Appendix C: Background Survey

Experimenter Page (Background Start)

Experimenter, please enter the participant number below

Participant Number: [____]

Experimenter, please enter code below

Code: [____]

Begin button will take participant to the first page

[Begin]

Figure 1: The experimenter enters the participant's number to ensure their data is not separated if the automatic numbering scheme is disrupted.

Background Questionnaire

Please enter numerical values to respond to the the following three questions (Q1 to Q3)

1) During the last month, about how many hours did you use the Internet **during a typical week?**

[____]

2) Six months ago, about how many hours did you use the Internet **during a typical week?**

[____]

3) Five years ago, about how many hours did you use the Internet **during a typical week?**

[____]

[Next]

Page 1 of 17

Figure 2: Page 1 of the Background Questionnaire. These questions ask the participants to self-report the estimated amount of time spent on the Internet.

Background Questionnaire

4) How much experience have you had with computers **to use the Internet**?
- ○ A great deal
- ○ A lot
- ○ A moderate amount
- ○ A little
- ○ None

5) How much experience have you had with computers **to do things other than use the Internet**?
- ○ A great deal
- ○ A lot
- ○ A moderate amount
- ○ A little
- ○ None

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Page 2 of 17

Figure 3: Page 2 of the Background Questionnaire. These questions ask participants to self-report their self-assessed experience with using computers and the Internet.

Background Questionnaire

6) During the last year, how many times did you complete a survey on the Internet?

[____]

7) During the last month, where were you when you used the Internet? Please select all places.
- ☐ Home
- ☐ Work
- ☐ School
- ☐ Library
- ☐ Another Place

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Page 3 of 17

Figure 4: Part 3 of the Background Questionnaire. An additional response field will appear to the right of Another Place if participants select the checkbox.

Background Questionnaire

8) Do you have a computer at home?
- ⦿ Yes
- ○ No

8a) What type of internet connection do you use at home? *Please check all that apply.*
- ☐ Cable Service
- ☐ Dial-up Service
- ☐ DSL Service
- ☐ Satellite Dish Service
- ☐ Fiber-Optic Service
- ☐ Mobile Broadband Plan for a Computer or Cell Phone

8b) Browsers are software on a computer used to surf the Internet. Last month, which Internet browser did you typically use at home? *Please check all that apply.*
- ☐ Firefox
- ☐ Google Chrome
- ☐ Internet Explorer
- ☐ Safari
- ☑ Other   Please specify: [＿＿＿＿＿＿]

8c) What operating system does your home computer run in? *Select all that apply*
- ☐ Linux
- ☐ Mac OSX
- ☐ Microsoft Windows
- ☐ Other

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Figure 5: Part 4 of the Background Questionnaire. If a participant selects no to question 8 then follow-up questions 8a, 8b, and 8c are not shown to the participant.

An additional text box will appear to the right of the selected radio button or checkbox to allow participants to provide additional information on their operating system or browser when participants click Other in 8b, or an operating system in 8c.

Background Questionnaire

9) During the last week, what are all the things you did **on a computer?** (Check all that apply.)
- ☐ Budget Expenses
- ☐ Conducted Statistical Analyses
- ☐ Looked at and/or edited photos
- ☐ Played Video Games
- ☐ Typed Documents
- ☐ Used the Internet
- ☑ Other (Specify)   Please specify: [   ]
- ☐ Other (Specify)
- ☐ Other (Specify)
- ☐ Other (Specify)

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Figure 6: Part 5 of the Background Questionnaire.

A text box will appear to the right of "Other (Specify)" to allow participants to provide additional information

Background Questionnaire

10a) During the last week, how many times did you use the Internet to find information about:

A hobby	[ ]
Church	[ ]
Finances (e.g., stocks, mutual funds)	[ ]
Health or medicine	[ ]
Housing	[ ]
Legal issues	[ ]
Local community activities (e.g., public events)	[ ]

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Figure 7: This question asks participants to self-report their Internet searching behavior.

Background Questionnaire

10b) During the last week, how many times did you use the Internet to find information about:
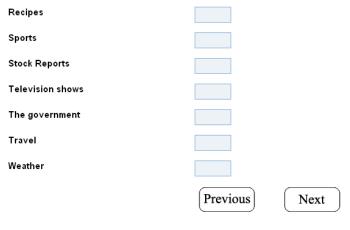
Movie Listings	[ ]
News	[ ]
Organizations (e.g., political groups, American Medical Association)	[ ]
Other people (e.g., home addresses, phone numbers, email addresses)	[ ]
Personal social activities (e.g., friends' parties)	[ ]
Places (e.g., museums, hotels)	[ ]
Public transportation	[ ]

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Figure 8: This question is part 2/3 of question 10. Question 10 was split into three parts to avoid requiring the user to scroll.

Background Questionnaire

10c) During the last week, how many times did you use the Internet to find information about:

Recipes	[ ]
Sports	[ ]
Stock Reports	[ ]
Television shows	[ ]
The government	[ ]
Travel	[ ]
Weather	[ ]

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Figure 9: This question is the last part of question 10. Question 10 was split into three parts to avoid requiring the user to scroll.

Background Questionnaire

11a) During the last week, how many times did you use the Internet to:

Access social networking sites

Buy things

Conduct personal banking

Contact people via email

Contact people via instant Messenging/chat

Contact people via video chat

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Figure 10: Question 11 is split into three parts to avoid user scrolling. Question 11 asks participants to self-report their Internet usage.

Background Questionnaire

11b) During the last week, how many times did you use the Internet to:

Download music

Download, look at, order, and/or edit photos

Gather information for work

Join mailing lists

Make travel reservations

Pay bills

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Figure 11: Part 2 of Question 11.

Background Questionnaire

11c) During the last week, how many times did you use the Internet to:

Play games

Read news

Search library holdings or databases

Sell things

Visit discussion groups

Watch shows or videos

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Figure 12: The last part of Question 11.

Background Questionnaire

12) In addition to the items in questions 10 and 11, during the last week, what are all the other things you did on the Internet? (e.g., read emails; sent emails; booked travel; posted blogs; used Facebook)

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Figure 13: Question 12 asks respondents to write-in any other Internet usage activities not covered by Question 10 and Question 11.

Background Questionnaire

13) How difficult is it for you to learn to use Web sites that you have not visited before?
- ○ Extremely difficult
- ○ Very difficult
- ○ Moderately difficult
- ○ Slightly difficult
- ○ Not difficult at all

14) Computer windows can be minimized, resized, and scrolled through. How difficult is it for you to manipulate a computer window?
- ○ Extremely difficult
- ○ Very difficult
- ○ Moderately difficult
- ○ Slightly difficult
- ○ Not difficult at all

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Figure 14: Question 13 and Question 14 ask participants about the difficult experienced with using new Websites and manipulation of computer windows.

Background Questionnaire

15) How difficult is it for you to use the Internet?
- ○ Extremely difficult
- ○ Very difficult
- ○ Moderately difficult
- ○ Slightly difficult
- ○ Not difficult at all

16) Not including email, how *uncomfortable* are you with providing personal information on Internet forms and surveys?
- ○ Extremely uncomfortable
- ○ Very uncomfortable
- ○ Moderately uncomfortable
- ○ Slightly uncomfortable
- ○ Not uncomfortable at all

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Figure 15: Question 15 and Question 16 ask participants about difficulties with using the Internet and providing personal information on the Internet.

Background Questionnaire

For the following question (Question 17) please enter numbers into the response area

17) During last month, how many times did you do complex analyses of data (e.g., using SAS, SPSS, Excel) using a computer?

18) How familiar are you with the Census Bureau Web site, www.census.gov (e.g., location, tools, terms, data)?
- ○ Extremely Familiar
- ○ Very Familiar
- ○ Moderately Familiar
- ○ Slightly Familiar
- ○ Not Familiar At All

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Figure 16: Question 17 assesses their interaction with statistical data, and Question 18 asks participants about their familiarity with the Census.gov Website.

Background Questionnaire

19) In what month and year were you born?

Month: **YYYY**
[Please select a month ▼]

20) What is the highest level of education you have completed?
- ○ Less than high school
- ○ Completed high school
- ○ Some college, no degree
- ○ Associate's degree (AA/AS)
- ○ Bachelor's degree (BA/BS)
- ○ Post-Bachelor's degree

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Figure: 17: Question 19 asks participants for their month and year (to calculate age) and their highest education competed.

Background Questionnaire

21) Are you male or female?
- ○ Male
- ○ Female

22) Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?
- ○ Yes
- ○ No

23) What is your race? Choose **one or more** races.
- ☐ White
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

[Previous] [Submit]

Figure 18: The last page asks participants about their gender, and race.