

PAID STUDY

PhD student is looking for adult participants to participate in a study on:

Differences in silent reading amongst stammerers and dyslexics

I am a Psychology PhD student (Mahmoud Elsherif; elsherim@bham.ac.uk) at the University of Birmingham and I've been interested in people with language/speech difficulties for a long time. My interest originated as a result of seeing family members struggle with stammering and dyslexia, and how it affected their academic and personal life. The researcher is a member of the BSA and the British Dyslexia Association.

Who can participate?

- adults aged between 18 and 32
- native English speakers (English as first language from birth)
- at least A-level equivalent education
- normal hearing; normal or corrected-to-normal vision
- diagnosis of developmental stammering (i.e. from a young age)

What are we doing, and why?

We are investigating how readers use their (inner) voice during silent reading and reading aloud. We are doing this research in order to help us improve our understanding of how speech affects language processing in different groups. We hope this will lead to better intervention programmes for people with language and/or speech difficulties.

Where & what?

The study will be conducted at the University of Birmingham, School of Psychology, and has been approved by the University's Ethical Board. Participants need to attend three sessions spread over two different days, with each session taking between 45 and 90 minutes to complete. The sessions consist of:

- Easy standardised tests that will measure spelling, reading and memory;
- silently reading a string of letters on a screen and indicating whether they make up a word or not;
- naming strings of letters on a screen.

Dates are flexible and can be fitted around your schedule.

Would I be paid for this?

Absolutely. You will receive £10 per hour (pro rata) for participating and up to £10 for travel per session.

Notes about the study

- *At the start of the study, you will be given a consent form to read and sign in order for you to be fully aware of the study's procedures and to confirm your participation.*
- *Your participation would be voluntary and if you do not want to continue at any time, you have the right to withdraw, at any stage of the research, without giving a reason and your data will be removed and immediately destroyed.*
- *All data collected will be kept anonymous and confidential (i.e. it will not be linked to your identity).*
- *During certain tasks, you will be recorded via a voice recorder, purchased solely for this study. The information will not be provided to any 3rd party member and will only be used and stored by the researcher (i.e. Mahmoud Elsherif).*
- *If you would like to be informed by the study's findings, please do not hesitate to ask or email me.*

Thank you for reading, silently or aloud!

If you're interested, please email Mahmoud Elsherif at elsherim@bham.ac.uk for more information.