

If you liked our stand at the Royal Society Summer Exhibition, why not get involved in our research?

Imagine you are having a conversation in a noisy cafe and you are trying to understand what is being said to you.

- Why is this so difficult?
- And why does it get more difficult as we get older?
- How does our brain process speech in noisy environments?

These are some of the questions we are looking at in our new research project 'The effects of ageing on the perception of speech in noise', which is carried out at UCL.

We are looking to recruit participants aged 60 years and older who would be willing to travel to central London to visit us in our speech laboratory. We would like to record brainstem activity when you are listening to speech in noise using a similar EEG setup to the one you may have seen when you visited our stand at the Summer Exhibition (see royalsociety.org/summer-science/2011/noisy-world). The main difference with the setup at the Summer Exhibition is that our setup only requires three electrodes.

Recording brainstem activity is a painless and safe procedure. We have experience in measuring brainstem activity and we will do our best to explain the scientific aspects of our work to you and make your visit enjoyable.

We will be starting to record people this winter and will carry on throughout the following year. We will be able to pay you a small compensation for your participation.

If you would like more information about taking part, you can leave your email in the address book by our stand (ask any of the helpers at the stand), or you can get in touch with us directly by emailing us at:

t.schoof@ucl.ac.uk

We look forward to seeing you!

Tim Schoof

