"I'd like a glass of Chardonnay, too."

Grounding with additives

Alexandra Lorson, Hannah Rohde, Chris Cummins

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THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH
School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences

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The big question

RQ When do interlocutors use additive particles?

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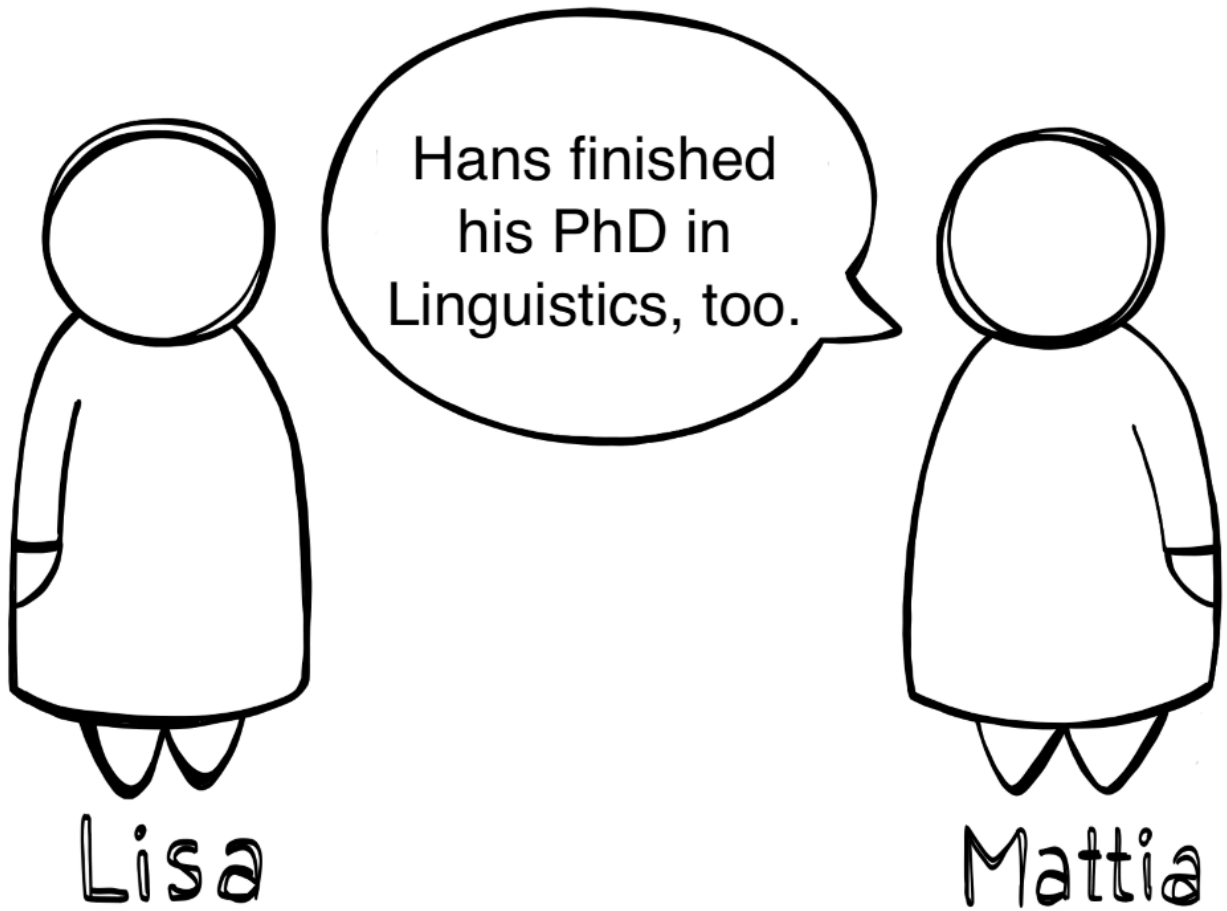

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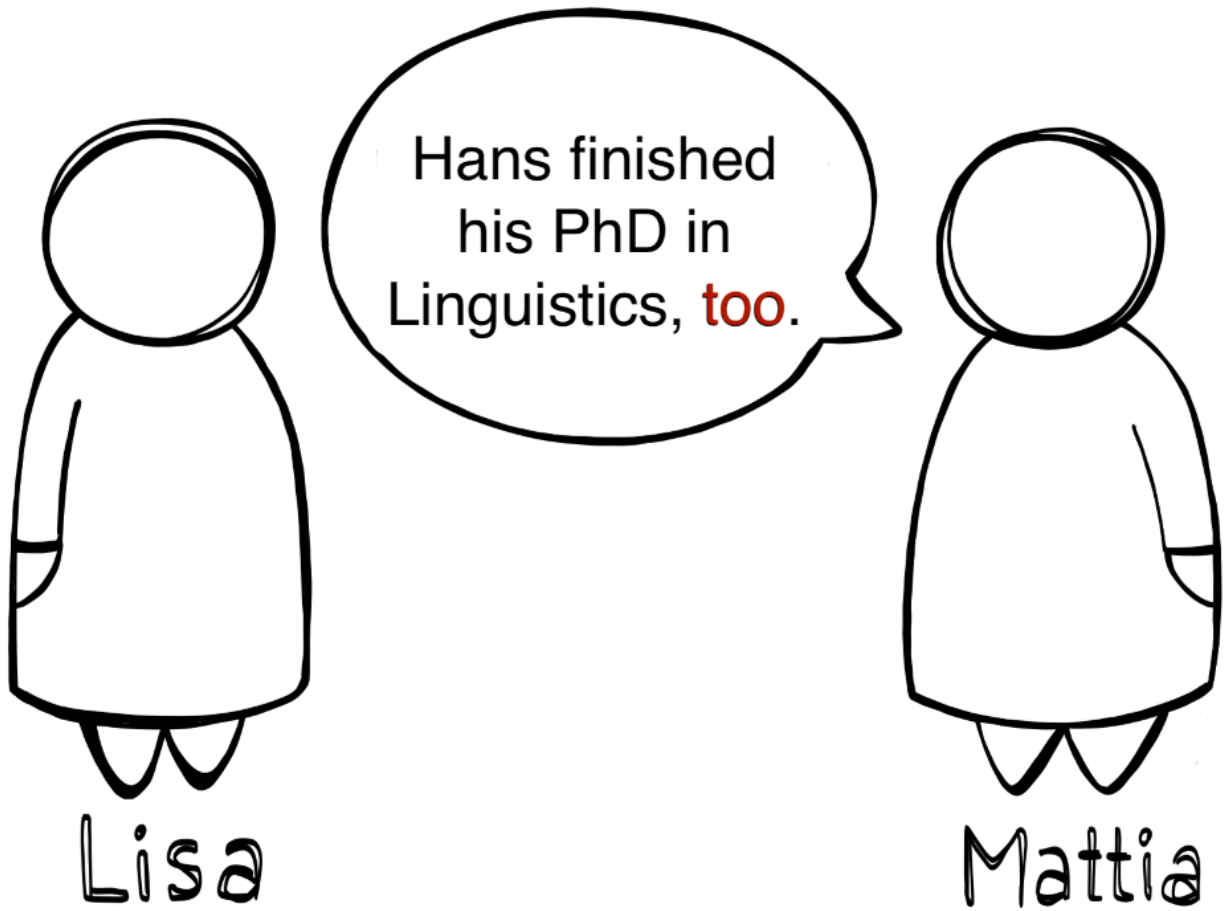
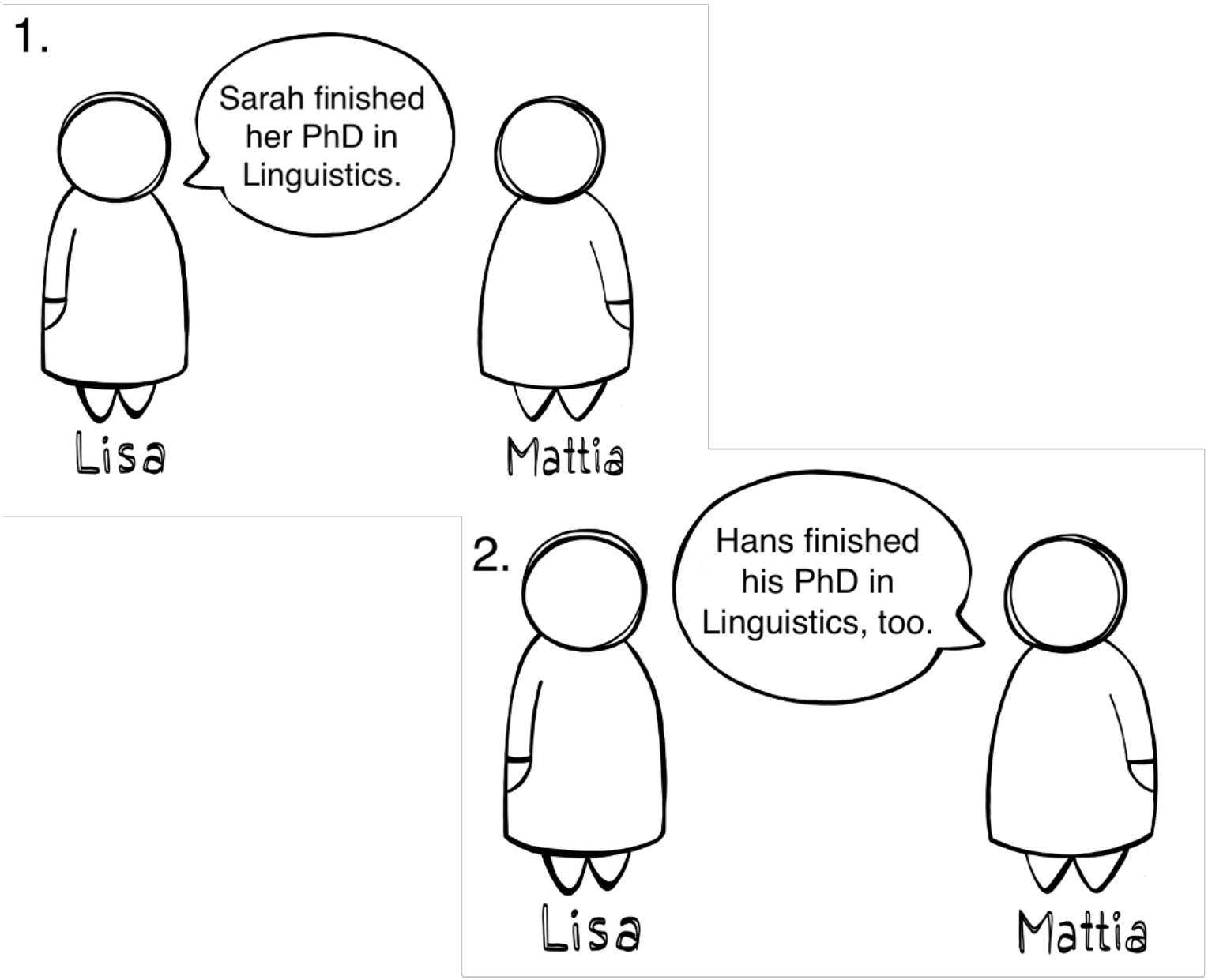


Anaphoric nature



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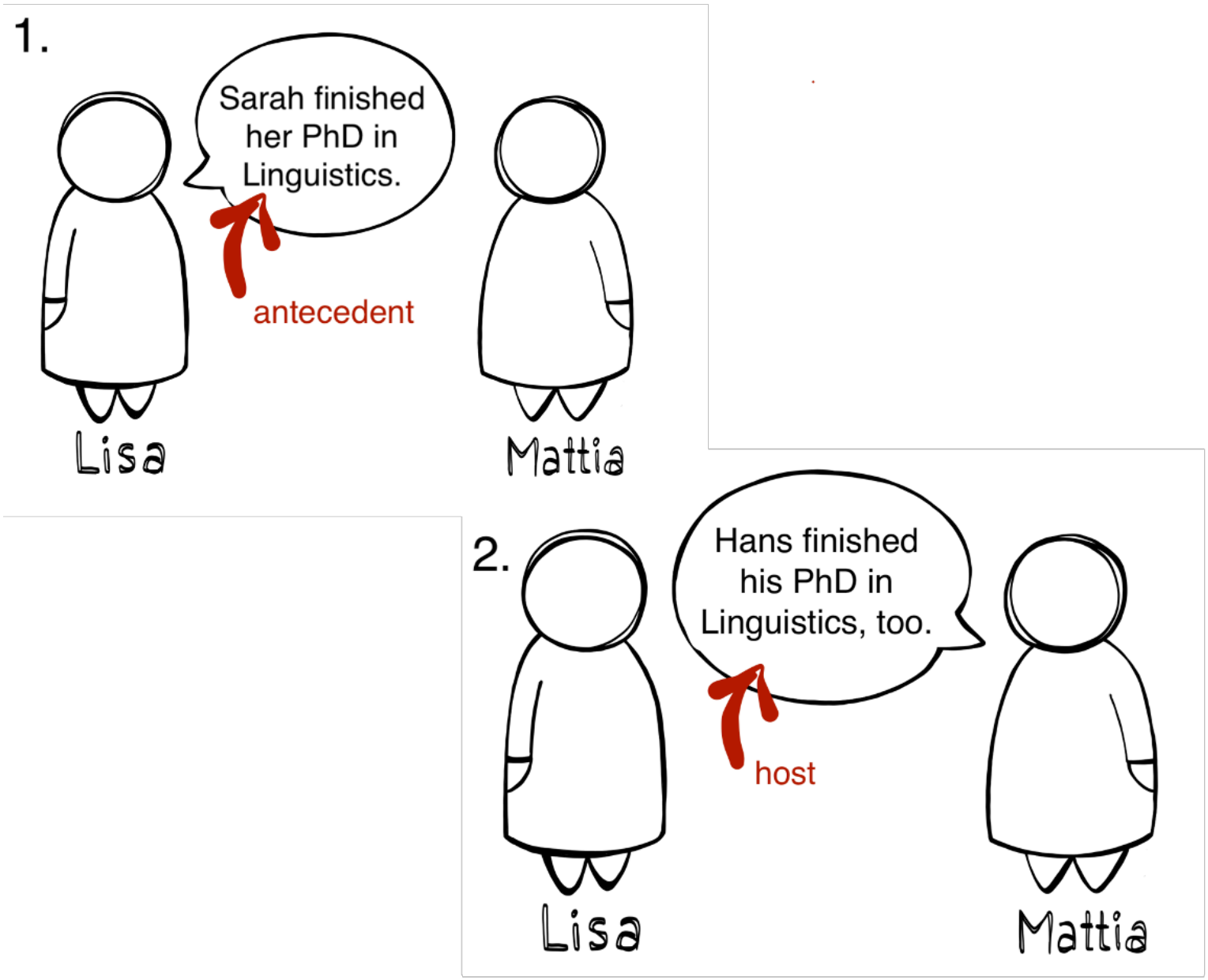

Obligatoriness?

Production of additives is obligatory if an antecedent is present in the context (Heim, 1991; Krifka, 1998; Zeevat, 2003; Sæbø, 2004).

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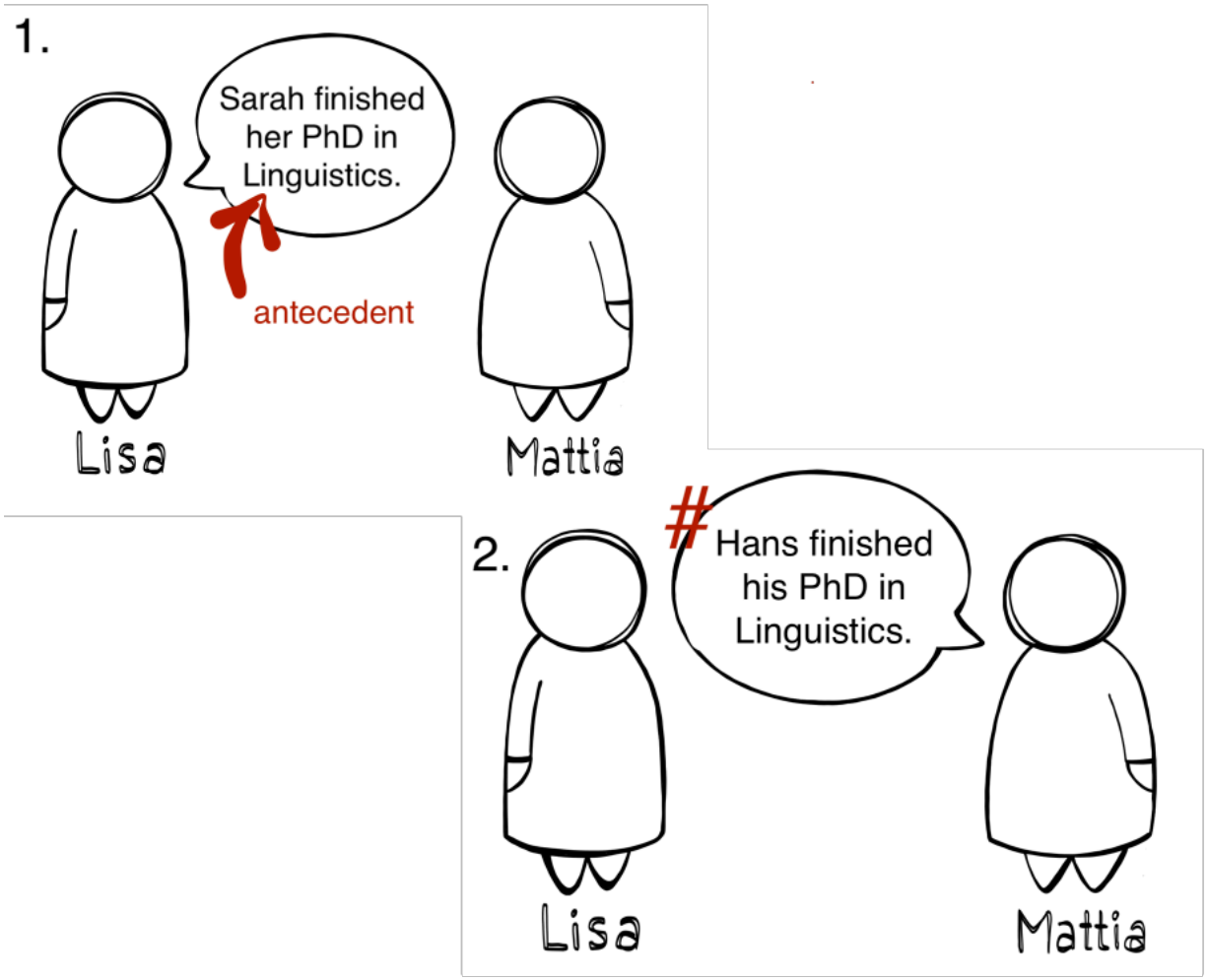
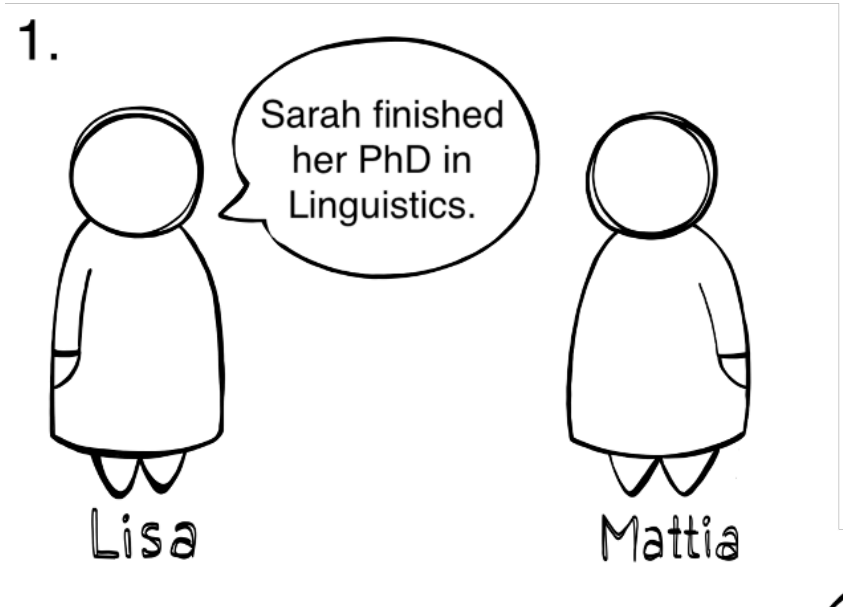
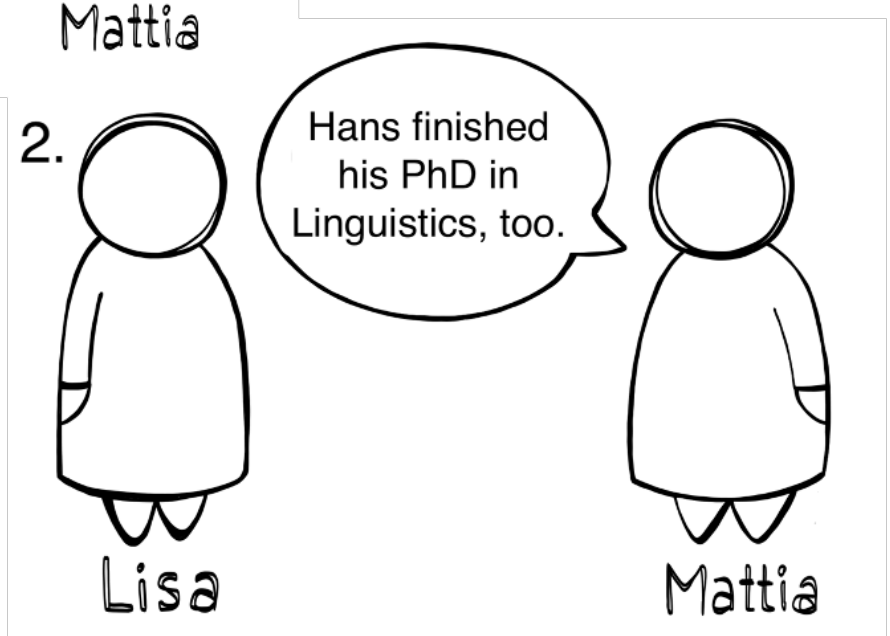


Obligatoriness?

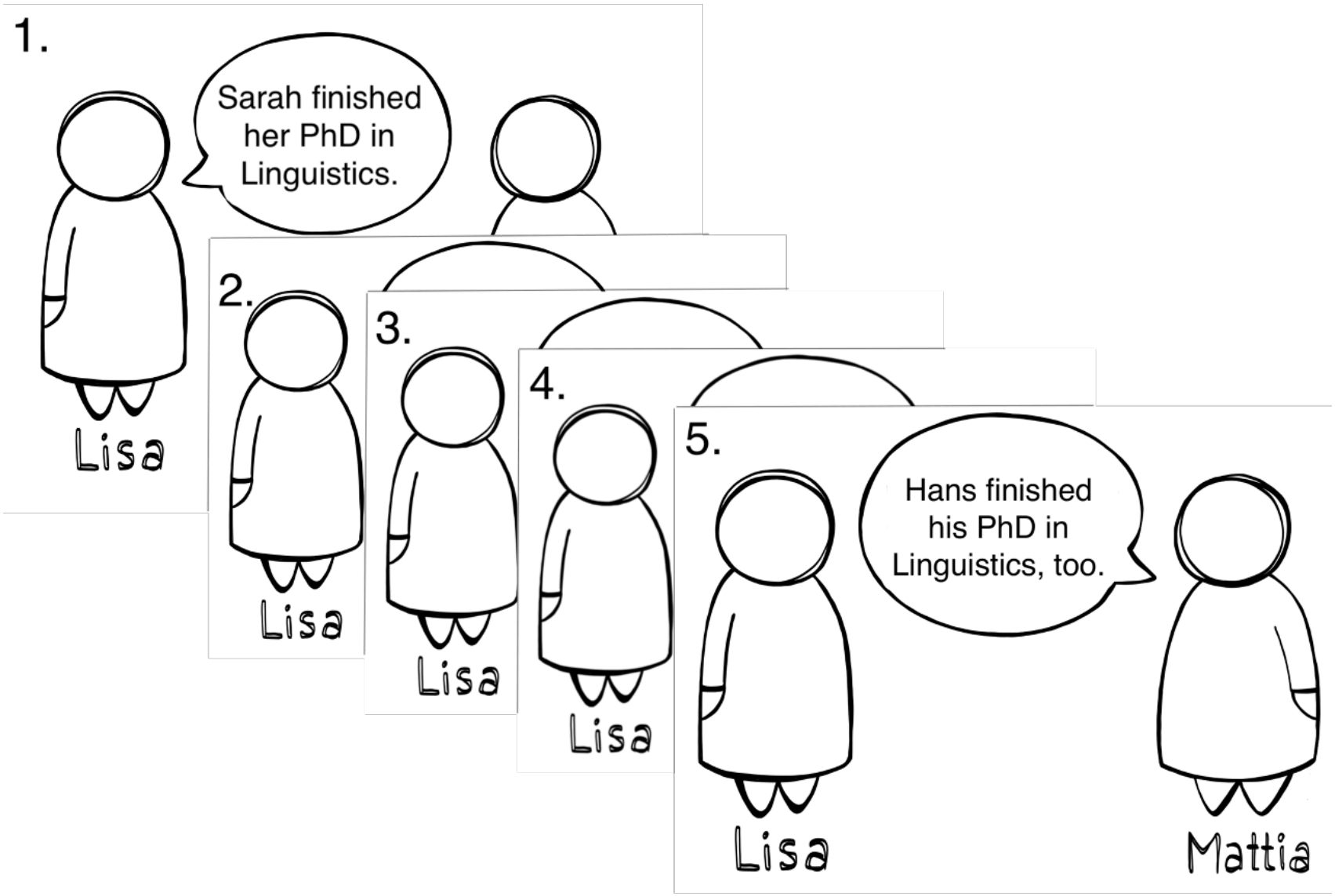
Immediate context (Amsili et al., 2016; Grubic & Wierzba, 2019)?





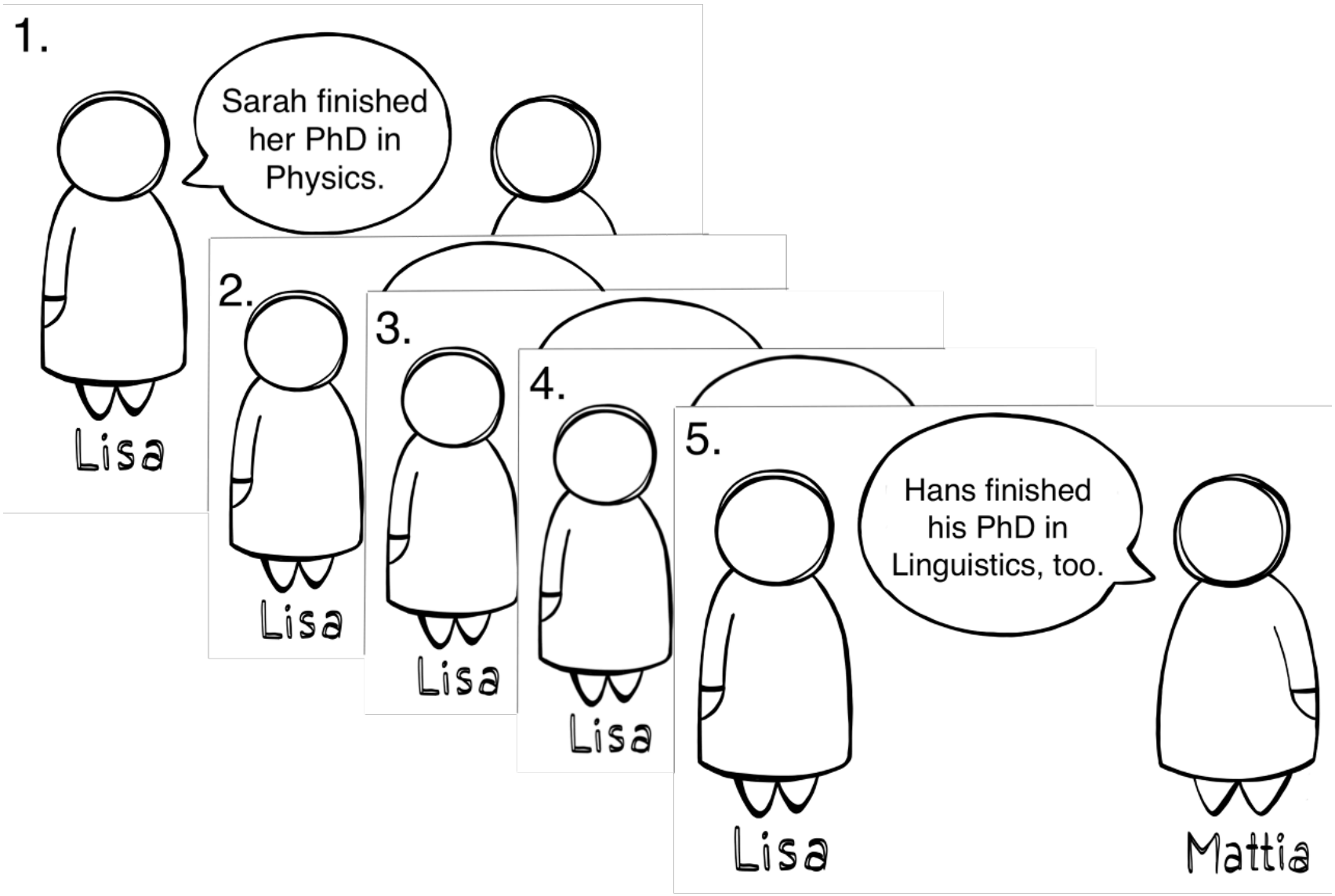
Obligatoriness?

'active' context (Kripke, 2009)?



Obligatoriness?

What kind of antecedent (Amsili et al., 2016)?



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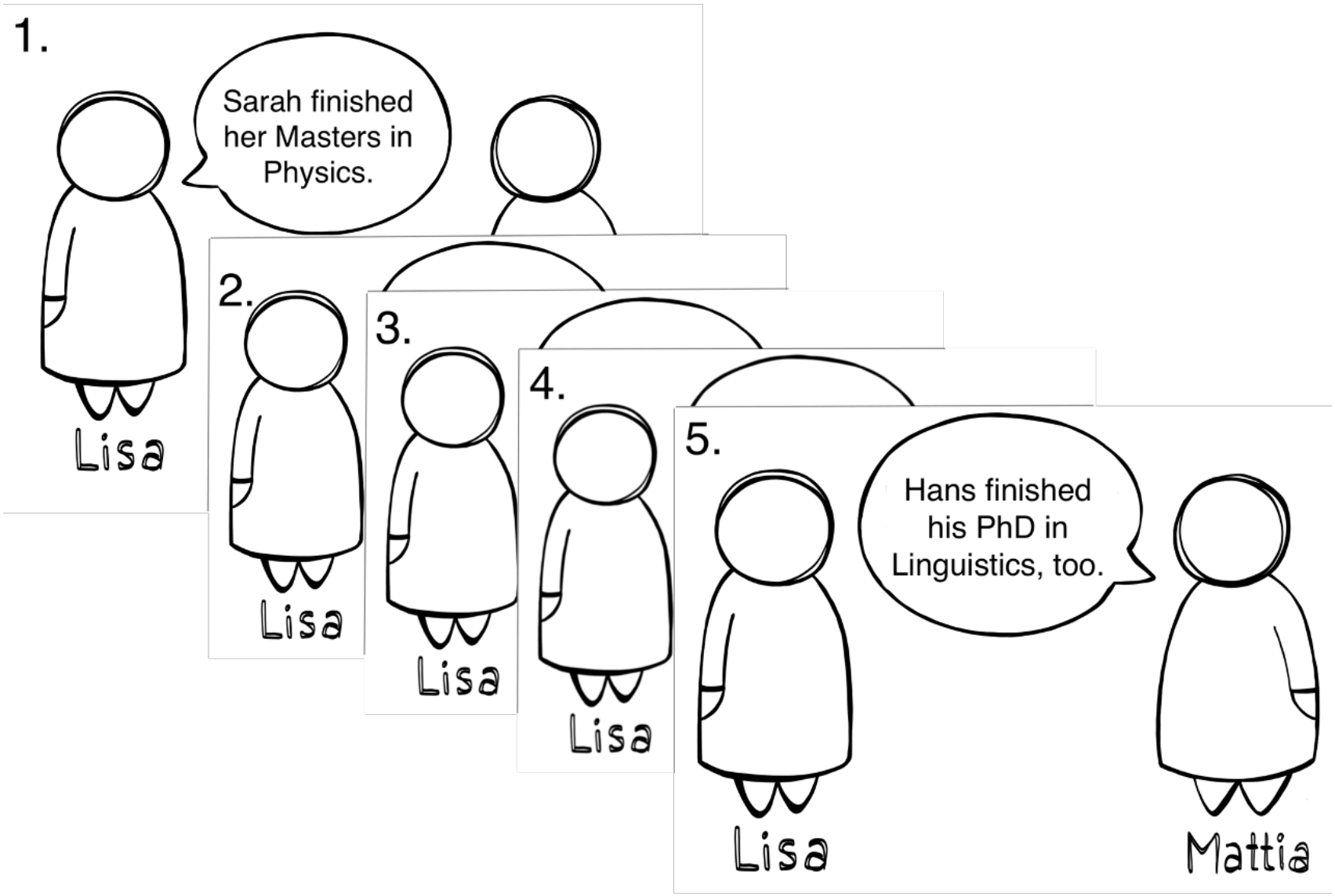
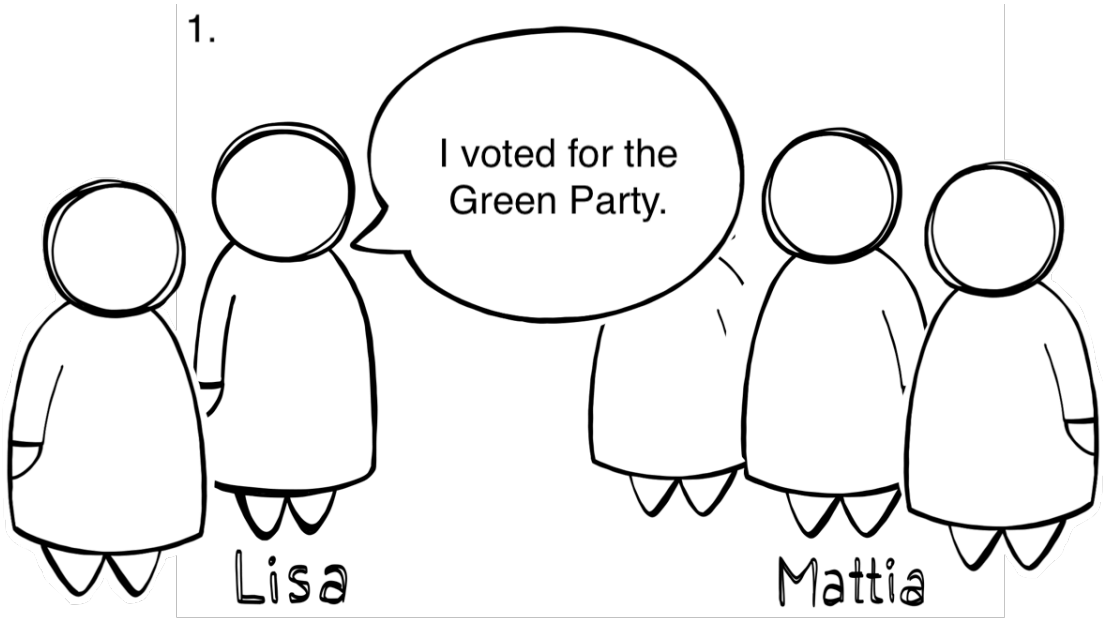


Social alignment/distancing

(Giles, 1973)



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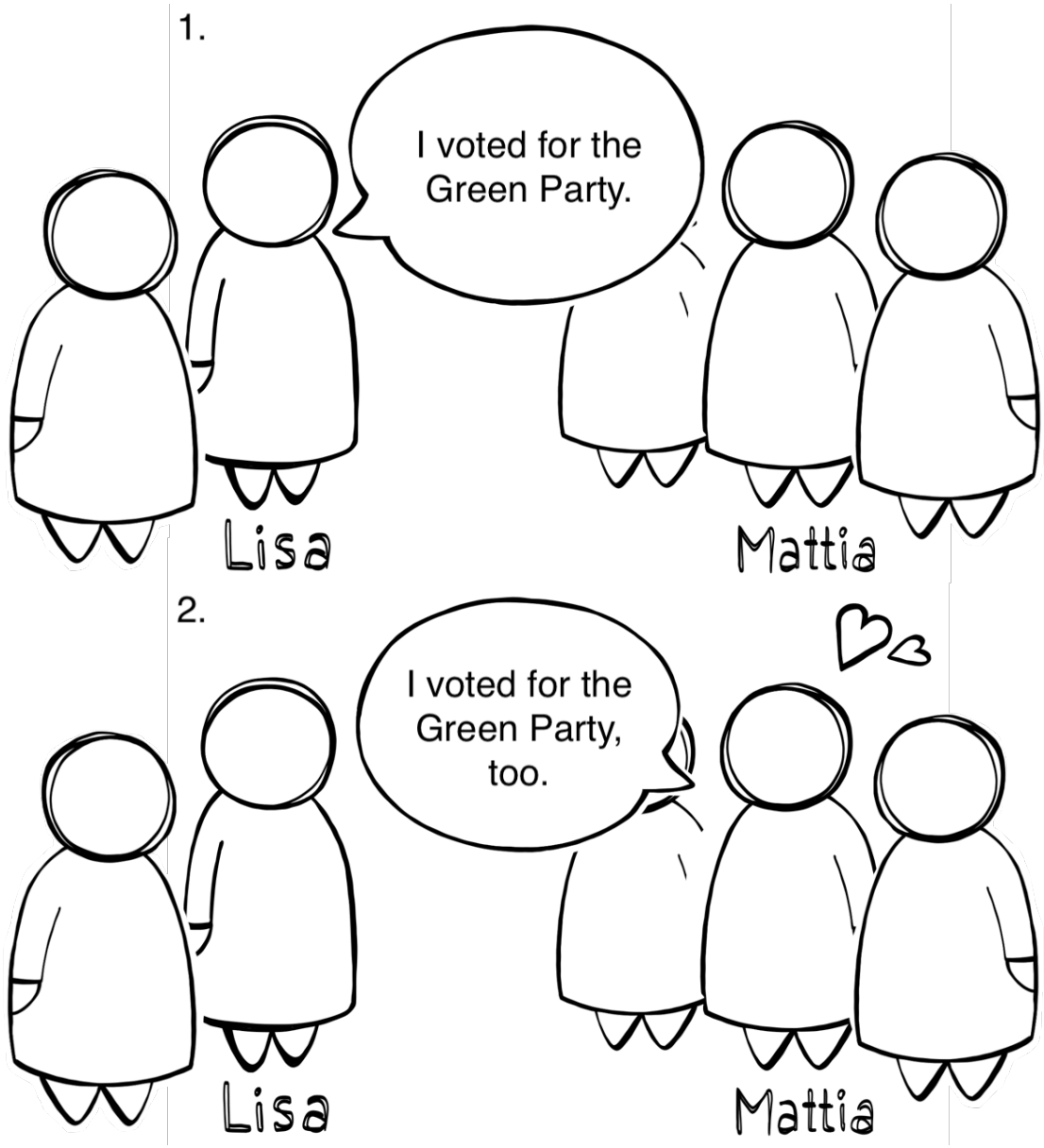

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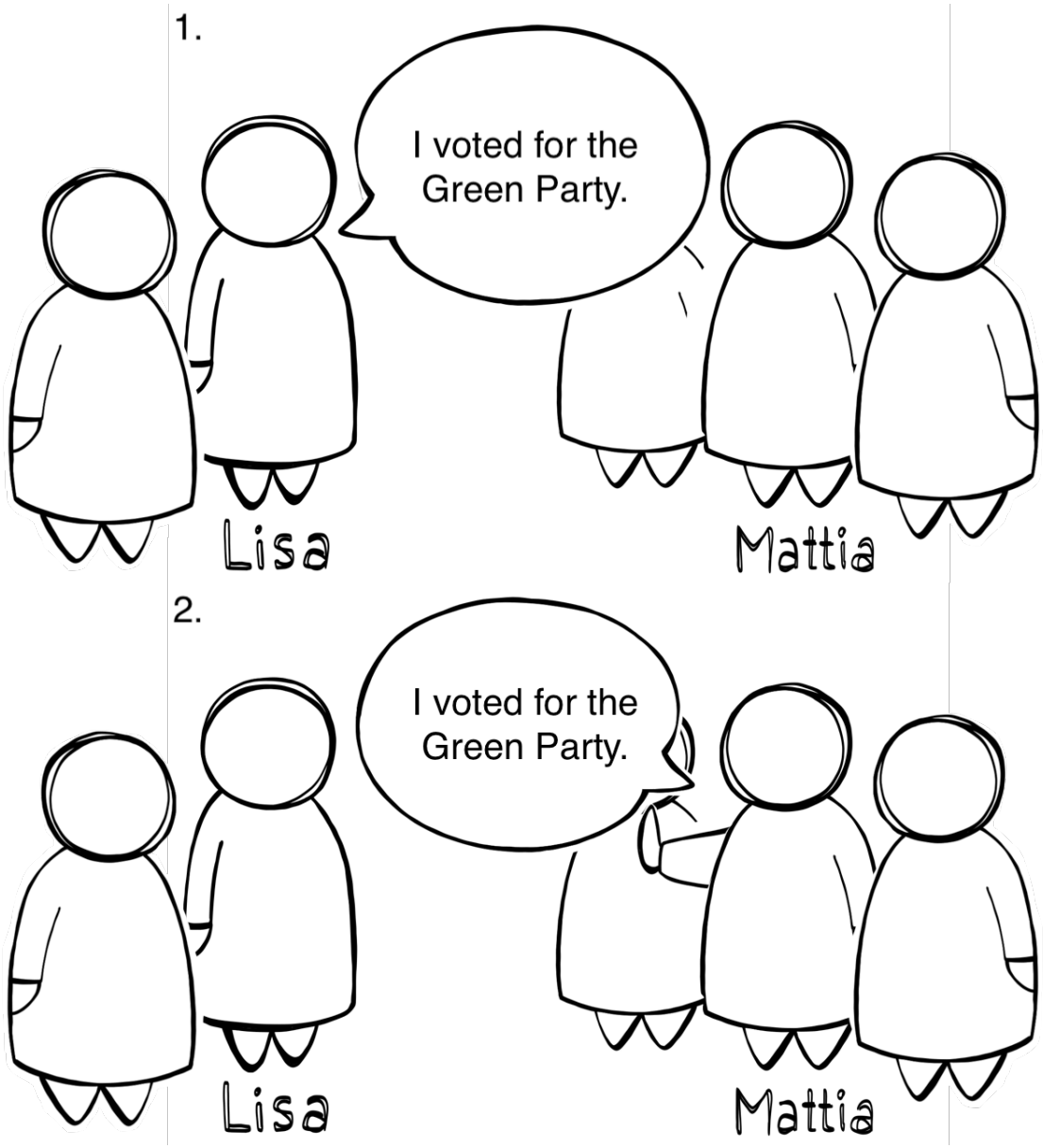

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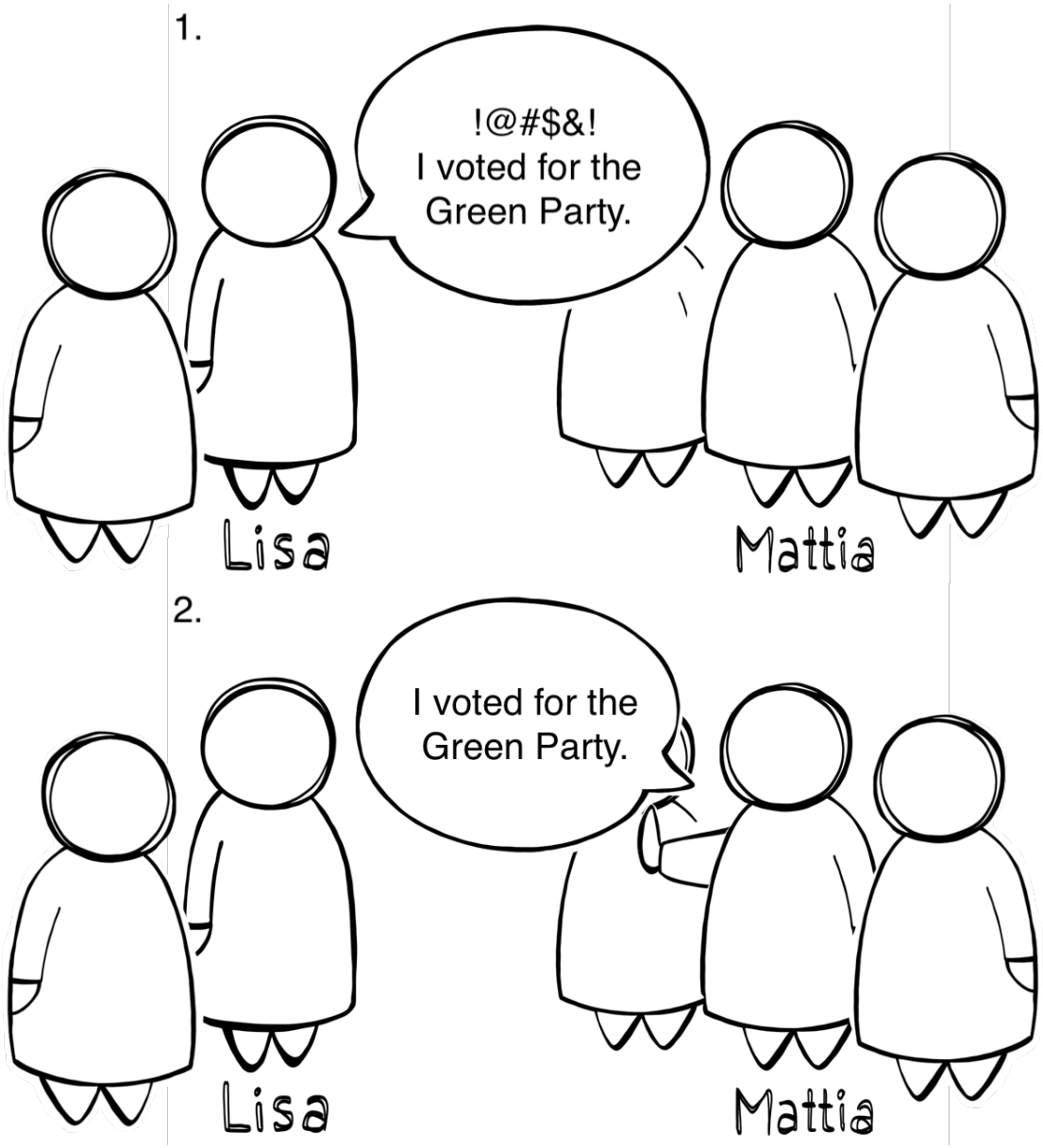

Goal of this study

- Investigating under which circumstances additives are produced in 'interaction'.

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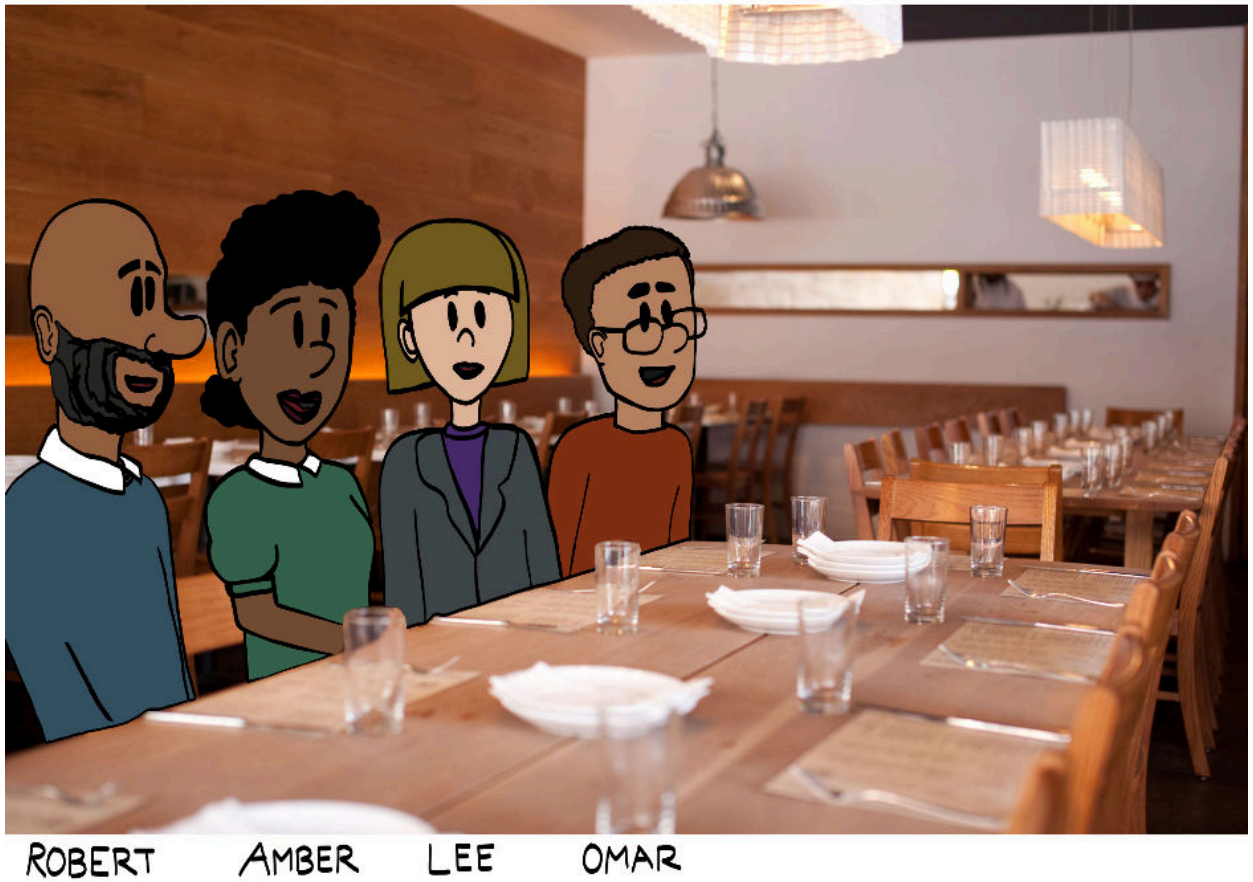
  → Turn Distance and Similarity between antecedent and host
- Extend research on the discursive function to the social level.

  → Politeness

Set up and Design

Talking with colleagues and order food/drinks at a work dinner.



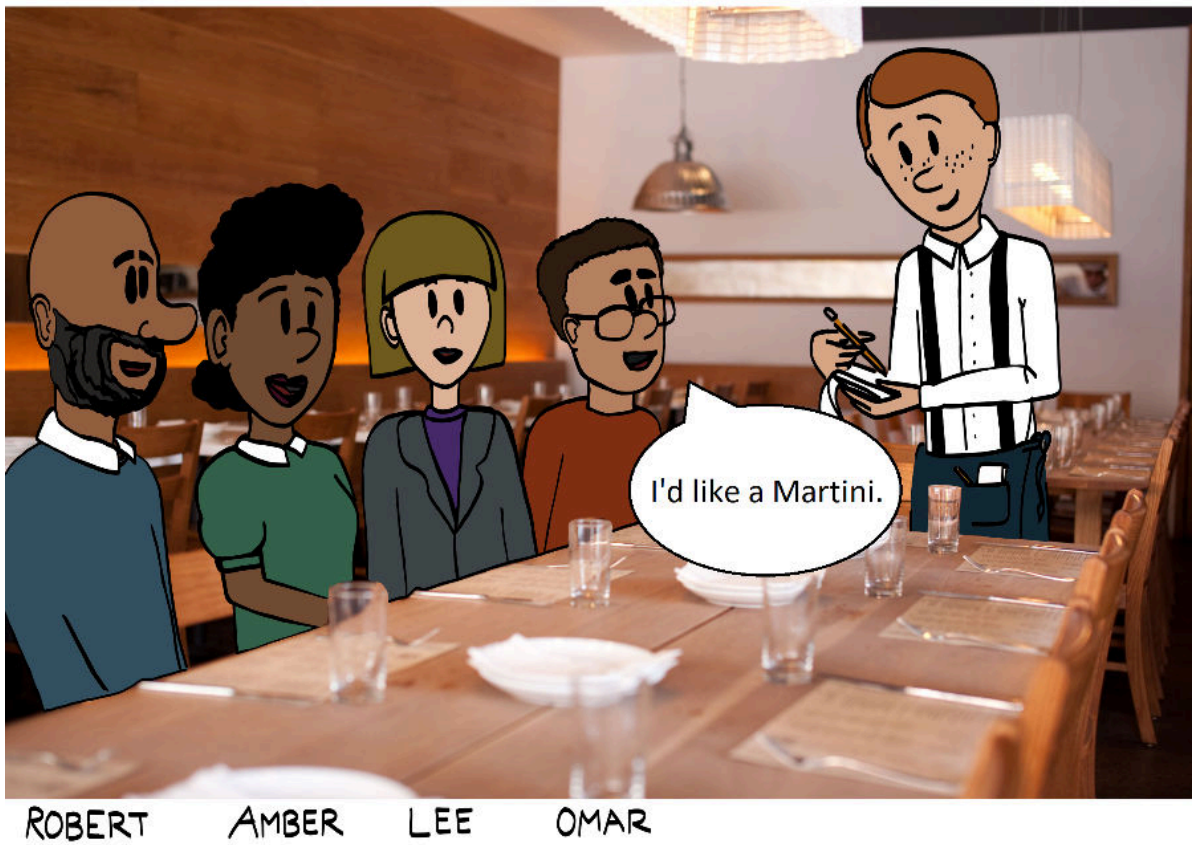
- 2 experiments (open choice, forced choice) $\rightarrow$ P(additive)
- 2 (Turn Distance) x 2 (Similarity) x 2 [Politeness])

Materials

Order item example

You are about to order drinks. You wanted to get a white wine but not a Pinot Grigio. What white wine will you go for instead?

Ordering drinks



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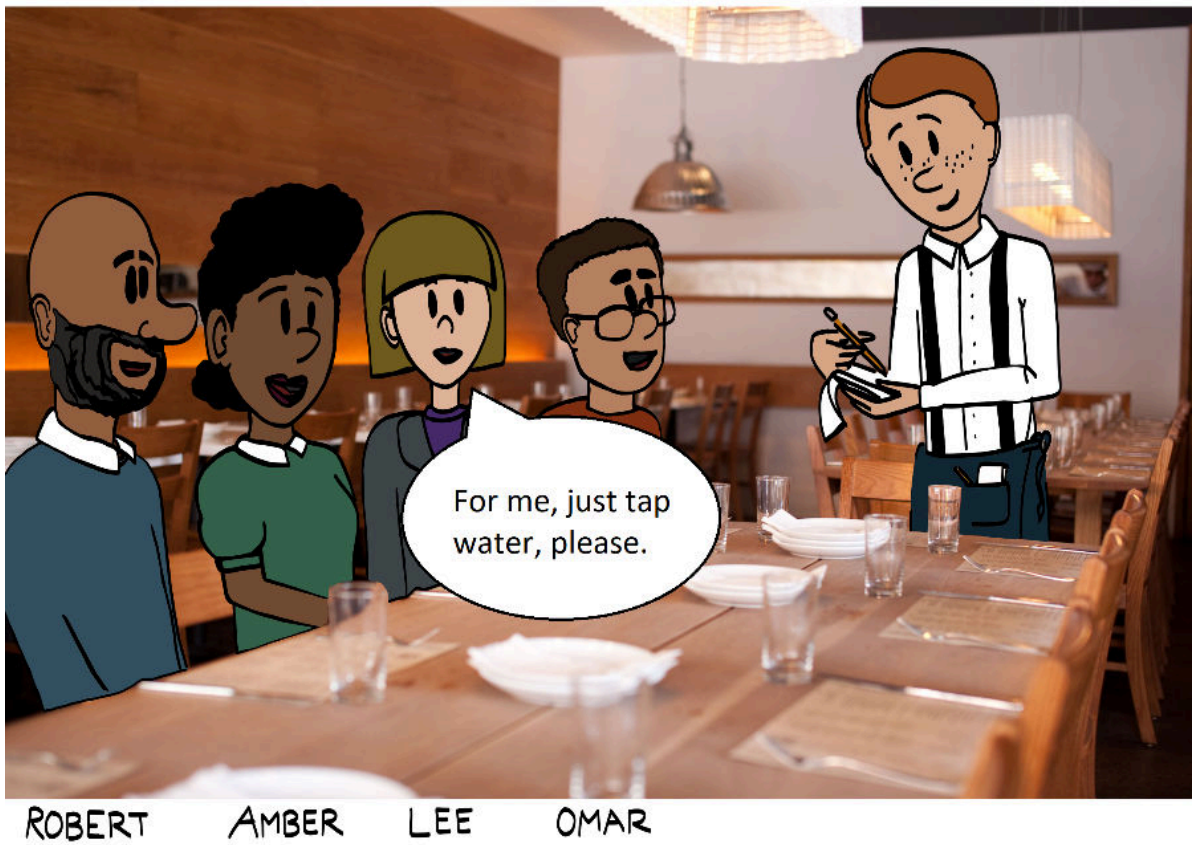

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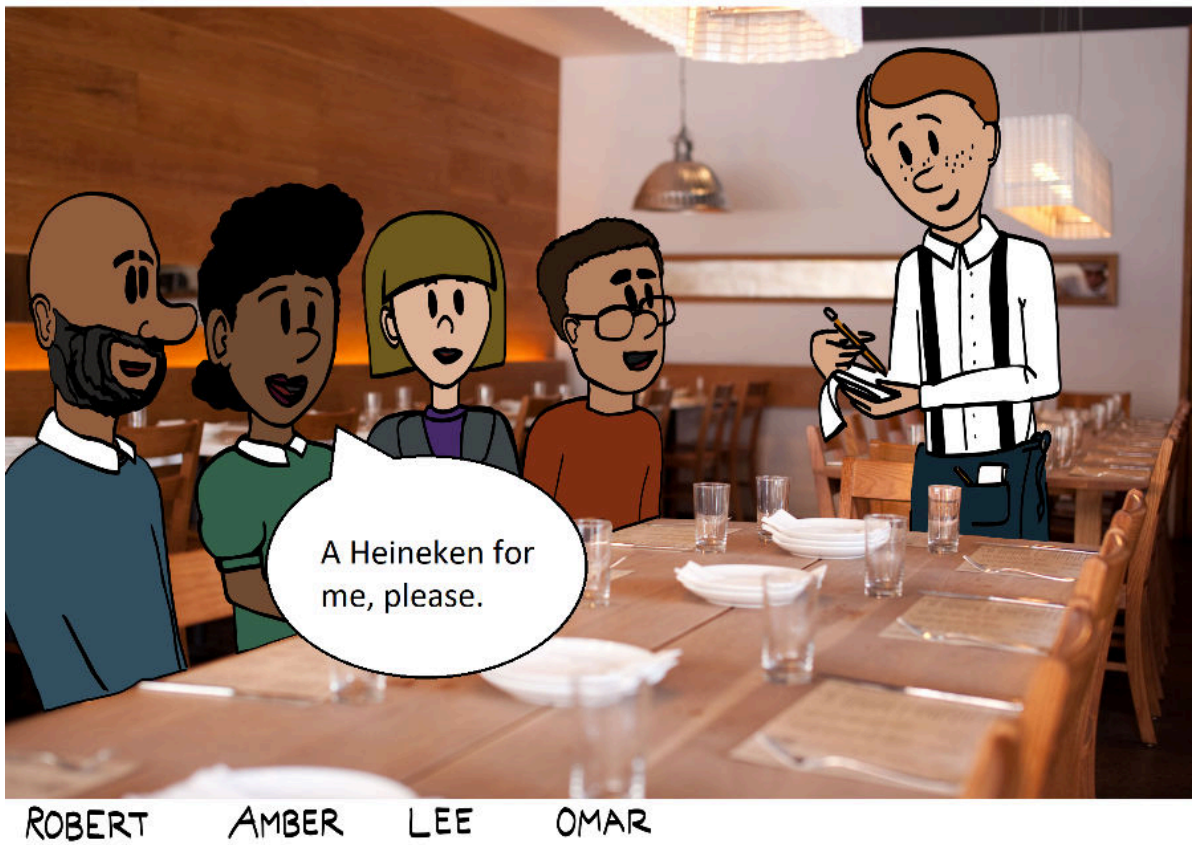


Materials

Order item example

Ordering drinks

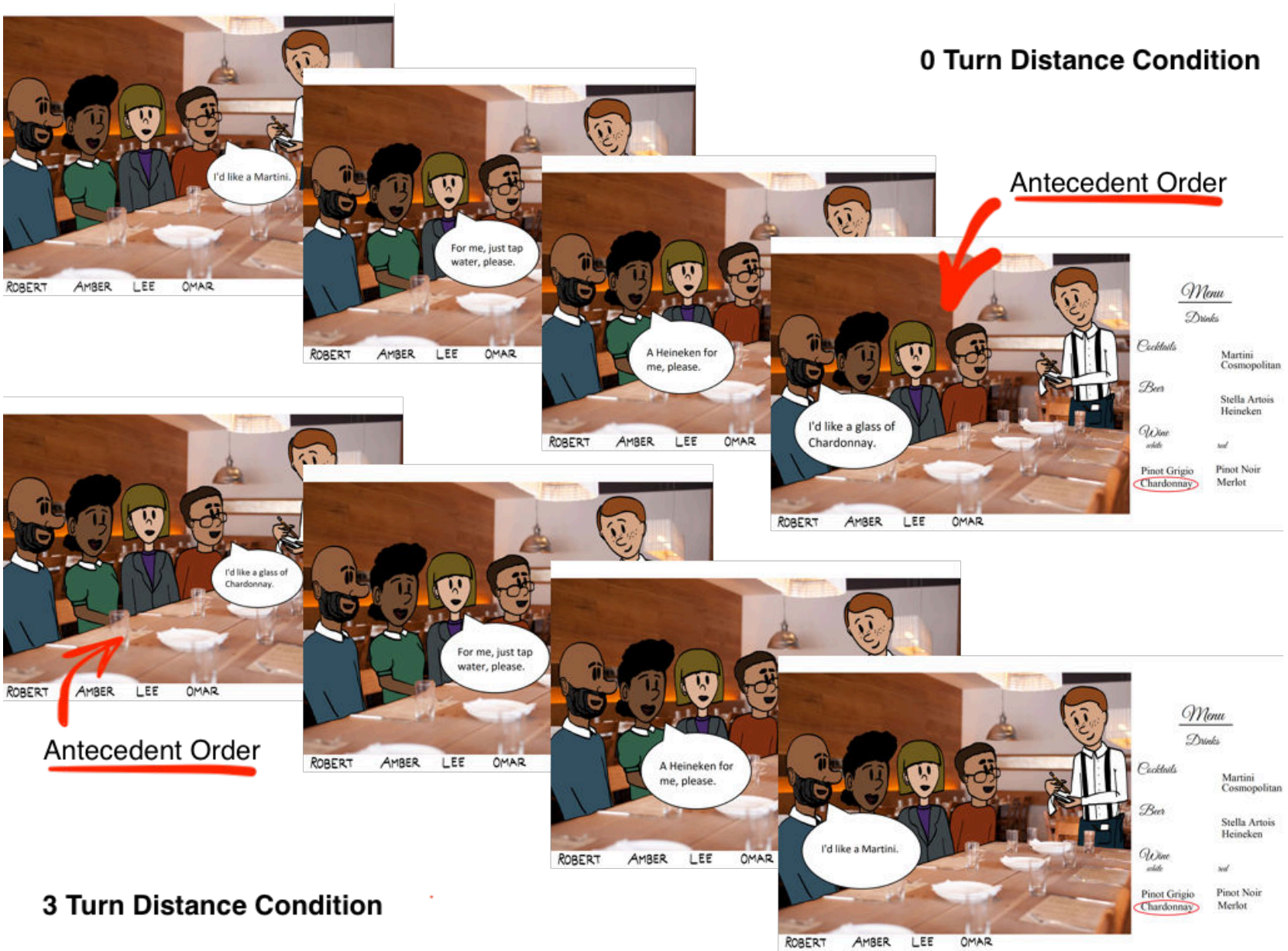
And you?

Manipulation

Turn Distance

Manipulation

Turn Distance



Manipulation

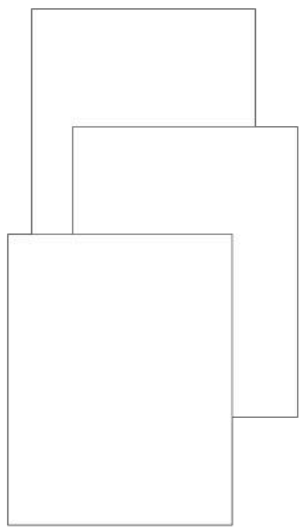
Similarity (0 turn condition)

perfect similarity

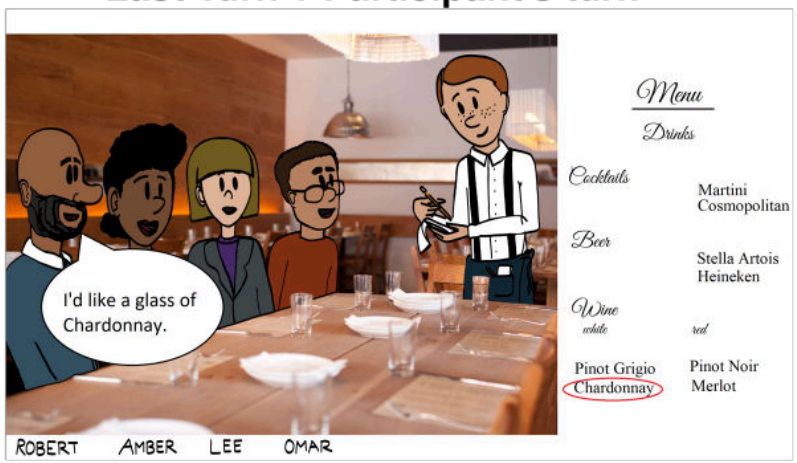
Context

You are about to order drinks. You wanted to get a white wine but not a Pinot Grigio. What white wine will you go for instead?

Turns 1-3



Last Turn + Participant's turn



Manipulation

Similarity (0 turn condition)

Context

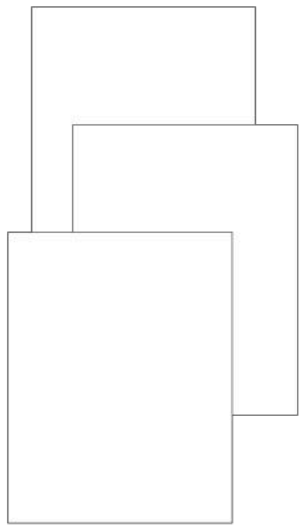
You are about to order drinks. You wanted to get a white wine but not a Pinot Grigio. What white wine will you go for instead?

perfect similarity

reduced similarity

You are about to order drinks. You wanted to get a white wine but not a Chardonnay. What white wine will you go for instead?

Turns 1-3



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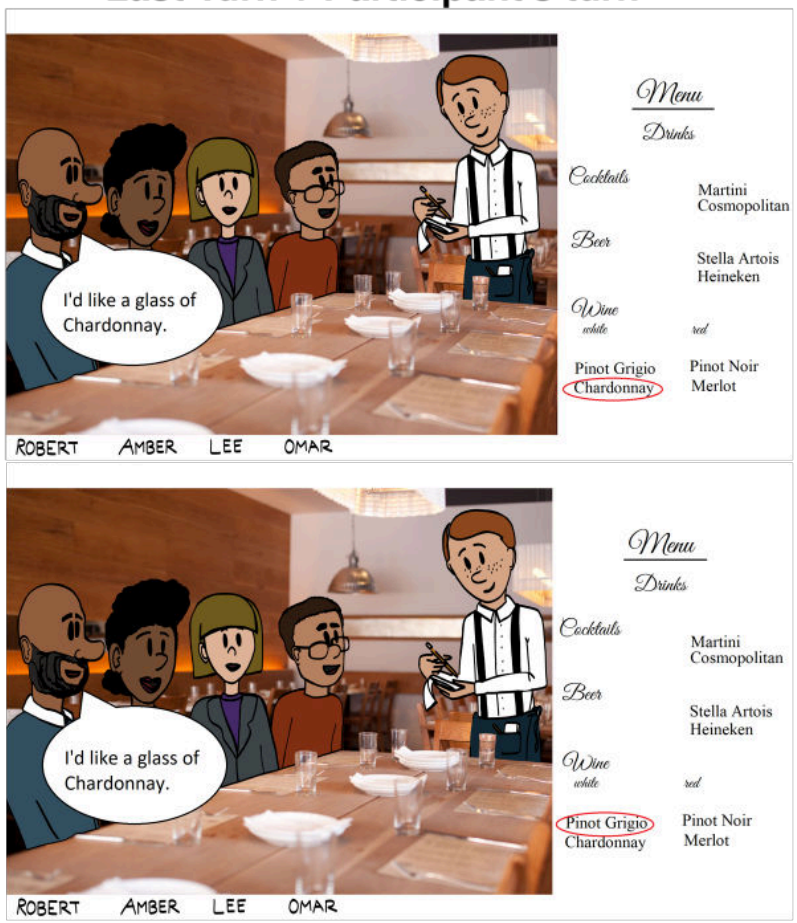
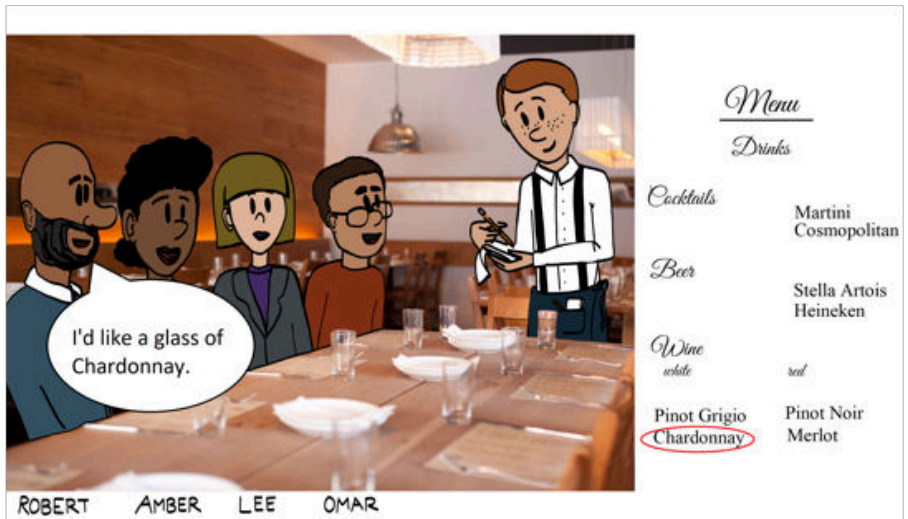


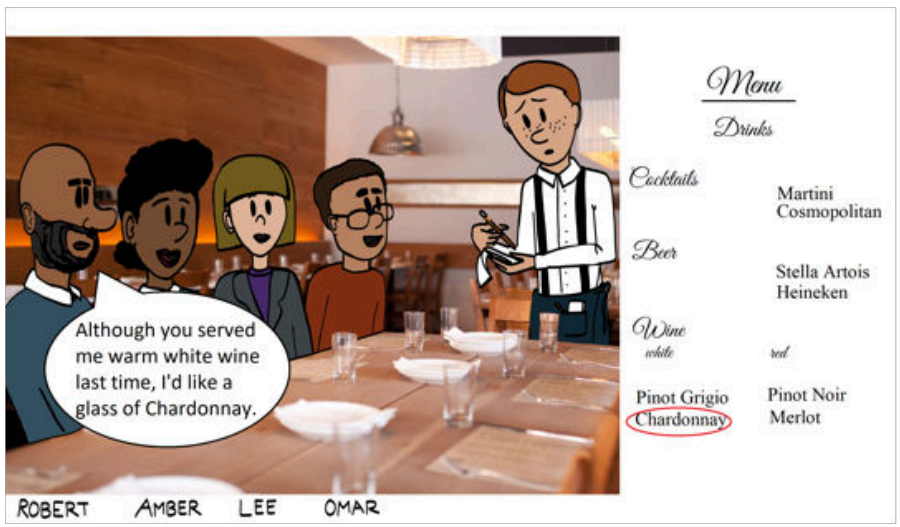
Manipulation

Politeness (0 turn, perfect similarity)

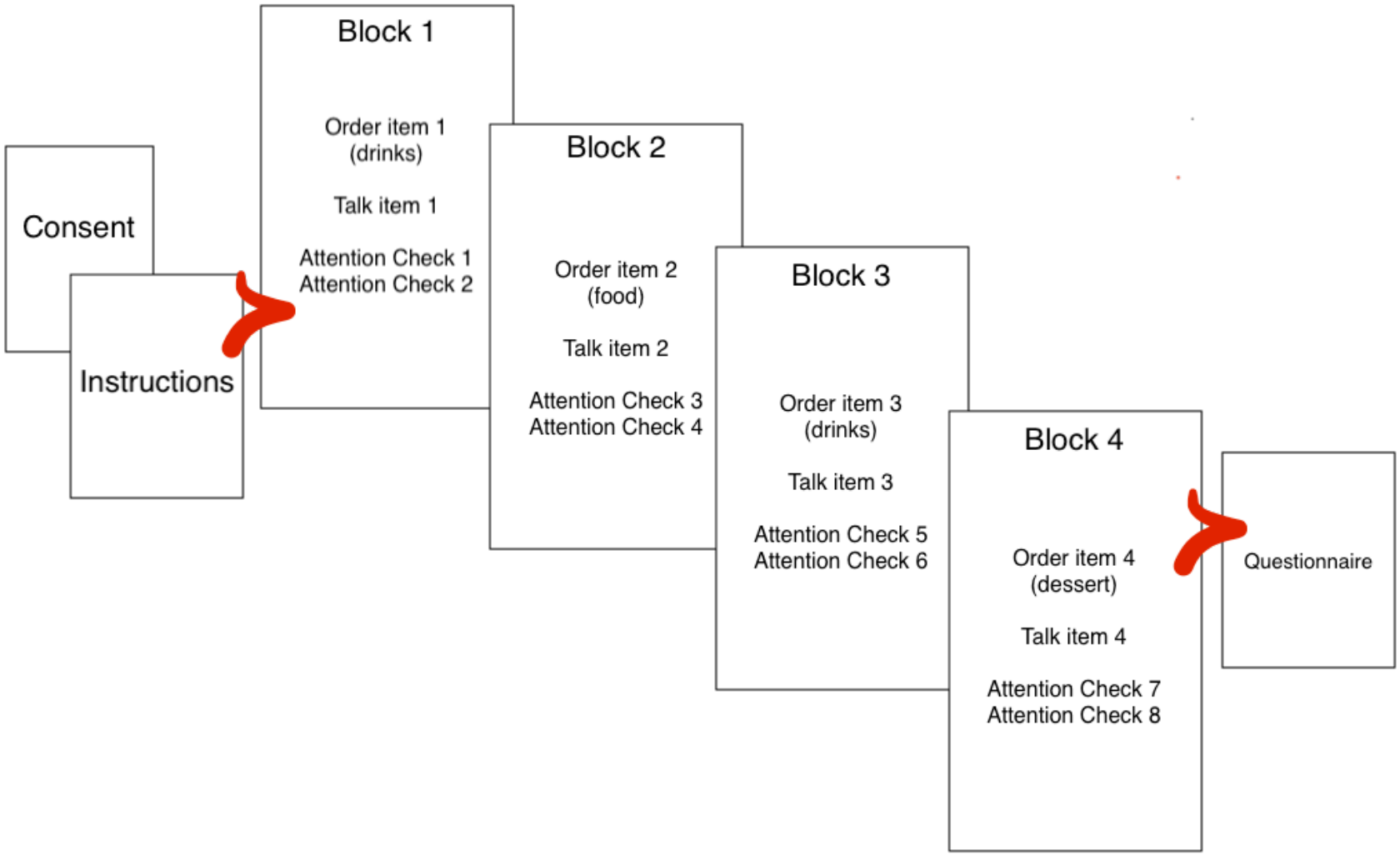
Neutral



Impolite



Procedure


Consent
Instructions
Block 1
Order item 1
(drinks)
Talk item 1
Attention Check 1
Attention Check 2
Block 2
Order item 2
(food)
Talk item 2
Attention Check 3
Attention Check 4
Block 3
Order item 3
(drinks)
Talk item 3
Attention Check 5
Attention Check 6
Block 4
Order item 4
(dessert)
Talk item 4
Attention Check 7
Attention Check 8
Questionnaire

Predictions

Experiment I

We predict that the rate of additive production. . .

Predictions

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- Turn Distance

  0 intervening turns $>$ 3 intervening turns

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  perfect similarity $>$ reduced similarity

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Experiment I

We predict that the rate of additive production...

- Turn Distance

  0 intervening turns $>$ 3 intervening turns

- Similarity

  perfect similarity $>$ reduced similarity

- Politeness

  polite antecedent speaker $>$ impolite antecedent speaker

Participants and Analysis

Experiment I

Participants

- 78 participants
  - age 18–83, median 32
  - 1 they/them, 40 she/her, 37 he/him

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- Bayesian logistic regression model (pre-registered)

  P(additive) $\sim$ TurnDistance * Similarity * Politeness

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- Bayesian logistic regression model (pre-registered)

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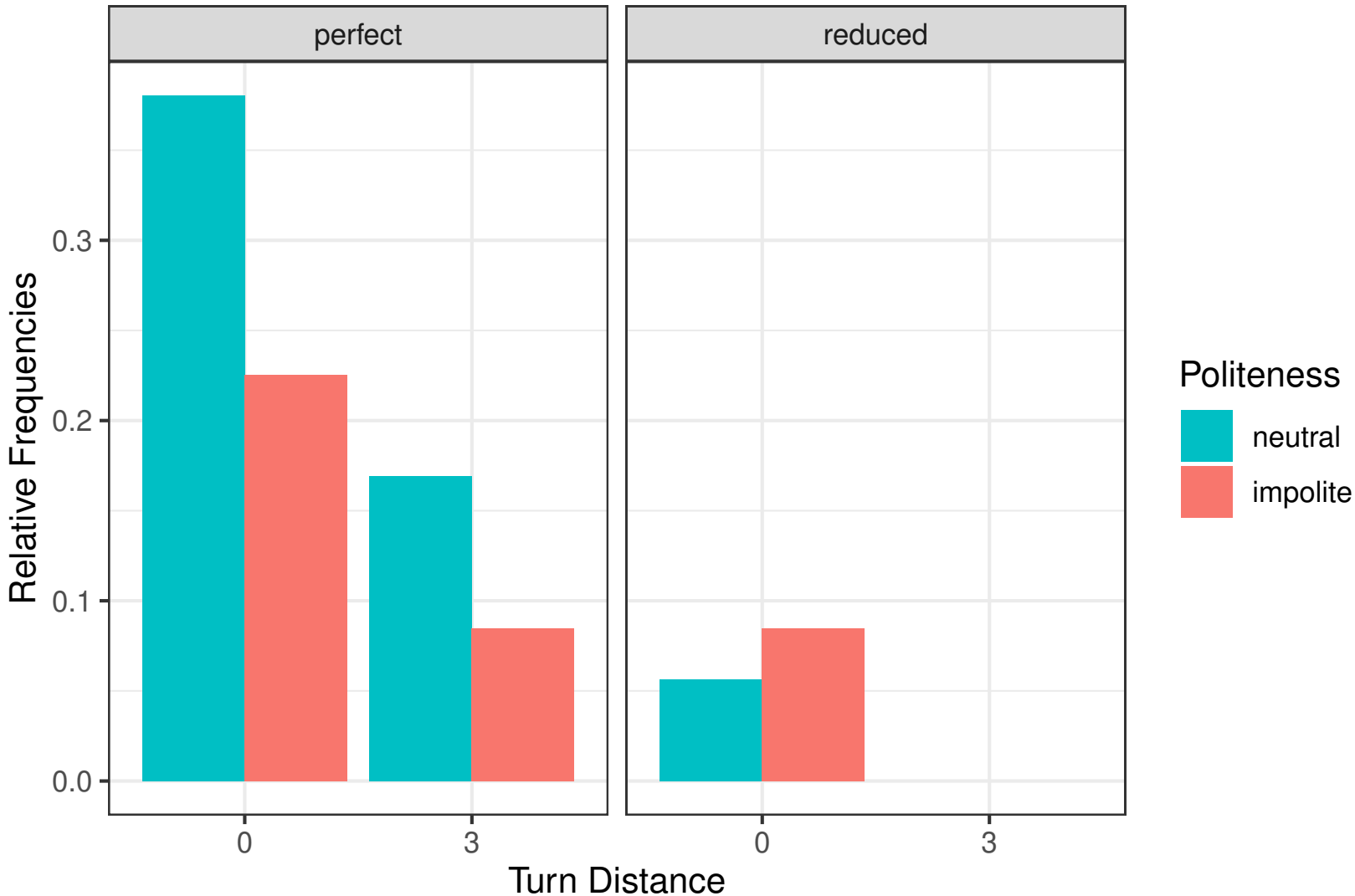
- Predictors were sum-coded (0 TD, perfect sim., polite = 1)

Results

Experiment I

Overall frequency of additive use: 11%



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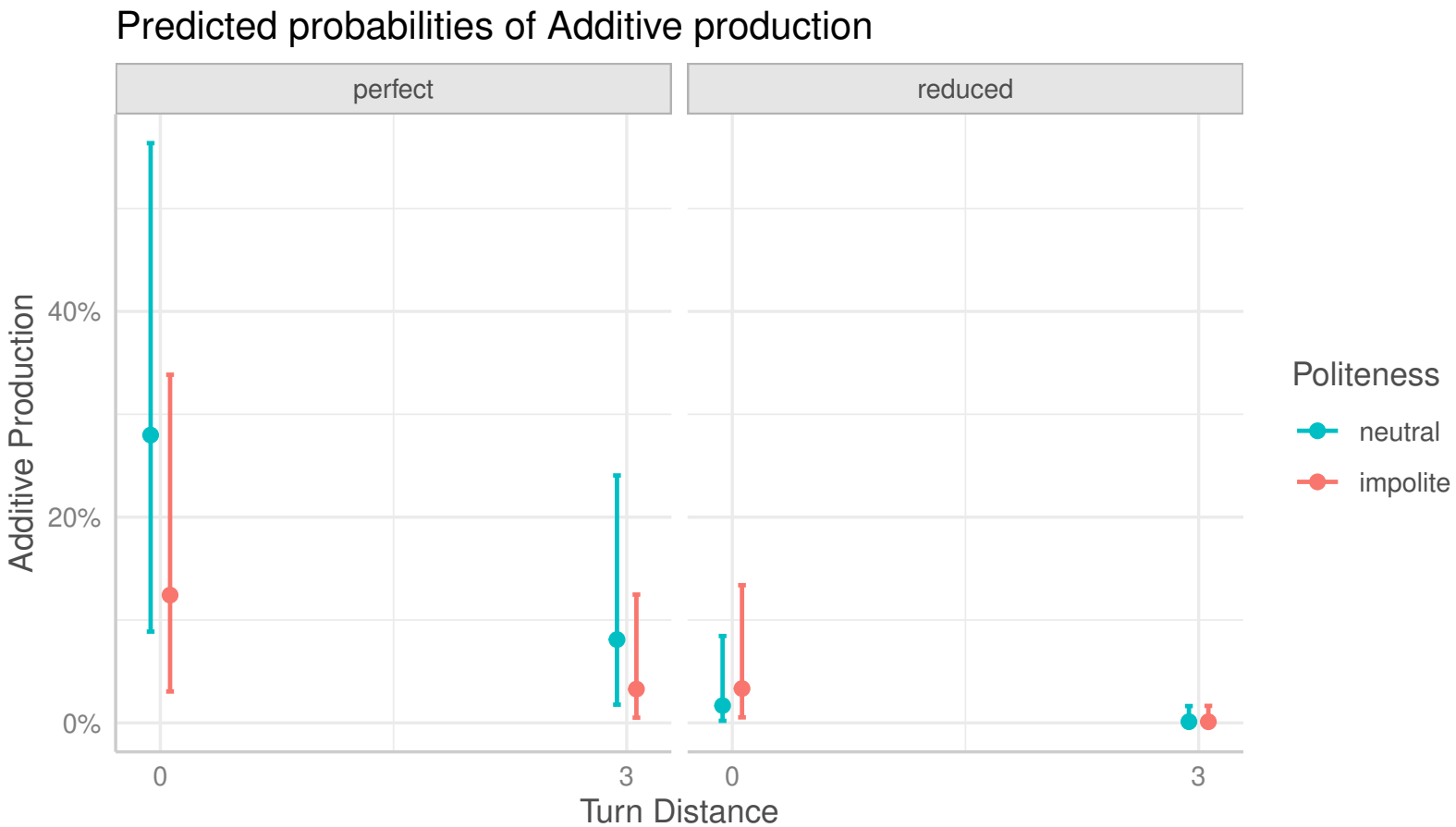

- Turn Distance $\hat{\beta}$ =1.17, CrI:[0.51, 1.93]
- Similarity $\hat{\beta}$ =1.58, CrI:[0.78, 2.42]

Experiment II

What has changed

Forced choice paradigm:

(A.) I'd like a glass of Chardonnay, please.

(B.) I'd like a glass of Chardonnay too, please.

(C.) I'd like a Martini, please.

(D.) Other (Please specify below)

Experiment II

What has changed

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Aim

- Replicate the effects of Turn Distance and Similarity
- Shed more light on Politeness

Participants and Analysis

Experiment II

Participants

- 140 participants, age 18–75, median=34
- 3 they/them, 122 she/her, 16 he/him

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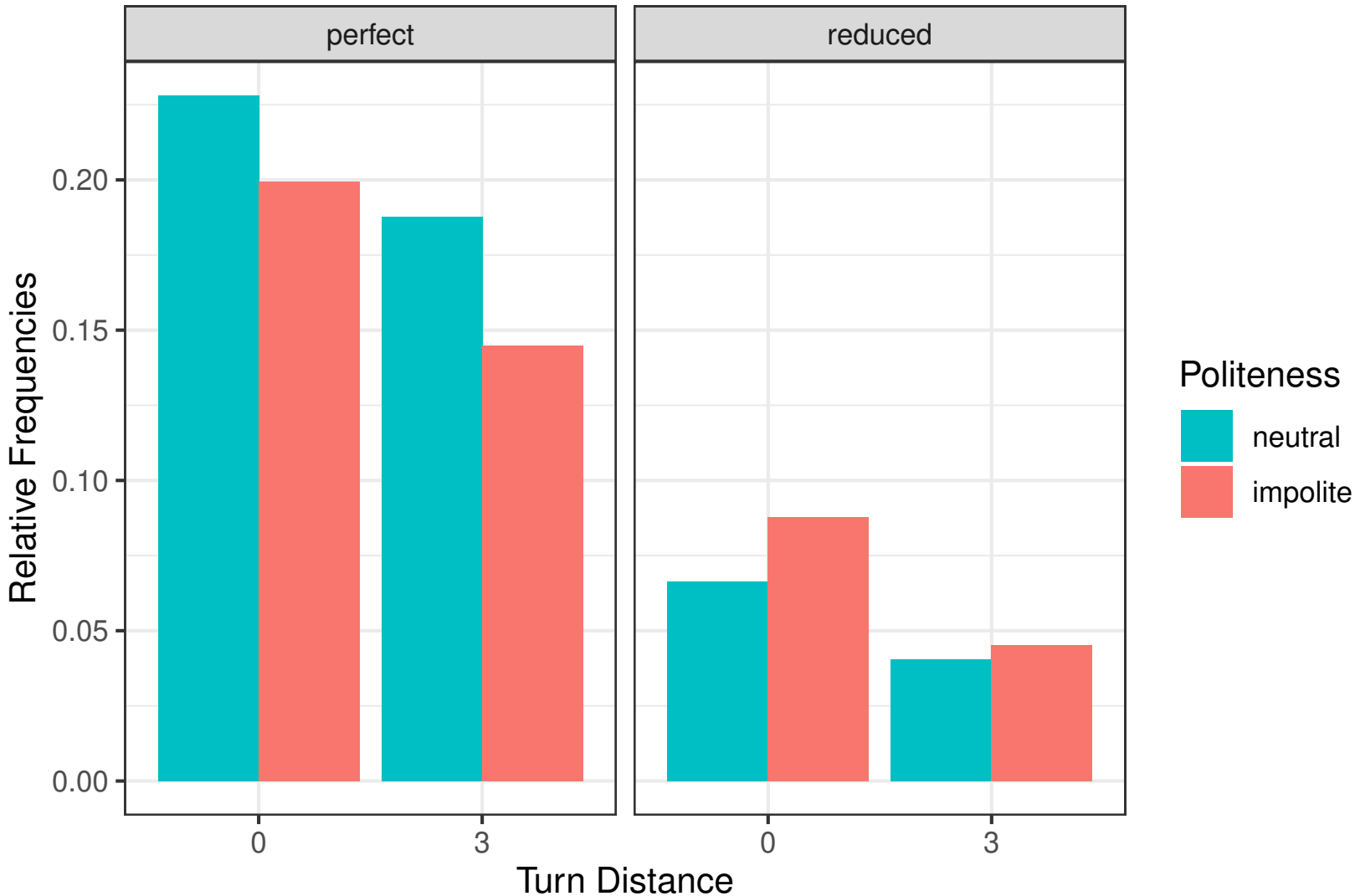
  P(additive) $\sim$ TurnDistance * Similarity * Politeness
- Predictors were sum-coded (0 TD, perfect sim., polite = 1)

Results

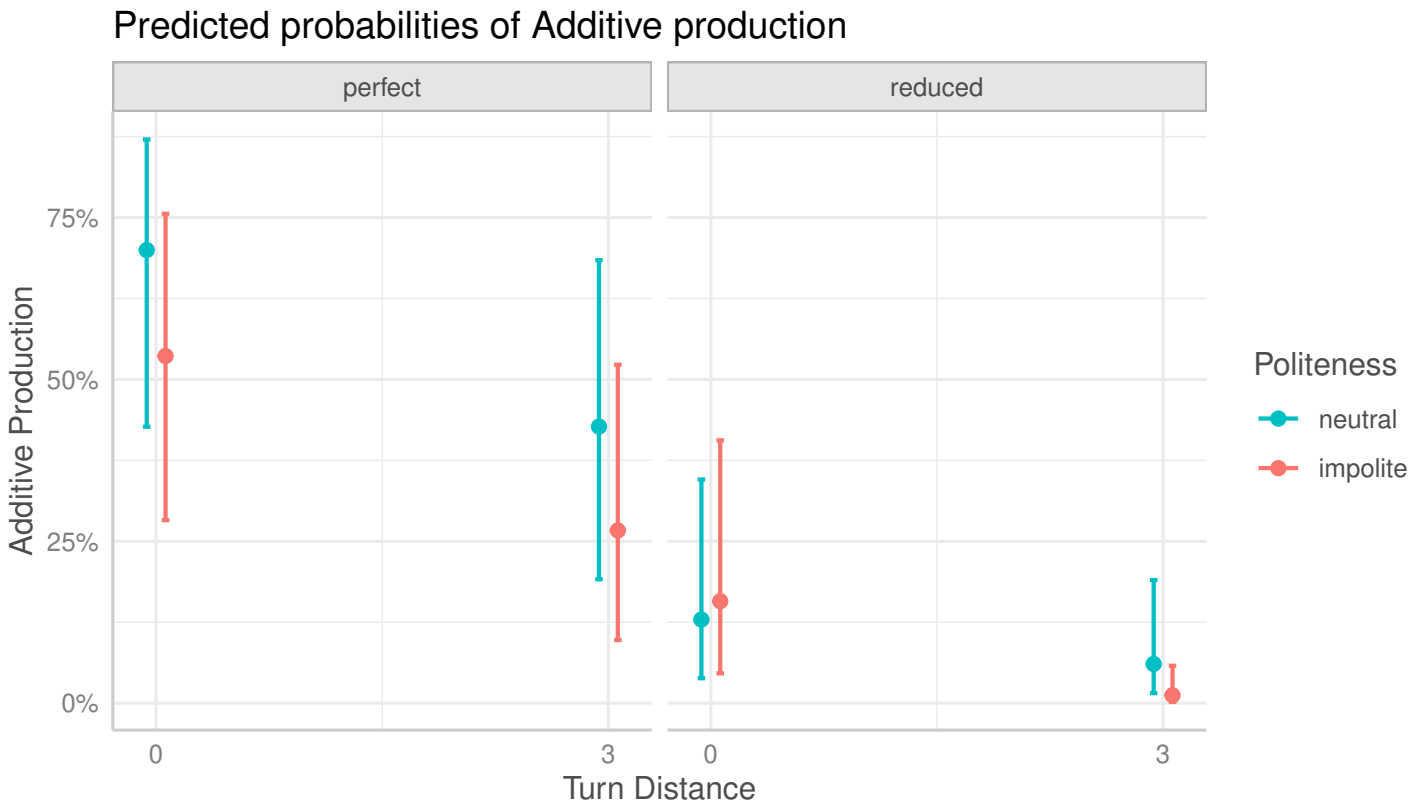
Experiment II

Overall frequency of additive use: 32.62%



Results

Experiment II



- Turn Distance $\hat{\beta}$ =0.74, CrI:[0.34, 1.15]
- Similarity $\hat{\beta}$ =1.30, CrI:[0.53, 2.00]
- Politeness $\hat{\beta}$ =0.36, CrI:[0.05, 0.69]
- 3 way interaction $\hat{\beta}$ =0.24, CrI:[-0.02, 0.50]

Discussion

Salience of antecedent

Salience of the antecedent plays a role for additive production:

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  - Additives are more likely used for immediately preceding antecedents.

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Salience of antecedent

Salience of the antecedent plays a role for additive production:

- Proximity:
  - Additives are more likely used for immediately preceding antecedents.
- Similarity
  - Additives are more likely used for highly similar antecedents.

Overall: While proximity and similarity influence additive production they do not lead to the obligatory use of additive.

Discussion

Grounding

- Anaphoric nature & discursive function $\rightarrow$ grounding tool

Discussion

Grounding

- Anaphoric nature & discursive function → grounding tool
  - Grounding: collecting and coordinating knowledge (Clark & Brennan, 1991).

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Interlocutors producing additives . . .

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(i) refer back to content in common ground (anaphoric).

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Interlocutors producing additives . . .

(i) refer back to content in common ground (anaphoric).

(ii) acknowledge parallelism between content of the common ground and their own contribution.

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Grounding

- Anaphoric nature & discursive function → grounding tool
  - Grounding: collecting and coordinating knowledge (Clark & Brennan, 1991).

Interlocutors producing additives . . .

(i) refer back to content in common ground (anaphoric).

(ii) acknowledge parallelism between content of the common ground and their own contribution.

(iii) signal to have kept track of what information is part of the common ground (Eckhardt & Fränkel, 2012).

Social alignment/distancing

- Additive usage as a cooperative attempt to participate in grounding?

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- Grounding might have priority over diverging:

Social alignment/distancing

- Additive usage as a cooperative attempt to participate in grounding?
- Grounding might have priority over diverging:

(1) i'd like a pin of heineken too please. Robert you should'nt speak to the waiter in that way it is disrespectful

(2) To waiter: The Breaded brie and king prawn linguine for me too, please. To Omar (once the waiter has left): Omar, are you okay? I think you might have been a bit abrupt with the waiter and that's not like you.

Thank you for your attention!

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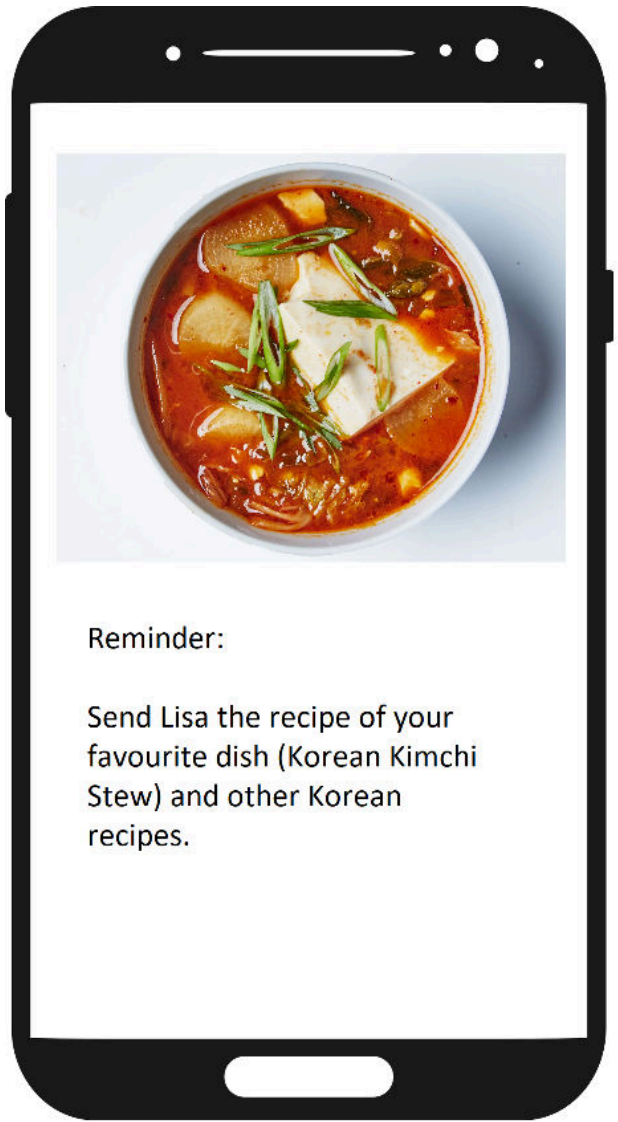
Materials

Talk item example

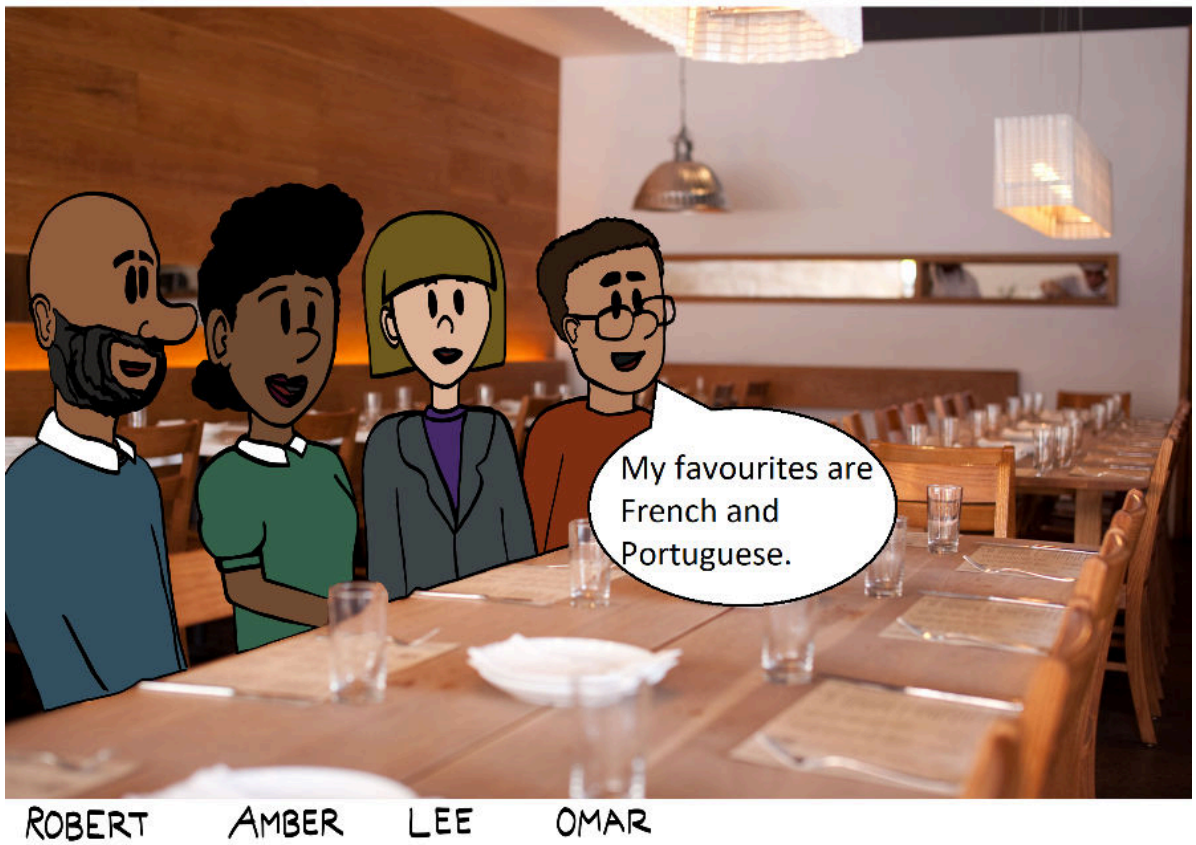
Kimchi Jjigae is your favourite dish. Have a look at your phone (picture below). To which cuisine does it belong?



Materials

Talk item example

Discussion of favourite cuisines



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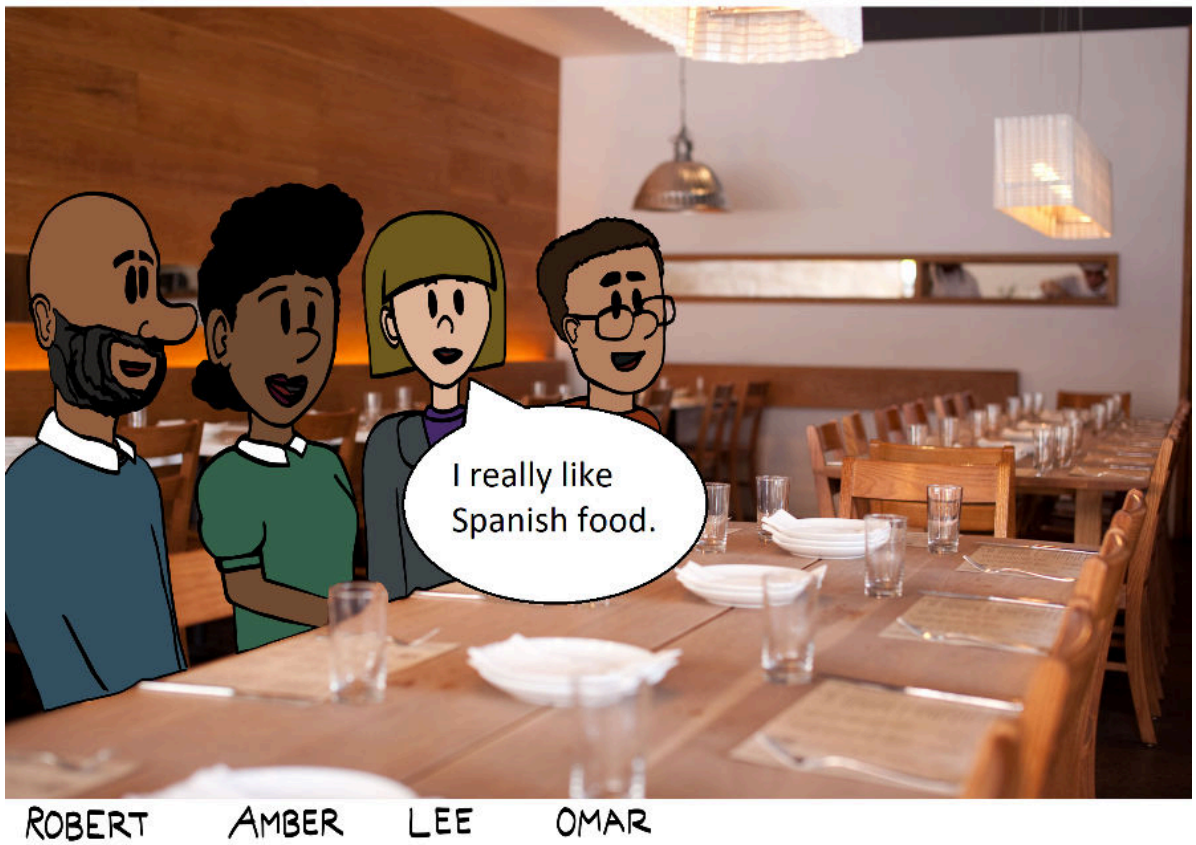

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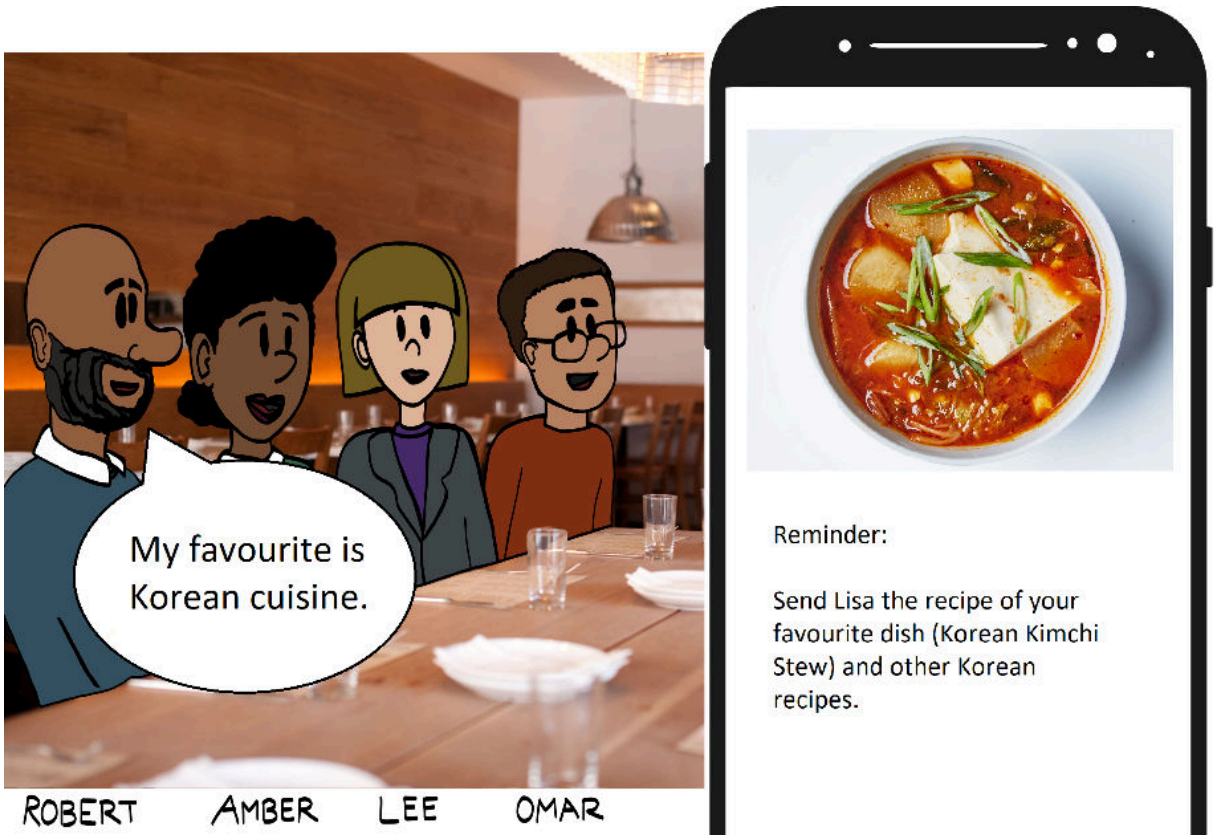


And yours?

Materials

Attention check example

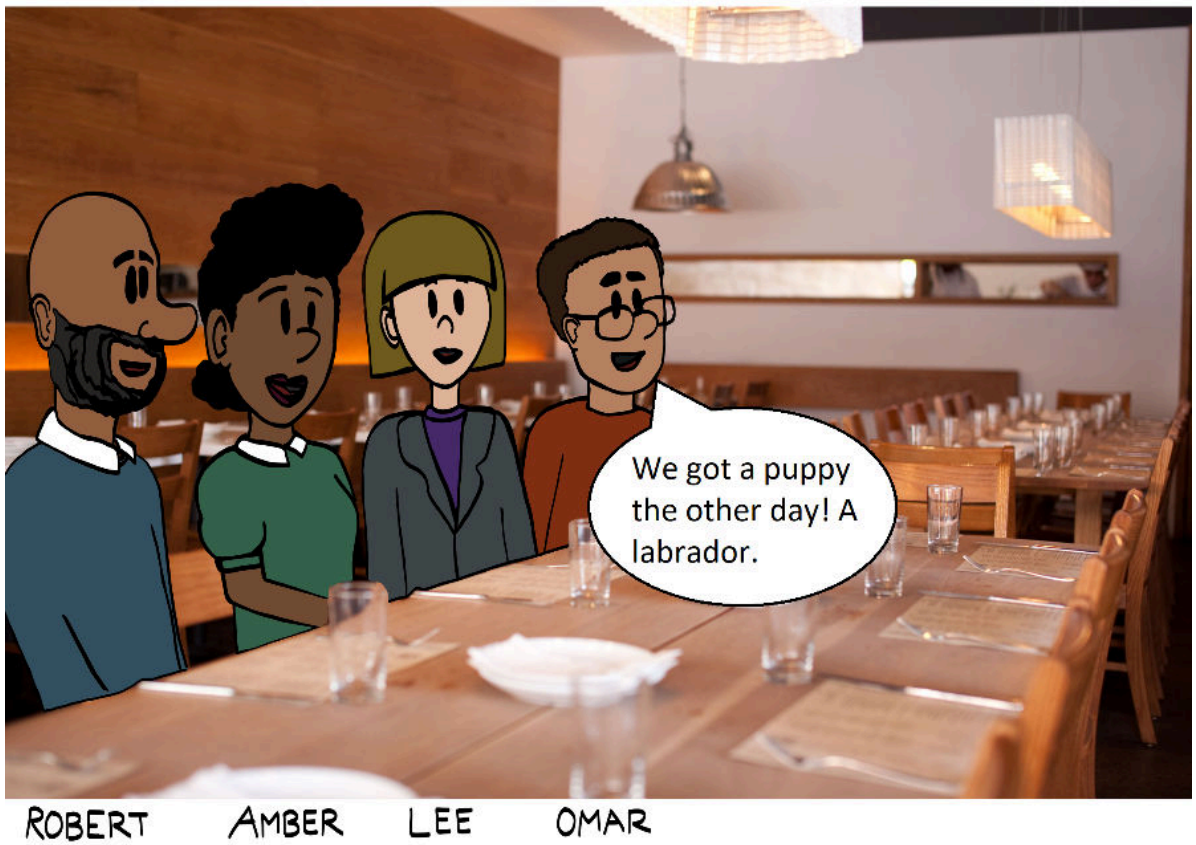
What is the name of your dog of which you see a picture here?

Betty 2020

Materials

Attention check example

Discussion about pets



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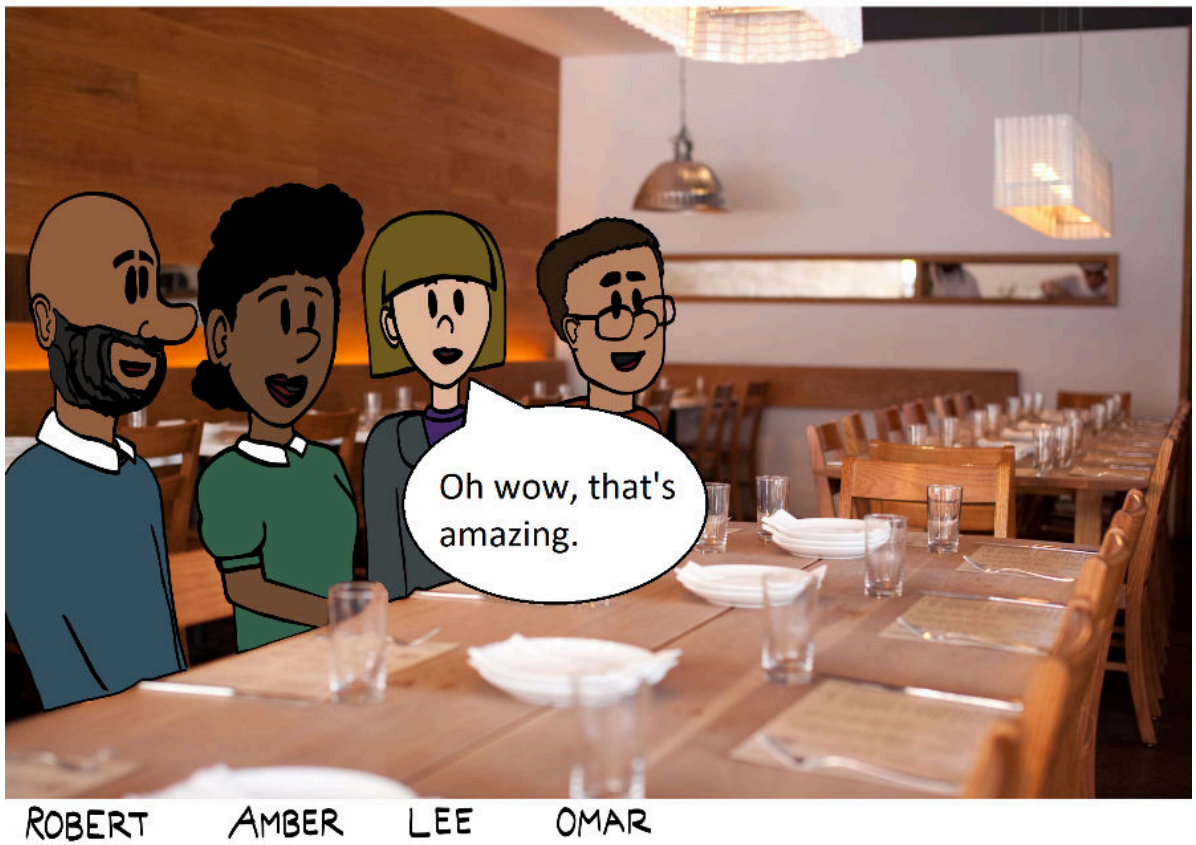
Attention check example

Discussion about pets



Materials

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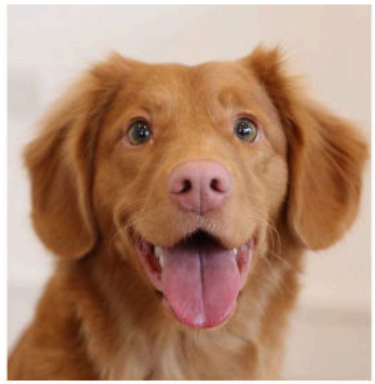

And you?

(3) Yes! My little dog is called Betty.

(4) I don't have a dog either.

(5) I do, her name is Betty. Would you like to see a picture?

(6) Other (please specify below)

Focus

- propositional alternative has been claimed to be determined by what constituent of the host sentence is focused (Rooth, 1985).

(7) a. $[\text{I}]_F$ noted down that she's due to start in January, too.
presupposes: *Someone other than the speaker noted down that she's due to start in January.*

b. I noted down that $[\text{she}]_F$'s due to start in January, too.
presupposes: *The speaker noted down that someone other than 'she' is due to start in January.*

- In our experiment: individual assessment of focus $\rightarrow$ possibly different assessment of whether a suitable antecedent is present.
- BUT: Overall discourse topic (QUD (Roberts, 1996) should have reduced such variation to some extent.

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