feel that the Icelandic government provided resources for me to learn English

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 34: I feel that the Icelandic government provided resources for me to learn Icelandic

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 35: How likely are you to vote in the next presidential elections

- Extremely likely
- Somewhat likely
- Neither likely nor unlikely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Extremely unlikely

Question 36: Have you voted in an Icelandic municipal election in the last 5 years?

- No
- Yes

Question 37: I feel it is necessary to know Icelandic to be able to fully participate in Icelandic politics

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 38: I feel it is necessary to know English to be able to fully participate in Icelandic politics

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 39: I feel that the Icelandic government provided resources for me to learn English

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 40: I feel that the Icelandic government provided resources for me to learn Icelandic

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 41: How likely are you to vote in the next presidential elections

- Extremely likely
- Somewhat likely
- Neither likely nor unlikely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Extremely unlikely

Question 42: How likely are you to vote in the next parliamentary elections

- Extremely likely
- Somewhat likely
- Neither likely nor unlikely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Extremely unlikely

Question 43: How likely are you to vote in the next municipal elections

- Extremely likely
- Somewhat likely
- Neither likely nor unlikely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Extremely unlikely

Question 44: I have the resources to understand the platforms of current politicians in Iceland

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 45: I feel represented in the Icelandic government

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 46: I feel that I'm able to express my political satisfaction or dissatisfaction using my voice in Iceland

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 47: I am aware of the current politics in Iceland

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Questions 48: I am aware of the current politics in my home country

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 49: I am aware of the current politics in Iceland

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 50: I am aware of the current politics in my home country

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 51: I feel confident speaking English

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 52: I feel confident speaking Icelandic

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree

Question 53: I feel it is necessary to speak English to connect with other members of the local community

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 54: I feel it is necessary to speak Icelandic to connect with other members of the local community

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 55: I feel it is necessary to speak my native language to connect with others members of the local community

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 56: What were the barriers that you experienced when integrating into your new community?

Question 57: Are there any organizations where you can connect with members of your ethnicity?

Question 58: I feel that I am a part of one of the local communities

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

Question 59: What were the barriers you experienced to learning English?

Question 60: What were the barriers you experienced to learning Icelandic?

Question 61: If you would like to be contacted for individual followups, please enter an email. (Your email will never be shared with anyone outside of our team) *This is completely optional!

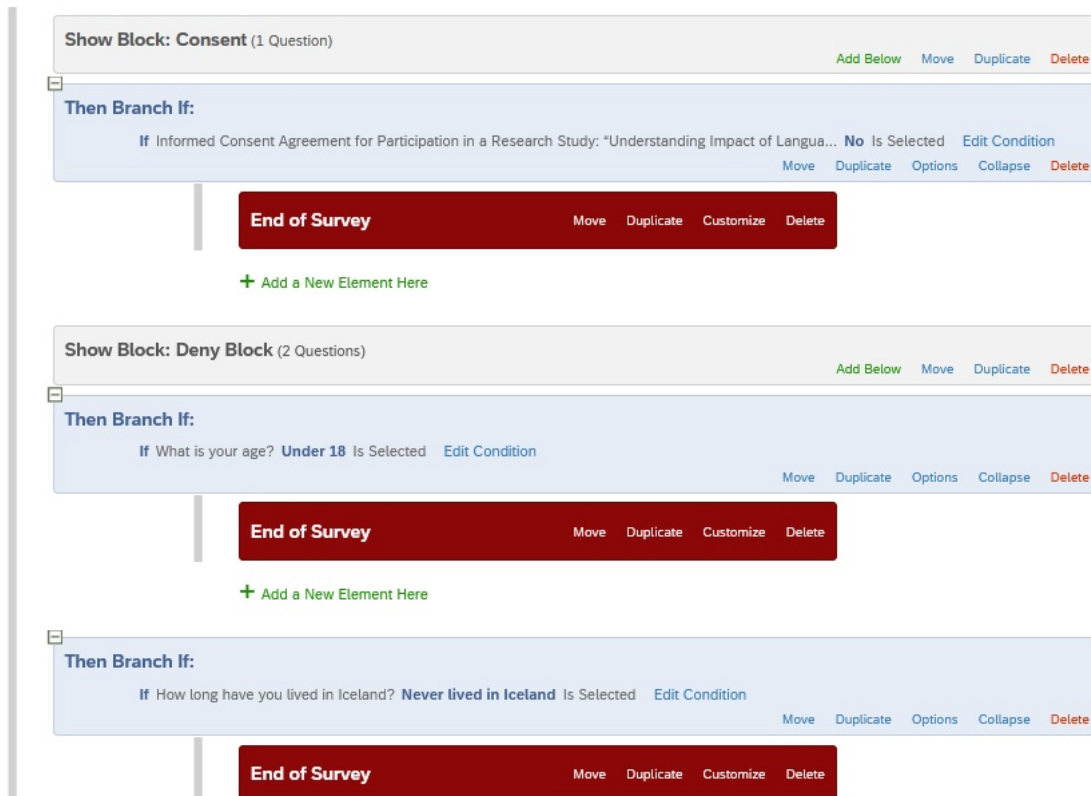


Figure 1.1: The image on the left displays all the cases in which a survey participant could end the survey by filling out their demographic. We were filtering out individuals who have not lived in Iceland, underage participants, and those not consenting to taking the survey.

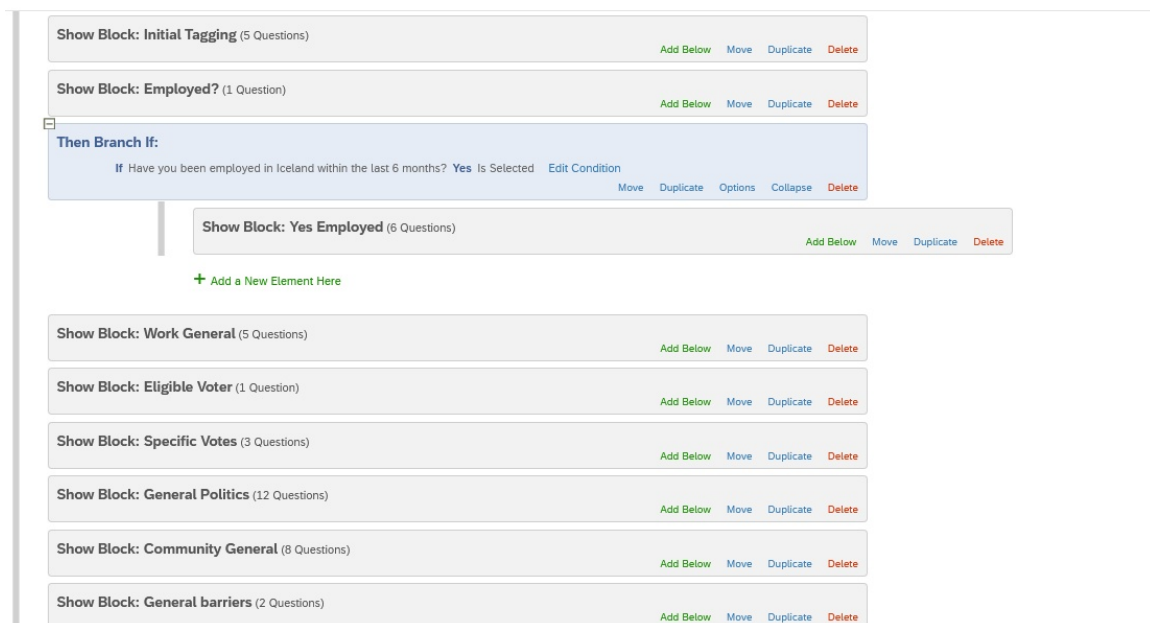


Figure 1.2: The image on the left displays a specific logic branch that would not display any questions relating to Icelandic workforce to assure accuracy of data collected

Sample Interview Questions

Below is a list of questions used in each interview to assure data consistency. However, since the interviews were semi-structured, we included 3-5 additional questions to address each participant's expertise.

General Interview Questions:

1. What appears to be the hardest part of Icelandic lifestyle to adapt to for immigrants?
2. What are native Icelanders' attitudes towards immigrants and how have they changed as immigration has increased?
3. What are the attitudes of immigrants towards learning Icelandic? English?
4. Are there different attitudes towards English and Icelandic in different areas of the country?
5. What is the cultural importance of Icelandic?
6. Are there any generational differences in learning and using Icelandic that you've noticed in immigrant populations?
7. To what extent do the languages an immigrant speaks have bearing on their ability to find employment in Iceland?
8. To what extent are immigrants able to maintain similar job positions and industries when moving to Iceland?
9. To what extent does an immigrant's ability to speak Icelandic or English affect their ability to participate in Icelandic politics?
10. What is the significance of participation in Icelandic politics to immigrants in Iceland?
11. What are the specific outlets through which an immigrant can become politically involved?
12. What resources are available to new immigrants to integrate them into the Icelandic workforce and community?
13. Do you know of any resources we could use to distribute our survey?
14. Are you aware of any organizations that could put us in contact with immigrant communities?
15. Is there anything you'd like to speak to about this topic that we didn't cover?

Sample Personalized Questions for an Immigrant in Academia:

1. How has your perception of and relationship with your own culture changed over time?
2. Where did you get the most exposure to Icelandic in your youth and in what context do you use each language you know?
3. What was the most challenging part of learning and using formal Icelandic? What resources were available to you?
4. Over time, how did your knowledge of Icelandic language and culture help or hinder your ability to connect with your peers?

Consent Form

Each study participant received a copy of the consent form informing them about the extent of their participation and data security.

Consent Agreement Informed Consent Agreement for Participation in a Research Study:

“Understanding Impact of Language Acquisition on Societal Participation In Iceland”

Investigators: Robert Eskridge (rceskridge@wpi.edu), Ben Kresge (bgkresge@wpi.edu), Jair Meza (jdmeza@wpi.edu), Taya Yakovenko (tyakovenko@wpi.edu)

Co-investigators: Sarah Stanlick (sstanlick@wpi.edu) and Jeffrey Solomon (solomon@wpi.edu)

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to gain a better understanding of the importance of language acquisition in the ability of one to participate in Iceland’s society, especially that of immigrants. Ideally, this project will help inform and support future projects on the topic.

Procedures to be followed: Your time and participation is appreciated, as you will be providing valuable information that will help in illuminating potential obstacles to societal participation. We are asking for your time as a survey respondent to learn more about your experiences with, and attitudes towards, both language acquisition and societal participation. You can opt-out at any time. The survey is dynamic, and may include up to 47 questions, though you may not be asked all of them depending on previous answers. While we recommend that you answer as many questions as you are comfortable with, all questions are optional and can be skipped. If you chose to enter an email at the end of the survey, we may reach out for a follow-up interview. This is completely optional and you need not enter an email or may opt-out of the follow-up at any time. **Risks to study participants:** We are asking you questions of your professional identity, work experience, and political participation. Please know that we have worked to ask questions that are important to our understanding of challenges to societal participation, and the role of language acquisition as it relates to these challenges. The data we have from your input will be beneficial to future projects or efforts to address these challenges. To be clear, some questions are specific to immigrants and immigration and while the experiences of immigrants are key to our project, we understand that immigrant experiences are sensitive and can elicit discomfort. If any of the questions that we have asked cause discomfort, please know that you can refuse to answer a question or withdraw at any time.

Benefits to research participants and others: Participants will be shaping potential future projects that will explore methods to decrease the barriers to societal participation due to language acquisition. Specific experiences and personal stories will aid in identifying problem areas and are crucial to understand before productive work can be done. **Investigators and contact information:**

If you have any questions about this study and your participation, please contact the investigation team alias (gr-icelandlanga22@wpi.edu).

You can also contact the IRB Manager (Ruth McKeogh, Tel. +1 508-831-6699, Email: irb@wpi.edu) and the Human Protection Administrator (Gabriel Johnson, Tel. +1 508-831-4989, Email: gjohnson@wpi.edu).

Record keeping and confidentiality: Information collected through the survey will be stored on a password-protected cloud server operated by Qualtrics. Only the researchers for this project will have access to the response data. We will not be collecting your identity for any of your responses and will not share information outside of the research team. Records of your participation in this study will be held confidential so far as permitted by law. However, the study investigators, the sponsor or its designee and, under certain circumstances, the Worcester Polytechnic Institute Institutional Review Board (WPI IRB) will be able to inspect and have access to confidential data. Any publication or presentation of the data will not identify you. 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 selecting “yes” below, you acknowledge that you have been informed about the study and wish to consent to participate. Do you consent to participating in this study?

- Yes
- No

Code Book

Below is the code book used to analyze all the interviews

1. Immigration
 - 1.1. Biases towards immigrants
 - 1.2. Adaptation to Iceland

2. Societal Participation
 - 2.1. Community
 - 2.1.1. Belonging
 - 2.2. Workforce
 - 2.2.1. Unions
 - 2.2.2. Positions
 - 2.3 Politics
 - 2.3.1. Access to information
 - 2.3.2. Representation

3. Icelandic Language
 - 3.1. Acquisition
 - 3.1.1 Resources
 - 3.1.2 Barriers to learning Icelandic
 - 3.2. Attitudes
 - 3.2.1. Reasons to know Icelandic
 - 3.2.2. Cultural importance