

## WHiG Information Sheet for Tutors

### What is the project about?

Our project is interested in collecting essays written by students of German from Welsh and English universities. By creating a digital collection of essays called a “corpus”, we will be able to label every single word according to each grammatical category and annotate any language errors. By doing so, we aim to find out what structural difficulties there are when an advanced learner of German writes German. We will then compare the results with those of German mother tongue speakers and with learners of German with a different language background.

### What do our students have to do?

Student participants will receive an information sheet about the project and a consent form. They start off by filling out a questionnaire about their language learning history, then they do a “C-test” (a short cloze test), and finally they write an essay.

### What is the essay like?

The essay is computer-typed in Notepad and students are not allowed to use any language tools available online or on the computer. There is a choice of 3-4 preselected topics. The word target aim is 500 words in 90 minutes.

### How long will the data collection take?

Hands-on, the data collection takes 2.5 hours. We would, however, recommend allowing 3 hours. This makes it easier for computer lab bookings and giving time to the research officer to retrieve the essays on a USB flash drive.

### What are the benefits for our students?

1. Every student will get detailed feedback on their essay, which consists of highlighting the errors and rewording the sentences.
2. We will donate £20 to your student society if there are 20-29 participants. If there are 30+ participants, we will donate £50.

### What about confidentiality?

The project ensures that participants’ identity is kept confidential. Personal details are kept to a minimum, and the participants identities are encoded as a sequence of numbers. Nobody will be able to trace back the participants’ essays to their identity. Only Cedric Krummes and Astrid Ensslin will know the participants’ email addresses. Cedric and Astrid will not share any details with the members of staff of the partner universities, although students are encouraged to share their C-test score and their feedback with their tutors on their own accord.

### Contact us

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