



RESEARCH NOTIFICATION

1. *Generation X, Y and Z and digital language practices: Intra- and intergenerational meaning-making, adaptation and attitudes (XYZdigi)* and invitation to participate in research

We ask you to participate in *Generation X, Y and Z and digital language practices (XYZdigi)* which investigates how younger, middle-aged and older Finland-Swedes use language with the members of the same and different age groups, when they use smartphones, tablets or computers. We examine how digital media is used in these age groups with a particular focus on Finland-Swedish digital language features (such as text and emojis). We are also interested in how members of different age groups adjust their communication with each other and opinions they may have about digital language and communicative practices.

Our research will involve approximately 18 Finland-Swedish focus participants: 6 younger, 6 middle-aged and 6 older Finland-Swedes. We will also invite focus participants' other contacts (that is, contributing participants) to join in the study.

You are invited to the study as **a focus participant** because you are a Finland-Swede living in Finland. Swedish is your first language (or one of them) and it is present in your daily life. You communicate in Swedish via digital messages with other persons in the same and different age group(s), such as with your friends and family members. You are either between 15 and 25 years of age, around 40 to 50 years of age or over 65 years of age.

You are invited to the study as **a contributing participant** because you communicate in Swedish via digital messages with a focus participant.

This research notification describes the study and related participation. The attachment provides information on the processing of your personal data.

This is a single study, and you will not be contacted again later.

2. Voluntariness

Participation in this study is voluntary. You can refuse to participate in the study, stop participating or cancel your previously given consent, without stating any reason for this and at any time during the study. This will have no negative consequences to you.

If you stop participating in the study or if you cancel your consent, the personal data, samples and other information collected on you up to that point will be used as part of the research material as far as it is necessary in order to ensure relevant research outcomes.

3. Progress of the study

THE STUDY PROGRESSES WITH A FOCUS PARTICIPANT IN THE FOLLOWING WAY:

The study will take place either in fall 2025 or in spring 2026. Over about a month, the researcher and the focus participant will meet around three to five times to discuss language features and communicative practices on digital media.

- i. **Interviews about digital language and communicative practices:** The researcher will meet you 2–3 times to talk with you about how you communicate digitally with others, what type of language and multimedia you and others use, and thoughts and experiences you have around these themes. You decide yourself if you want the interviews to take place online or offline (face-to-face). The interviews will be video and/or audio recorded, and they will take about 45 minutes each.
- ii. **Sharing your digital conversations:** To see what authentic digital language looks like, the researcher will ask you to share some digital messages and conversations of your own choice. You can choose which and how many messages you want to share from digital platforms. The messages could for example be from WhatsApp, Snapchat or SMS. Before any messages or conversations are shared using safe procedures, other participants in them will give their consent that they can be used for research purposes (see contributing participant below).
- iii. **Interviews about your digital conversations:** The researcher and you will meet offline for a so-called media go-along interview. In this kind of interview, you show and tell the researcher about digital conversations of your own choice, and the researcher asks questions about digital language features and communicative practices in these. Before showing them, contributing participants of the conversations have given their consent to sharing them. You will record the screen and audio of your own phone, tablet or computer, and the researcher will simultaneously video record the interviews. An interview about one digital chat will take about 30 minutes.

THE STUDY PROGRESSES WITH A CONTRIBUTING PARTICIPANT IN THE FOLLOWING WAY:

- i. **Consenting to sharing your digital conversations:** The researchers will study language features and communicative practices in some digital conversations between the focus participant and you. To be able to do this, your consent for sharing the digital messages will be asked first. The sharing will happen in a secure way either as screenshots, screen recordings or chat logs.
- ii. **Taking part in an interview about digital language and communicative practices (optional):** The researcher will interview the focus participant about their digital language and communicative practices (see above). If you want to be interviewed together with the focus participant, you may be invited to do so. An interview takes around 45 minutes, may take place online or offline, and will be video and/or audio recorded.

4. Possible benefits from the study

By participating in the research, the participants get to share and express their own views on language and communicative practices used on digital media. The participation will deepen the scientific and societal understanding of how people of different ages communicate

digitally in Swedish during the mid-2020s. The participation will also mean contributing to cultural heritage through documentation of authentic digital communication.

5. Possible risks, harm, and inconvenience caused by the study as well as preparing for these

Participation in the study is not expected to cause any risks, harm or inconvenience.

6. Study-related costs and compensations to the subject as well as research funding

No rewards will be paid for participation in the study.

The study is financed by the Society of Swedish Literature in Finland (2025–2028).

7. Informing about research results and research outcomes

The research will yield scientific and popular scientific publications, conference and seminar presentations as well as an academic dissertation. The examples of data used in presentations and publications will be selected so that no individual research participant can be identified.

Research outcomes, such as scientific publications, will be shared via our project website: <https://www.jyu.fi/en/projects/generation-x-y-and-z-and-digital-language-practices-intra-and-intergenerational-meaning-making>.

8. Insurance coverage for research subjects

The University of Jyväskylä has insurances for its activities and research subjects.

In the case of research conducted remotely, the insurance of the University of Jyväskylä compensates only for damage that is directly related to the assigned research task and that has occurred during the actual guided research task. The insurance does not cover accidents that occur during breaks.

The insurances of the University of Jyväskylä are not valid in the case of research conducted remotely if a research subject's home municipality is not in Finland.

The set of insurance includes a malpractice insurance, an operational liability insurance, and an optional insurance against accidents. During the research activities, the subjects are covered by the insurance for accidents, damages and injuries inflicted by an external cause. The accident insurance is valid during measurements and on trips integrally connected to them.

9. Contact persons for further information

Åsa Palviainen, Professor, Project Leader

Phone: +358408053217

E-mail: asa.palviainen@jyu.fi

Postal address: Department of Language and Communication Studies, University of Jyväskylä, PO Box 35, FI-40014 University of Jyväskylä

Kira Heiskanen, Doctoral Researcher

Phone: +358505968731

E-mail: kira.a.heiskanen@jyu.fi

Postal address: Department of Language and Communication Studies, University of Jyväskylä, PO Box 35, FI-40014 University of Jyväskylä