

Supplemental Materials

Table S1. Means by question and scale direction in Wave 2

Variable	Ascending	Descending
Mindfulness Questions		
Automatic	0.456	0.493
Rush	0.388	0.408
Absorbed	0.528	0.540
Several	0.504	0.527
Wanders	0.461	0.478
Distracted	0.419	0.448
Political Efficacy Questions		
Complicated	0.481	0.503
Understanding	0.518	0.507
Care	0.576	0.585
Say	0.609	0.629
Vote	0.792	0.791
Journalists	0.569	0.570
Officials	0.704	0.703
Choice	0.882	0.883
Rich	0.298	0.326

Table S2. Multilevel model explaining means in Wave 2 by scale direction

	Main Effect Model	Full Model	Interaction With Scale Direction Change
Intercept	0.55 ^{***}	0.55 ^{***}	0.55 ^{***}
Scale Direction: Descending	0.01 ^{***}	0.01	
Device used: PC		-0.01	
Scale Type: Agreement		-0.01 [*]	
Scale Direction x Scale Type		0.01	
Scale Length: 5-point		0.01	
Scale Direction x Scale Length		-0.00	
Scale Labeling: Fully-labeled		-0.00	

Scale Direction x Scale Labeling	0.01		
Wave 2 Scale Direction: Descending	0.01**		
Wave 2 Change	-0.01		
Wave 2 Scale Direction x Wave 2 Change	0.00		
AIC	10615.01	10681.04	9957.98
BIC	10649.50	10775.90	10017.82
Log Likelihood	-5303.50	-5329.52	-4971.99
Num. obs.	41130	41100	38130
Num. groups: individual	2742	2740	2542
Var: individual (Intercept)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Var: Residual	0.07	0.07	0.07
***p < 0.001; **p < 0.01; *p < 0.05			

Table S3. Equivalence testing of mindfulness scale in Wave 2

Model	Chisq	df	CFI	RMSEA	AIC	BIC
Mindfulness Questions						
Configural	673.12	18	0.84	0.16	-4307.2	-4094.2
Metric	673.12	18	0.84	0.16	-4307.2	-4094.2
Scalar	673.12	18	0.84	0.16	-4307.2	-4094.2
Means	673.12	18	0.84	0.16	-4307.2	-4094.2
Political Efficacy Questions						
Configural	2686.43	54	0.6	0.19	-5924.1	-5604.6
Metric	2686.43	54	0.6	0.19	-5924.1	-5604.6
Scalar	2686.43	54	0.6	0.19	-5924.1	-5604.6
Means	2686.43	54	0.6	0.19	-5924.1	-5604.6

Figure S4. Scale direction effects on proxy quality indicators in Wave 2

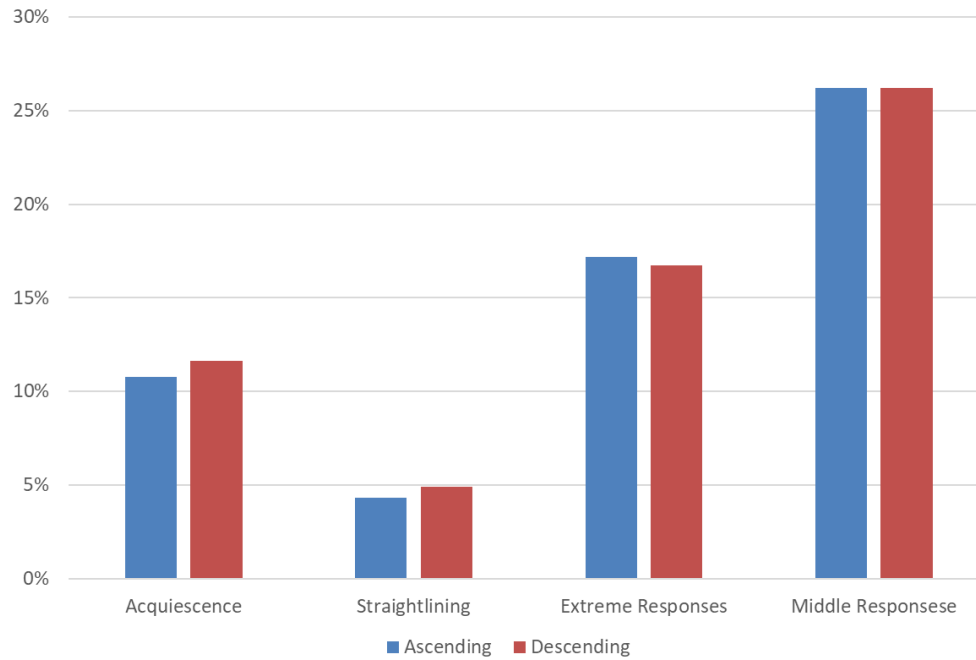


Table S5. Regression models testing interaction effects between scale direction and other scale features on acquiescence at Wave 2

	Interaction with Scale Length	Interaction with Scale Labeling	Interaction with Wave 2 Scale Direction Change	
Intercept	9.42***	13.66***	10.29***	
Scale Direction: Descending	0.85	1.161	1.59	
Scale Length: 5-point	2.64**			
Scale Direction x Scale Length	0.17			
Scale Labeling: Fully-labeled		-5.72***		
Scale Direction x Scale Labeling		-0.47		
W2 Scale Change: Yes			0.87	
Scale Direction x Wave 2 Scale Change			-0.84	
R ²		0.01	0.06	0.00
Num. obs.		1331	1331	1234

*** p < 0.001; ** p < 0.01; * p < 0.05

Table S6. Regression models testing interaction effects between scale direction and other scale features on straightlining at Wave 2

	Interaction with Scale Type	Interaction with Scale Length	Interaction with Scale Labeling	Interaction with Wave 2 Scale Direction Change
Intercept	0.05***	0.04***	0.06***	0.05***
Scale Direction: Descending	-0.01	-0.00	-0.02	-0.01
Scale Type: Agreement scale	0.01			
Scale Direction x Scale Type	-0.00			
Scale Length: 5-point		0.02		
Scale Direction x Scale Length		-0.00		
Scale Labeling: Fully-labeled			-0.01	
Scale Direction x Scale Labeling			0.02	
Wave 2 Scale Change: Yes				0.00
Scale Direction * Wave 2 Scale Change				0.00
R ²	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Num. obs.	2742	2742	2742	2742
***p < 0.001; **p < 0.01; *p < 0.05				

Table S7. Regression models testing interaction effects between scale direction and other scale features on extreme responses at Wave 2

	Interaction with Scale Type	Interaction with Scale Length	Interaction with Scale Labeling	Interaction with Wave 2 Scale Direction Change
Intercept	16.85***	14.32***	21.25***	16.17***
Scale Direction: Descending	-0.09	0.11	-1.18	0.07
Scale Type:	0.68			

Agreement scale				
Scale Direction x Scale Type	-0.73			
Scale Length: 5-point	5.71***			
Scale Direction x Scale Length	-1.13			
Scale Labeling: Fully-labeled	-7.80***			
Scale Direction x Scale Labeling	1.24			
Wave 2 Scale Change: Yes	2.00*			
Scale Direction * Wave 2 Scale Change	-0.61			
R ²	0.00	0.02	0.05	0.00
Num. obs.	2742	2742	2742	2742
***p < 0.001; **p < 0.01; *p < 0.05				

Table S8. Regression models testing interaction effects between scale direction and other scale features on midpoint responses at Wave 2

	Interaction with Scale Type	Interaction with Scale Length	Interaction with Scale Labeling	Interaction with Wave 2 Scale Direction Change
Intercept	28.83***	21.27***	25.57***	26.43***
Scale Direction: Descending	-0.36	-0.29	0.04	-0.80
Scale Type: Agreement scale	-5.35***			
Scale Direction x Scale Type	0.69			
Scale Length: 5-point		9.87***		
Scale Direction x Scale Length		0.52		
Scale Labeling: Fully-labeled			1.23	

Scale Direction x Scale Labeling	-0.07			
Wave 2 Scale Change: Yes	0.04			
Scale Direction * Wave 2 Scale Change	0.43			
R ²	0.02	0.08	0.00	0.00
Num. obs.	2742	2742	2742	2742
***p < 0.001; **p < 0.01; *p < 0.05				