# The Wesleyan Word Experience Project- Year 2

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#### Introduction

The lexical quality of words is determined by several factors, including age of acquisition (AoA) and familiarity. AoA is a rating that measures when a word is acquired (see Juhasz, 2005 for a review). Familiarity (Fam) measures how often a word is experienced (Gernsbacher, 1984). These variables influence how words are processed and recognized (e.g. Juhasz, Lai, & Woodcock).

Over time, however, these characteristics may change within the English language. The Wesleyan Word Experience Project seeks to follow how familiarity and AoA change through time and how differing experiences impact word recognition. There is currently 2 years of data collected between Fall 2019- Spring 2021.

## Method

**Participants:** All participants were enrolled in between Fall 19-Spring 21. The total N= 474 (Fi 121, F20=135, S21=57).

Stimuli: Words were selected from the English Project (ELP; Balota et al., 2007) and by the rese A total of 499 words were included on the ques Lexical decision times (LDT) and word naming t available for 446 of these words in the ELP.

**Procedure:** Participants completed the question through Qualtrics. They were asked to rate wor familiarity and when they first learned the wor 1 to 7 scale. Demographic information was also There were four versions of the questionnaires participants were randomly assigned to a given

**Data Analysis:** Correlation analyses were used the relationship between the AoA, familiarity, recognition time.

### **Summary and Conclusions**

Means and standard deviations for self-reported AoA and Fam ratings were similar between the Fall '20 (F20) and Spring '21 (S21) data collection periods. Significant positive correlations for AoA and FAM measures between F20 and S21 samples corroborate a strong similarity between self-reported measures. Both Fam and AoA are significantly correlated with ELP word recognition times. However, the magnitude of the correlation for Fam appears to be decreasing over time.

in Psyc 105 F19= 161; S20=	Year 2 Correlations						Year 2 Descriptive Statistic						
	Variable	AoA F20	AoA S21	Fam F20	Fam S21			Va	ariable	Mean	SD		
sh Lexicon esearchers. estionnaires. times were	AoA F20	1.00	.982**	669**	649**			Α	oA F20	5.02	1.11		
	AoA S21		1.00	681**	665**			A	oA S21	5.02	1.09		
	Fam F20			1.00	.968**			Fa	am F20	5.89	0.95		
	Fam S21				1.00			Fa	am S21	5.93	0.97		
onnaires rds based on d (AoA) on a	Correlations with ELP Reaction Times												
o collected			Vari	able		LDT FAM	Naming FAM	LDT AoA	Naming AoA				
es, and en version.			F19		5	60**	486**	.584**	.510**				
			<b>S</b> 20		5	40**	484**	.575**	.504**				
ed to assess and word			F20		5	43**	478**	.588**	.502**				
	Note: ** = p<.01.		S21		5	32**	452**	.589**	.503**				





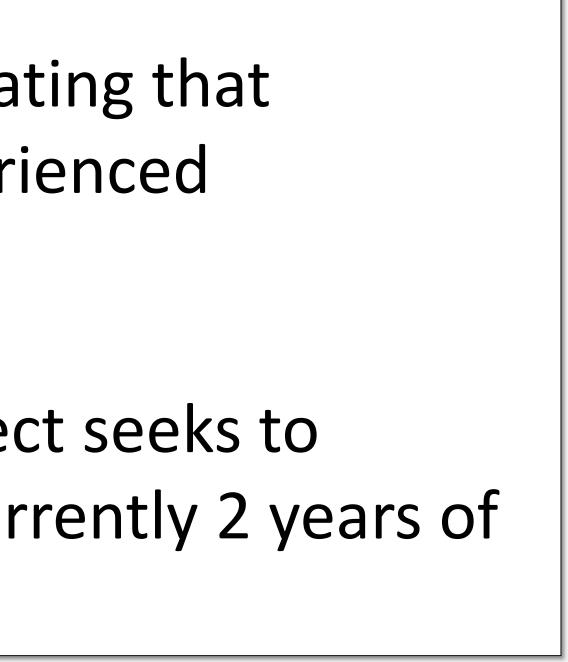
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