

Appendix C: Voice-over script

1. Introduction, lifting sandbags

“Welcome in this virtual reality environment. This is the introduction phase; in which you can get familiar with the equipment. You will be notified when the introduction phase ends. During the game you will encounter several objects that can be lifted. Give it a try and lift a sand bag. Move your hand to the sand bag and squeeze the controller with your index finger to grab the bag. You will see a place highlighted in yellow: this is the destination of the bag. You can drop the bag by letting go of your index finger. Please try it now.”

2. Walk towards the blue grid

“Please explore the house now. You cannot walk forever in the virtual world, even though this might seem possible. The borders of the virtual world are highlighted with a blue grid, to prevent collisions in the real world. Try to walk to the border now, to check it out.”

3. If you see this grid, stop walking

“Right, you arrived at the border. Slowly move one step backwards: the grid will disappear. If you encounter the blue grid later again, please take some distance. This is for your own safety.”

4. Walk towards the arrow

“Once you can proceed to a new phase, an orange arrow will appear somewhere close to you. Have a look around to find the arrow and walk towards it. This is the end of the introduction phase.”

5. Stacking sand bags

“Welcome in the back yard. To protect your house from imminent flooding, you should stack the sand bags in front of the door. As soon as one bag is in the right place, you can lift the next one. As soon as you finish, an orange arrow will appear. Good luck!”

6. Exploring the house

“Well done. You have protected the house as far as possible from flooding. You can now explore the house and see for yourself what it looks like to be inside a house with flood barriers when the water is rushing outside.”

7. Explore front room

“Maybe you would like to see the view in the front of the house. Walk towards the orange arrow to have a look.”

8. Grab flashlight

“All possible measures were taken for your home. Let us now have a look at the neighbors. It is possible that they have a power cut, so it would be wise to bring a flashlight. Take the flashlight from the table and walk to the orange arrow to go to the neighbors.”

9. Welcome at the neighbors

“Welcome in the house of the neighbors. This is what a house could look like if it is flooded. There is a power cut because the fuse box was flooded. Moreover, the interior is ruined and there is a lot of water. Hopefully the neighbors saved their valuables at a higher floor. You can have a look around with the flashlight.”

10. The end

“This is the end of the virtual reality part of the research. If you walk towards the orange arrow, the screen will fade black and the experimenter will come over to take over your head set.”