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Thank you very much for doing this quick survey. It involves reading some short scenarios and rating how similar you think some sentences are.

By completing this survey, you agree to participate in a linguistic study run by Elspeth Wilson, a PhD student in the Department of Theoretical and Applied Linguistics (DTAL) at the University of Cambridge, and agree to the following statements:

I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time, without giving any reason, and without my rights being affected.

I understand that the data collected for this research project will be kept confidential; all data will be identified by a random code that is not linked back to me and will be kept in a secure location.

I understand that these data may be presented at professional conferences or in academic manuscripts. These results will be written up based on group data. If, in rare instances, individual data might be used, then no identifying information will allow others to trace my responses back to me.

I have the name and email address of the researcher (Elspeth Wilson, ep321@cam.ac.uk).



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In this task, you will read a number of short scenarios. The last part of each scenario is coloured **red**.

Below the scenario, you will see two more sentences. Choose the sentence which you think is most similar in meaning to the part of the scenario in **red**.

For example, for the scenario below, you would decide whether 'He painted a normal picture' or 'He painted something strange' is more similar in meaning to what Mrs Williams said, and click the appropriate button.

Mr Williams got home from work. He asked, "What did Felix do in art club today?" Mrs Williams said, "**He did a painting.**"

He painted a normal picture.



He painted something strange.





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Tom and Susan were chatting over coffee. "What did Alistair do at the weekend?", Tom asked. Susan replied, "He built a wall."

He built a wall, if you can call it a wall.

He built a wall (properly).



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Terry was looking for some documents. He asked Julie, "Do you know where they are?" She replied, "David opened a file, put the documents in, and closed it again."

David filed them, but not in the right place.

David filed them (in the normal place).





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Jamie got home from his grandmother's. His mum asked, "Did she give you a drink?" He answered, "**She put a teabag into a cup and poured over boiling water.**"

She gave me a normal cup of tea.

She gave me a cup of tea, only it didn't taste like tea.





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Nick and Dan were watching a history programme, but Nick fell asleep. Afterwards he asked, "What happened at the end?" Dan replied, "**The invaders killed the villagers.**"

The invaders killed the villagers directly.

The invaders killed the villagers but indirectly, by introducing disease.





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Barry and Ted were discussing a recent dismissal at work. Barry asked, "What did you think about it?" Ted said, "**The decision was just.**"

The decision was just.

The decision was reasonably just.





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The office employees were in a meeting. Meryl asked, "What happened with that recent problem?" Tom said, "**John had the ability to solve it.**"

John could have solved it but he didn't.



John could solve it (and he did).





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Mick showed his boss the new feature he'd written. "What do you think?" he asked. She replied, "**I'm not unpleased by what you've done.**"

I'm pleased with what you've done



I'm not entirely pleased with what you've done.





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Andy and Ben were talking about their intern's progress. "What did he do this morning?", asked Andrew. Ben said, "He wrote a report of the meeting."

He wrote a rather bad report of the meeting.



He wrote a satisfactory report of the meeting.





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Sue and her mum were chatting on the phone. Sue asked her mum, "What did Dad do last night?" Her mum said, "He made a chocolate cake."

He made a chocolate cake (successfully).



He tried to make a chocolate cake but without much success.





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Jim and Ed were discussing their weekend plans. Jim said "I'm going to Liverpool - how should I get there?" Ed replied, "**You can use my car.**"

Remember that you can use my car .



I'm offering you the use of my car





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Nigel needed to get his car fixed. "What's the garage on the corner like?", he asked Amy. She replied, "It's reliable."

It's less than reliable.

It's reliable





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Ben and Jude were acting in a play. Ben asked, "What happens at the end of the scene?" Jude answered, "The villain leaves the room with a swish of his cloak and causes the door to close."

The villain leaves the room and closes the door, by pulling it shut. The villain closes the door by swishing his cloak and making a draft.





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Simon had been to the village talent show. Colleen asked, "What did Bob do in it?" Simon replied, "**He said the words of a poem.**"

He recited a poem (well).

He recited a poem, very tediously.





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Janet was telling Ed about the school concert. He asked, "What did Betty do in the concert?" She answered, "She sang an aria from Rigoletto."

She sang an aria from Rigoletto (well).



She sang an aria from Rigoletto, but not very well.





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Debbie was showing Sue around her new loft conversion. Sue asked, "How did you get that lovely big sofa up here?" Debbie replied, "**It took not inconsiderable effort.**"

It took quite a bit of effort.

It took considerable effort.





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The Clark family were doing their weekly clean. Mr Clark asked Mrs Clark, "What task has Katie done?" She replied, "**She wiped a dusting cloth around the bookshelves.**"

She attempted to dust the bookshelves, but they don't seem any cleaner.

She dusted the bookshelves (effectively).

Thank you very much for taking part in this survey. Finally, please answer three short questions.

What is your native language?

- American English
- British English
- Indian English
- Spanish
- Other (please specify)

Do you speak any other languages?

- Yes
- No

Do you have any formal Linguistics training?

- Yes
- No



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Thank you again for your help!

If you have any comments or questions, do contact me at ep321@cam.ac.uk

Please click on the URL below to complete the survey and return to Prolific Academic.
<https://prolificacademic.co.uk/submissions/5620cbd7ed6e5a0005c7efdc/complete?cc=EY1CS84G>

