WC – SUBJECT DEBRIEFING **Stage 2**

*Why you were recruited*

You were recruited to participate in short study involving the ratings of words. You were recruited on the basis that you are a native English speaker with no other primary language, with no history of or symptoms of dyslexia, synaesthesia, and/or any psychological, psychiatric or neurological condition that affects vision-based emotion and/or face processing (e.g., depression, Autism Spectrum Disorder, prosopagnosia).

A second group was also recruited – native Mandarin speakers – as the current study focuses on cross-cultural differences.

*The Task*

In this study, you performed a word similarity-matching task \*.Here, you were presented with a series of word pairs presented on a computer screen and asked to rate their similarity of meaning on a scale of -1 (opposite) to +1 (identical). All possible word pairs were presented; allowing us to determine how similar you think each word in the list is to all other words. This data was then used to produce an emotion word lexicon, detailing the relationship between each word pair in a 2D space (see example below).

\*You may also have completed a word-sorting task where you were asked to group words together based on their similarity of meaning using different numbers of groups. This purpose of this task is very similar to that of the taskabove and will be used for comparison reasons.

*The purpose of the study*

The purpose of this study was to select a core set of emotion words that a large group of people from each culture are familiar with. These core sets of words were then used for further experiments examining cultural differences in the conceptual landscape of emotions (e.g., do Easterners and Westerners think that disgust and anger have the same meaning?).

Together, these data will help us to better understand cultural differences in the representation of emotions used for social interaction. We hope our work will facilitate clearer channels of communication between diverse groups and promote better understanding across cultural boundaries.

Thank you for participating in our study. Please do not discuss the details of the experiment with other potential participants, as we need participants to behave as naturally as possible, rather than having preconceived ideas about the study. Feel free to arrange an appointment or contact us at [rachael@psy.gla.ac.uk](mailto:rachael@psy.gla.ac.uk) to find out about the results, or our research.