

Metra Prediction Survey

We would like you to imagine that you are participating in a study about commuting on the Metra. Imagine that, as you walk to the platform to catch your train in the morning, you see a student standing on the platform who asks you to participate in a study. Imagine that, just like you did today, you agree to participate and sign a consent form.

Imagine that the student gives you these instructions for the study:

"Please have a conversation with another person on the train today. Try to make a connection. Find out something interesting about him or her and tell them something about you. The longer the conversation, the better. Your goal is to try to get to know your community neighbor today."

1. How interested do you think you would be to talk to the other person?

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Not at all interested			Somewhat interested			Very interested

2. How interested do you think the other person would be to talk to you?

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Not at all interested			Somewhat interested			Very interested

3. How difficult do you think it would be to start the conversation?

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Not at all difficult			Somewhat difficult			Very difficult

4. What percentage of the people riding the train do you think would be willing to talk to you?

0%	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
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Regardless of your answers in the previous questions, imagine that you follow the instructions and start talking to someone.

You have a conversation with the person for the duration of the ride.

5. How much do you think you are likely to have in common with this person?

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Very little in common			A moderate amount in common			A lot in common

6. How stimulating do you think your conversation is likely to be?

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Not at all stimulating			Somewhat stimulating			Very stimulating

Now, imagine that you have ended your commute this morning.

7. How happy do you think you would feel after your commute?

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Not at all happy			Somewhat happy			Very happy

8. How sad do you think you would feel after your commute?

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Not at all sad			Somewhat sad			Very sad

9. How pleasant do you think your commute would be, compared to a normal commute?

-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Much less pleasant than usual			No more or less pleasant than usual			Much more pleasant than usual

10. How productive do you think you would be (that is, how much would you accomplish) during your commute, compared to a normal commute?

-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Much less productive than usual			No more or less productive than usual			Much more productive than usual

Now, please imagine that the student gives you an entirely different set of instructions. Instead of asking you to talk to someone else, the student tells you:

"Please keep to yourself and enjoy your solitude on the train today. Take this time to sit alone with your thoughts. Your goal is to focus on yourself and the day ahead of you."

Imagine that you follow these instructions and then complete a questionnaire at the end of your commute.

11. How happy do you think you would feel after your commute if you followed these instructions? Circle your response.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Not at all happy			Somewhat happy			Very happy

12. How sad do you think you would feel after your commute if you followed these instructions? Circle your response.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Not at all sad			Somewhat sad			Very sad

13. How pleasant do you think your commute would be, compared to your normal commute, if you followed these instructions? Circle your response.

-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Much less pleasant than usual			No more or less pleasant than usual			Much more pleasant than usual

14. How productive do you think you would be (that is, how much would you accomplish) during your commute, compared to your normal commute, if you followed these instructions? Circle your response.

-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Much less productive than usual			No more or less productive			Much more productive than usual

15.What do you normally do during your commute? Please mark all options that apply.

☐ Talk to someone on the train

☐ Talk on the phone

☐ Read a book or newspaper

☐ Sleep

☐ Think (by yourself)

☐ Work on a computer

☐ Other: _____

16.Do you have any comments about this study?

17.Have you ever participated in any study like this before on the Metra?

YES

NO

Thank you! The study is done. Please remember to mail it back to us.

When we receive it in the mail, you will be entered in a lottery for an iPod Shuffle.