Instructions

Introduction

Thank you for participating in this study. Today’s session will last no more than 60 minutes. The other people in this room are also participating in the experiment. Please do not talk or communicate with others in any way. If you have a question, please raise your hand and an experimenter will come to where you are sitting to answer it in private. During the experiment we ask that you do not look at any of the other computer screens. To ensure that everyone is paying attention, please turn off mobile phones and other electronic devices. These must remain turned off for the duration of the session.

The earnings you receive for participating in today’s experiment will depend on your performance and on the decisions you make in the experiment. Your total earnings in the experiment will be the sum of a $6 show up fee, a $4 completion fee, and your earnings from your performance and decisions. Payments will be made using your personalized Subject ID number. This number will be displayed on your screen at the end of the experiment so that you can record it on your payment slip. All payments will be made in cash and in private.

Description of Experiment

This session consists of a short practice round, for which you will not be paid, followed by 10 paying rounds. Each round will last two minutes.

In each round, you will see a screen with 48 sliders. On each slider there is a marker that you can move using your mouse. To move the marker, click the marker and drag it to your desired location. The marker is initially located at 0, but can be placed at any number between 0 and 100. The marker’s current position is shown by a number to the right of each slider.

Your task is to place the marker on each slider at exactly 50.

Payment

Your payment per round depends on the number of sliders completed. You will be paid 2 cents for every slider with its marker placed at 50.

This means that if you complete 0 sliders in each round, then you will receive no additional earnings—only your show-up and completion fees. If you complete all 48 sliders in a round, you will be paid 2 cents x 48 = 96 cents for that round. This corresponds to a maximum performance payment of 2 cents x 48 x 10 = 960 cents, or $9.60 over the course of the entire session, which we will add to your show-up and completion fees.
During each round, the time remaining in the round will be shown in the top right corner of the screen. The number of sliders you have correctly completed in the round so far will also be shown at the top of the screen. A static example of the screen during a round is shown on the next page and on your monitor. Here, there is one completed slider and one uncompleted slider whose marker has been moved from its initial point.

Between each paying round, there will be a 10 second break during which your screen will display how many rounds you have completed, the number of sliders you completed in the previous round, and your earnings from that round.

**Practice Round**

We will now start the practice round. In the practice round, you will have two minutes to familiarize yourself with the task. Your performance in this practice round will *not* affect your earnings in any way.

Before we start, are there any questions?

Please look at your screen now. The practice round will now begin.