

Information about fEMG research Centre for Language Studies Lab

The way people process information can be measured, among other things, by looking at the electrical activity of the muscles in the face. Even when we barely move our faces, there is always a little electrical activity present. This activity can be measured and recorded using small stickers (electrodes) placed on the skin of the face. This measurement method is called Facial Electromyography (fEMG). An fEMG experiment usually takes between 45 minutes and 2 hours.

Preparation at home

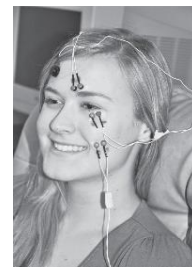
To ensure that the fEMG works properly, we ask you to do the following before you arrive:

- Wash and dry your hair
- Do not use facial cream or make-up

At the fEMG lab

A few small stickers will be placed on your face. The stickers contain electrodes that measure the movement of your facial muscles. We place these on your forehead and cheeks. You can continue to move your eyes, nose, and mouth as normal.

To obtain clear signals, your skin must be clean. If necessary, the researcher will clean your skin with alcohol and then use a special gel that improves the measurement. Please inform the researcher if you are allergic to skincare products or alcohol.



During the experiment

Each experiment is different. The researcher will tell you what to do. You may be asked to:

- Look at a computer screen
- Listen to sounds
- Do a reaction test
- Make small movements
- Or just sit and relax

During the experiment, you will be seated in a booth. The researcher will be in the same room, outside the booth. You can talk to the researcher via an intercom, and they can see you via a camera. This communication is not recorded. After the experiment the researcher will remove the electrode stickers from your face.

Safety

fEMG is safe and painless. You will not be given any medication or substances.

You **cannot** participate if:

- You had botox injections in your face
- You have claustrophobia (fear of small, enclosed spaces)

If any of these apply to you, please contact the researcher.

What happens to your data?

In an fEMG study, we measure your reaction during the experiment. We collect this data to answer the research question. It cannot be used for medical advice or to diagnose health problems.