In-Lab Procedures for Computer Breaks Gratitude Induction

Cover Story: "Social Interaction Study"
Components:
Filler 1: Partner Trivia Activity (4 mins)
Filler 2: Lexical Decision Task (10 mins)
Manipulation Check: "How [grateful, etc] do you feel towards your partner?"

Stand in the middle and brief both the confederate and the participant at the same time

- "Today you will be participating in 2 different studies. First, you will participate in short social interaction study. We are doing this mini-study to establish a baseline for another study we have going this semester about social interaction."

- "The social interaction study will take about 15 minutes and consists of a short trivia activity with your partner, a cognitive task on the computer, and a short feedback questionnaire."

- *Hands the participant matching trivia questions* "You will have 4 minutes to complete these with your partner. Feel free to collaborate won them however you wish. Whatever questions you don't know the answer to, your partner might. The point of this is to see what types of general knowledge questions are most familiar to our generation. I will be back in 2 minutes and ask you to swap your questions so you can both have a look at both sets of questions."

- *Experimenter walks back into the room after 2 minutes* "Great. That concludes the trivia activity. I can collect those from you now."

- "Now you are ready for the lexical word task and short feedback questionnaire on the computer. Once you click continue, you will be prompted to start on the lexical word task where you will make quick judgments about whether a string of letters is a real word or not. If it **IS** a word, you will press the **A** key, and if it is **Not** a word, you will press the **5** key. You will complete three sets and receive your scores after each."

- "Once you are both done, one of you can come get me from the last room on the left with the glass door."

Experimental Condition Computer Crash Script

- Please follow the suggestions on this script as closely as you can. Study it beforehand and improvise only when necessary.

- The point here is for the experimenter to be unhelpful and firm without being a complete jerk. We don't want to stir up any feelings of anger that may confound the study, so try to act emotionally neutral rather than rude or off-putting.
- The control condition does not have a script since the participants all experience the same sequence of events during the partner activity.

Experimenter:

E= Experimenter
P= Participant
C= Confederate

P comes in to get the experimenter

E: "Hey, did you have a question?"

P: "Uh I think the computer just crashed."

E: "Oh wow, this has happened before. Last time we had to call tech support to come fix it (walks P back to their seat). You can have a seat at the computer and I'll let you know when they get here. We do need all your data though so you will have redo the cognitive task."

Confederate:

C: *Looks over in concern* "What happened?"

P: "My computer crashed so I have to sit here until a tech comes. Might have to do the task again."

C: "Well....I've got a minute...maybe we could figure it out?"

P: "Oh ok"

C: *Walks over to the Ps computer*
Plays with the keyboard; presses F keys, specifically F8

"Well, maybe it's a connection issue....actually...yeah....some of these cords do seem kind of loose....maybe if I just tighten them?....let me know if anything happens...."

P: "Oh, it came back on!"

C: "Great. I'm glad you won't have to start over. That would have been awful!"

P: *Goes to fetch the experimenter*

E: On the phone/just hang up the phone with the technician. "Hey, what's up?"

P: "The other P helped me fix the computer"

E: "Oh great, and did it start you from the beginning, or continue where you left off?"

P: "Where I left off."

E: "Oh great, so you won't have to redo the cognitive portion! In that case you can go ahead and continue from where you left off. Let me know when you're done."