

Appendix: Stimuli used in the two versions of the main experiment.

Version A

| Homophones | | Synonyms | | Visually matched | |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| ate-eight | blood-blush | *certain-sure | *comb-razor | brwhc-brwhc | *mxphr-mwsyr |
| baize-bays | boil-bowl | baby-infant | *punishment-penalty | cmxdy-cmxdy | bxgwf-bnwvf |
| berry-bury | console-council | biscuit-cookie | bank-money | cpyxk-cpyxk | dgbps-dzchp |
| brake-break | court-corpse | bucket-pail | beef-pork | dsfwq-dsfwq | dsvcz-dhplz |
| ceiling-sealing | fall-fault | car-automobile | bone-joint | dwgly-dwgly | fdnsc-fmrlc |
| cereal-serial | friend-french | champion-hero | cigar-pipe | fglqn-fglqn | fljyt-fwrpt |
| ewe-you | garden-guarded | child-kid | cloud-sky | fwtsf-fwtsf | fmvrt-fhgjt |
| fair-fare | goddess-goodness | couch-sofa | coffin-grave | ghjkl-ghjkl | kbylx-kmhbx |
| four-for | gown-gone | country-nation | cup-plate | jlxd-jlxd | lkgmn-lrqvn |
| guise-guys | jury-duty | dwelling-abode | emerald-diamond | jpmzf-jpmzf | lmqwn-lbxpn |
| hear-here | lather-leather | gift-present | envelope-letter | jqzfc-jqzfc | lrpgy-lcbfy |
| him-hymn | mall-mole | hearth-fireplace | fence-gate | khgjp-khgjp | mzscv-mxwvp |
| hour-our | map-mop | king-monarch | garlic-sage | lbmkp-lbmkp | nmbsh-nbylh |
| key-quay | mother-mutter | lawyer-attorney | gravel-sand | msxqr-msxqr | qxlmj-qdgbj |
| knows-nose | navel-novel | menace-threat | guitar-violin | nctbv-nctbv | rqvfw-rjxmw |
| links-lynx | owl-old | physician-doctor | jug-bottle | nlhjd-nlhjd | scjyw-shlqw |
| mode-mowed | petal-pebble | prison-jail | sheep-wool | nzbgl-nzbgl | sdyxk-snmqk |
| nay-neigh | pillow-plough | reply-answer | soap-cream | rszdw-rszdw | tcgpk-thplk |
| pray-prey | please-pliers | snake-serpent | spade-rake | sjwzb-sjwzb | tdfhv-tjrqv |
| road-rode | poster-plaster | staff-personnel | stem-leaf | svwrb-svwrb | vkpcb-vwtsb |
| rote-wrote | pound-pounce | teacher-instructor | stove-kettle | vfzpl-vfzpl | vsknc-vjdlc |
| throne-thrown | sausage-sauces | toilet-lavatory | sword-armour | vgbgx-vgbgx | xwpdv-xlkgv |
| ware-wear | sentiment-sensitive | trip-journey | tree-bush | xzymd-xzymd | ytcsd-yspmd |
| way-weigh | shot-shop | wrath-anger | wall-brick | ywqzv-ywqzv | zqlpm-zvswm |
| won-one | weed-weir | writer-author | wax-candle | zkjdf-zkjdf | zxhqt-zsdyt |

*Indicates a trial which was excluded because of chance performance.

Version B

| Homophones | | Synonyms | | Visually matched | |
|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|------------------|-------------|
| Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| ail-ale | accordion-accordance | **college-university | *file-nail | ajklp-ajklp | bnqft-bxhjt |
| allowed-aloud | ask-axe | absent-missing | book-paper | brdqf-brdqf | brzcw-bdfhw |
| beach-beech | border-bother | bomb-explosive | boxes-jars | dvpxy-dvpxy | bztgj-bwrcj |
| bear-bare | bottle-battle | brawl-quarrel | cake-pie | dxstw-dxstw | chrzd-cnldq |
| beet-beat | building-bullring | cargo-freight | cliff-cave | fxdvc-fxdvc | cplhj-cyxkj |
| bite-byte | chant-chart | cellar-basement | coin-gold | hrysb-hrysb | dngr-dzqlr |
| board-bored | circle-circus | criminal-felon | copper-lead | jbnhc-jbnhc | ednhj-evpxj |
| cue-queue | diary-dairy | cry-weep | fairy-ghost | jxmrg-jxmrg | gvncl-grwhl |
| doe-dough | egg-edge | dress-frock | ice-drink | kjzhf-kjzhf | gzchn-gxdvn |
| draft-draught | filter-fillet | enemy-foe | key-door | mxjyt-mxjyt | jydm-bjbrwb |
| foul-fowl | foil-fail | enigma-mystery | leg-foot | pdzct-pdzct | kxtmq-kfwtq |
| great-grate | forest-frost | fabric-cloth | meadow-hay | pgvcz-pgvcz | lvkpi-lznyj |
| jeans-genes | grass-grace | films-movies | moth-fly | plfsk-plfsk | ncsjx-npkhx |
| muscle-mussel | honey-hunter | hint-clue | mug-saucer | qlgpk-qlgpk | nswpm-nbmkm |
| ode-owed | lad-lid | holiday-vacation | orange-apple | ryqxp-ryqxp | pjrqq-pszcg |
| pain-pane | mist-moist | imitate-copy | otter-seal | shqwy-shqwy | rctgp-rhqkp |
| rain-reign | pint-pine | lift-elevator | pen-ink | slmdf-slmdf | splqn-scgpn |
| raise-rays | pole-polo | lobby-foyer | river-bridge | spnkl-spnkl | vswkb-vdngb |
| sail-sale | prince-print | operation-surgery | satin-silk | tcbfr-tcbfr | wrpk-wxtvs |
| sew-sow | seed-soot | outcome-effect | spoon-fork | tdkyt-tdkyt | wyznq-wrysq |
| sight-cite | shake-shock | poison-venom | stove-kettle | vnbgh-vnbgh | xhjyh-xfsh |
| sweet-suite | soar-source | rehearsal-practice | sugar-salt | wrdmb-wrdmb | ydqvt-ycsjt |
| threw-through | soup-supper | satchel-bag | tadpole-newt | wrgxp-wrgxp | zbxpm-zmqwm |
| tyre-tire | vision-villain | stairs-steps | wine-grape | xtvkn-xtvkn | zdwqb-zvknb |
| would-wood | void-volt | student-pupil | | zqpty-zqpty | zhldq-zcjd |
| | | visitor-guest | | | |

**In British English, “college” typically refers to the final two years before university. In this experiment, however, 80% of the participants rated the pair as synonyms so it was re-classified as a “yes” trial.