IS IT SO EASY TO SPOT A LIAR?

By: Ekaterina Fominova (Lyceum 1535)
Supervisor: E.V. Oskina (English teacher)
'Lying is a deliberate choice to mislead a target without giving any notification of the intent to do so.'

Paul Ekman
TWO MAIN TYPES OF LIE (BY P. EKMAN)

concealment
In concealing, the liar withholds some information without actually saying anything untrue.

falsification
In falsifying, an additional step is taken. Not only does the liar withhold true information, but he presents false information as if it were true.
THE WAYS TO DETECT DECEIT

VERBAL

- Method of a leading question
- The voice
- Exaggerated details
- Impulsive emotional responses
- The usage of words

NONVERBAL

- The time spending on answer
- Eye contact
- Eye movements
- Nose touching and mouth covering
- Micro-expressions
- Differences in the Way a Person Acts
HYPOTHESIS:

It is impossible to understand if the person is lying using only one mode of detecting lies. However, this knowledge can be of help in detecting deceit.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To check if it is possible to understand whether the person is telling lies, using the techniques mentioned in the theoretical part of the study.

2. To find out new signs of lying if there are any.
PARTICIPANTS AND MATERIALS

- 15 teenagers (15-17 years old) irrelevant of gender
  - A video-camera to film the interviews
  - A room with comfortable and calm atmosphere to conduct the experiment in
  - A list of fourteen questions to ask the participants and a written copy with the same questions for participants to mark the questions answering which they have lied
1. What is your name?
2. How old are you?
3. Have you ever felt antipathy to another person? Tell what situation made you feel it.
4. Tell about your progress in school.
5. What is your favorite food? Where and how did you sample it first time?
6. How often do you escape from responsibility?
7. Do you always do your homework, even in spite of laziness?
8. If you won a fortune, how would you spend it?
9. Tell about your pet or animal you would like to have?
10. Have you ever been on diet?
11. Have you ever been envious?
12. If there are any things you would not ever try? What kind of things?
EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

Lie

Truth
RESULTS

DETECTING SOME SIGNS OF LYING

- Method of a leading question: 17%
- The voice: 12%
- Exaggerated details: 3%
- Impulsive emotional responses: 9%
- The usage of words: 15%
- The time spending on answer: 11%
- Eye contact: 5%
- Eye movements: 4%
- Nose touching and mouth covering: 3%
- Micro-expressions: 13%
- Differences in the Way a Person Acts: 8%
CONCLUSIONS

1. Our hypothesis has been confirmed: it is impossible to rely on one and the same signs of lie for all the speakers.
2. The process of recognizing lies requires not only theoretical knowledge of certain deceive-detecting techniques, but also personal experience.
3. Some of the tested techniques have proved to be not so effective.
4. However, we have identified the most conducive methods:
   - differences in the way the speaker acts;
   - eye contact;
   - micro-expressions;
   - time spent on answer..
5. During the experiment, rising brows were established as a sign of deceit.
REFERENCES


THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!