#  Study #

# CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH

**Sensation and Speech**

You are invited to participate in a research study on how speakers make use of maximally available sensory information. We ask that you read this form and discuss any questions you may have before agreeing to be in the study.

The study is being conducted by Dr. Elizabeth Casserly of the Dept. of Psychology and Neuroscience Program at Trinity College. It is currently not funded by any outside institution.

 **STUDY PURPOSE**

The purpose of this study is to determine how people alter their speech when sensory information changes. Specifically, we will determine if people can make use of such information by comparing how speech changes when visual information is increased, or when auditory and somatosensory information is decreased.

**NUMBER OF PEOPLE TAKING PART IN THE STUDY:**

If you agree to participate, you will be one of approximately 50 subjects who will be participating in this research.

**PROCEDURES FOR THE STUDY:**

If you agree to be in the study, you will be asked to do the following three things:

1. Complete a demographic survey telling us a little bit about you, where you are from, and any factors that may impact the results of the study.

2. Complete a screening of your hearing to determine that you’re hearing normally at the time of the study.

3. Produce speech under several different sensory conditions. The conditions include: normal speaking (no alterations), altered hearing (hear yourself through a simulation of hearing loss, a cochlear implant, or some other change to your voice may be introduced), altered feeling/touch (e.g., an over-the-counter oral pain reliever, benzocaine (Orajel) would be topically applied to some portions of your lips/tongue/mouth, inducing mild loss of sensation), available visual information (see yourself or some portion of your face in a mirror, see images on a computer screen representing aspects of your voice like volume or pitch), or some combination of the above.

You will be told precisely which conditions will be present in your study during the informed consent process.

In all conditions, you will be asked to produce speech in response to text prompts, and your productions will be audio or audio-visually recorded. These recordings will be used as materials for future research; if you participate, other research participants in the future may hear your voice or see recordings of you speaking.

**RISKS OF TAKING PART IN THE STUDY:**

While participating in the study, the risks are minimal. You may feel uncomfortable answering the questions on the survey, and you may feel fatigued by the end of your participation. There is also a risk of loss of confidentiality, as recordings created in this study will be used in future research at Trinity and possibly elsewhere.

If you feel uncomfortable answering any questions on the survey or during the study tasks, you may abstain from answering. All responses and your data/recordings will be kept anonymous and secure in our lab facility, so that your privacy is maintained. Although future participants may recognize your face or voice from the recordings made in the study, your name will never be used and we will not discuss anyone’s participation outside of our research group.

There are additional risks associated with the application of benzocaine, listed on a separate form.

 At any point during the study, if you feel you would like to end your participation for any reason, you are free to do so without any detriment or loss of compensation.

**BENEFITS OF TAKING PART IN THE STUDY:**

No direct benefit is expected for you as a result of participating in this study.

**COMPENSATION**

You will receive either academic credit or monetary compensation for your participation. Payment will be a $10 gift card to Amazon.com or local vendors (e.g., Peter B’s).

The study will take less than 1 hour to complete.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

Efforts will be made to keep your personal information confidential. We cannot guarantee absolute confidentiality. Your personal information may be disclosed if required by law. Your identity will be held in confidence in reports in which the study may be published and databases in which results and recordings may be stored. We will record participants speaking under various conditions, and these recordings will be viewed by current and future researchers, as well as potentially used as materials in future studies (i.e., the recordings may be viewed by participants in future studies). The recordings may be used in this capacity indefinitely; however, identifying information, including consent forms, audiograms, and demographic surveys, will be destroyed after 7 years.

Organizations that may inspect and/or copy your research records for quality assurance and data analysis include groups such as the study investigator and his/her research associates, the Trinity College Institutional Review Board or its designees, and (as allowed by law) state or federal agencies, specifically the Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP) or the National Institutes of Health (NIH), who may need to access your research records.

**VOLUNTARY NATURE OF STUDY**

Taking part in this study is voluntary. You may choose not to take part or may leave the study at any time. Leaving the study will not result in any penalty or loss of benefits to which you are entitled. Your decision whether or not to participate in this study will not affect your current or future relations with Trinity College or the investigators.

**SUBJECT’S CONSENT**

In consideration of all of the above, I give my consent to participate in this research study.

A copy of this informed consent document will be available to me if I request one to keep for my records. I agree to take part in this study.

**Subject’s Printed Name:**

**Subject’s Signature**: **Date**:

 (must be dated by the subject)

**Printed Name of Person Obtaining Consent:**

**Signature of Person Obtaining Consent**: **Date**:

Form date: September 7, 2018

*Contacts for Questions or Problems:*

For questions or concerns about the study, please contact Elizabeth Casserly at 860-297-4212. For questions about your rights as a research participant or to discuss problems, complaints or concerns about a study, you may contact Trinity’s Institutional Review Board at irb@trincoll.edu.