

Accuracy and reaction time results for comprehension questions

Table S1 reports mean accuracy in each condition for each question type as well as the output of the mixed effects regression models. Accuracy rates were significantly *greater* for older adults relative to younger adults for both dependency and general questions. However, the main effect of Modification and its interaction with Age Group was not significant for either question type.

Table S1. Accuracy rates as a function of Age Group and Modification.

<i>General Questions</i> (What was used as a tool? [Net – Pole])					<i>Dependency Questions</i> Who was trapped? [Mermaid – Sailor])				
Age Group	Modification	<i>Mean accuracy</i>			Age Group	Modification	<i>Mean accuracy</i>		
Younger Adults	Unmodified	92.3%			Younger Adults	Unmodified	87.5%		
	Pre-modified	90.2%				Pre-modified	88.5%		
Older Adults	Unmodified	92.9%			Older Adults	Unmodified	92%		
	Pre-modified	94.2%				Pre-modified	93.7%		
Results of Statistical Model					Results of Statistical Model				
Predictor	<i>Est.</i>	<i>SE</i>	<i>t</i>	<i>p</i>	Predictor	<i>Est.</i>	<i>SE</i>	<i>t</i>	<i>p</i>
Age Group	1.35	.55	2.43	.01	Age Group	1.15	.48	2.40	.01
Modification	.36	.59	.61	.53	Modification	-.01	.56	-.02	.98
Age Group× Modification	1.93	1.04	1.85	.06	Age Group× Modification	-.33	.82	-.40	.68

Table S2 reports the mean reaction times to the comprehension questions. Older adults were significantly slower to answer the comprehension questions for both question types. However, the main effect of Modification and its interaction with Age Group did not reach statistical significance for either question type.

Table S2. Reaction times to comprehension questions as a function of Age Group and Modification.

<i>General Questions</i> (What was used as a tool? [Net – Pole])					<i>Dependency Questions</i> Who was trapped? [Mermaid – Sailor])				
Age Group	Condition	<i>Mean RT(s)</i>			Age Group	Condition	<i>Mean RT(s)</i>		
Younger Adults	Unmodified	2.68			Younger Adults	Unmodified	2.50		
	Pre-modified	2.73				Pre-modified	2.47		
Older Adults	Unmodified	3.77			Older Adults	Unmodified	3.04		
	Pre-modified	3.58				Pre-modified	3.10		
Results of Statistical Model					Results of Statistical Model				
Predictor	<i>Est.</i>	<i>SE</i>	<i>t</i>	<i>p</i>	Predictor	<i>Est.</i>	<i>SE</i>	<i>t</i>	<i>p</i>
Age Group	.31	.04	7.03	<.001	Age Group	.21	.05	4.08	<.001
Modification	-.01	.02	-.53	.59	Modification	.00	.03	.32	.75
Age Group× Modification	-.07	.04	-1.80	.08	Age Group× Modification	.03	.04	.77	.44