Appendix 1 – Questionnaire instructions sheet

Sentence Judgement Questionnaire

Thank you for agreeing to fill out this questionnaire! This questionnaire is part of a study at the University of Edinburgh on sentence judgements. If you would like more information about this project you may contact Ben Weston at B.A.Weston@sms.ed.ac.uk. The questionnaire should take about 15 minutes to complete. Your answers will be kept anonymous and confidential. Your name will not be used in connection with any of the information collected here, in any way.

We are interested in how natural the following sentences seem to you in your everyday English. There are 120 sentences, each with a scale of 1 to 4 next to it (where 1 sounds bad to you and 4 sounds fine to you). For each sentence, we would be grateful if you could accurately CIRCLE THE NUMBER which best reflects how natural or comfortable the sentence sounds to you in your everyday English. PLEASE DO NOT CIRCLE BETWEEN NUMBERS ON THE SCALE.

For example, in my English the following sentence is fully natural, and so if I were filling in this questionnaire, I would circle the number 4:

	Sounds bad to me			Sounds good to me
a. There are a few dogs in the garden.	1	2	3	(4)

On the other hand, sentence b, below, is completely unnatural in my English, and so I would circle the number 1.

	Sounds bad to me			Sounds good to me
b. The are few a dogs garden there in.	(1)	2	3	4

I find sentence c, below, somewhere in between a and b—neither completely unnatural to me nor totally natural. So, I would shade in the box in proportion to how acceptable the sentence is to me, like this:

	Sounds bad to me			Sounds good to me
c. A few dogs in the garden are there.	1	(2)	3	4

We are interested in your first reaction to these sentences, so please don't spend more than a few seconds on each of these, and please don't go back to change a previous completed answer.

PLEASE NOTE, also, that we are interested in what sounds natural to you in your EVERYDAY ENGLISH, not what you think you should say, and definitely not what you think other people think you should say. There is no right or wrong answer; it is your intuitions about your everyday English that are important. Please warm up with a few practice questions:

	Sounds bad to me			Sounds good to me
d. Who did you say that Rafael met?	1	2	3	4
e. Terry's a good friend of them.	1	2	3	4
f. Have you ever seen film this?	1	2	3	4

If you have no further questions, you're ready to go!