COGNITIVE PERFORMANCE & ECONOMIC INCENTIVES

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INSTRUCTIONS

Good afternoon. Please take a seat. In front of you is a consent form. Please read it and fill it out.

You have agreed to participate in an experiment that tests recall. The sequence of events in the experiment is as follows. I will begin by asking you a yes or no question about a word that will appear on the screen in front of you. I will ask you three types of questions about the word:

1. I will ask you "Is the word in capital letters?" OR
2. I will ask you if the word rhymes with another word. For example, "Does the word rhyme with cat?" OR
3. I will ask you if the word fits into a given category. For example, "Is the word a type of food?"

After I have read the question, the word will appear on your screen for one second. Next, a "YES-NO" answer screen will appear. You will have 5 seconds to answer the question I asked you. You press the "Y" button to answer YES. And you press the "N" button to answer NO. Your answer will not appear on the screen.

After you answer the question, I will ask you another question about a new word. We will repeat this process for a total of sixty times. Do you have any questions about the sequence of events?

At the end of the experiment, I will give you a quiz on the words you were shown. You will be asked to recall the 60 words you saw from a list of 180 words.

FOR CONTROL GROUP: After you complete the quiz, I will pay you $10 for your participation, then, you are free to go. We expect the experiment to last about 30 minutes. Do you have any questions? We will now begin the experiment.

FOR EXPERIMENTAL GROUP: I will pay you $0.50 for each word you identify correctly. Since there are 60 words to identify, you can earn up to $30. After you complete the quiz, I will correct it and calculate your earnings Then, I will pay you and you are free to go. We expect this experiment to last about 30 minutes. Do you have any questions? We will now begin the experiment.

AFTER THE EXPERIMENT: I will now give you a quiz on the words you were shown. Choose only 60 words from the list. [For experimental group ONLY "We will pay you $0.50 for every word you recall correctly."] If you choose more than 60 words, we will penalize you $1 for each additional word. We suggest that you number your choices in order to keep track of how many you have answered.

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