

Lying Checklist

Questions about the lie	HARDER for the lie catcher	EASIER for the lie catcher
1. Can the liar anticipate exactly when they need to lie?	YES: line prepared and rehearsed	No: line not prepared
2. Does the lie involve concealment only, without any need to falsify?	YES	NO
3. Does the lie involve emotions felt at that moment?	NO	YES: especially difficult if... a. Negative emotions such as anger, fear or distress must be concealed or falsified. b. Liar must appear emotionless and cannot use another emotion to mask felt emotions that have to be concealed.
4. Would there be amnesty if liar confesses to lying?	NO: enhances liar's motive to succeed	YES: chance to induce confession
5. Are the stakes in terms of either rewards or punishments very high?	Difficult to predict: while high stakes may increase detection apprehension, it should also motivate the liar to try hard.	
6. Are there severe punishments for being caught lying?	NO: low detection apprehension; but may produce carelessness	YES: enhances detection apprehension, but may also fear being disbelieved, producing false positive errors.
7. Are there severe punishments for the very act of having lied, apart from the losses incurred from the	NO	YES: enhances detection apprehension; person may be dissuaded from embarking on lie if they know that

deceit failing?		punishment for attempting to lie will be worse than the loss incurred by not lying.
8. Does the target suffer no loss, or even benefit from the lie? Is the lie altruistic - not benefiting the liar?	YES: less deception guilt if liar believes this to be so	NO: increases deception guilt
9. Is it a situation in which the target is likely to trust the liar, not suspecting that they may be misled?	YES	NO
10. Has the liar successfully deceived the target before?	YES: decreases detection apprehension; and if target would be ashamed or otherwise suffer by having to acknowledge having been fooled, they may become a willing victim.	NO
11. Do liar and target share values?	NO: decreases deception guilt	YES: increases deception guilt
12. Is the lie authorized?	YES: decreases deception guilt	NO: increases deception guilt
13. Is the target anonymous?	YES: decreases deception guilt	NO
14. Are target and liar personally acquainted?	NO	YES: lie catcher will be more able to avoid errors due to individual differences
15. Must lie catcher conceal their suspicions from the liar?	YES: lie catcher may become preoccupied with their own need to conceal and fail to be as alert to liar's behavior	NO
16. Does lie catcher have information that only a guilty not an innocent person would also have?	NO	YES: can try to use the guilty knowledge test if the suspect can be interrogated
17. Is there an audience who knows or suspects that the target is being deceived?	NO	YES: may enhance duping delight, detection apprehension, or deception guilt
18. Do liar and lie catcher	NO: more errors in judging	YES: better able to interpret

come from similar language, national, and/or cultural backgrounds?	clues to deceit	clues to deceit
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Questions about the liar	HARDER for the lie catcher	EASIER for the lie catcher
19. Is the liar practiced in lying?	YES: especially if practiced in this type of lie	NO
20. Is the liar inventive and clever in fabricating?	YES	NO
21. Does the liar have a good memory?	YES	NO
22. Is the liar a smooth talker, with a convincing manner?	YES	NO
23. Does the liar use the reliable facial muscle as conversational emphasizees?	YES: better able to conceal or falsify facial expressions	NO
24. Is the liar skilled as an actor, able to use the stanislavski method?	YES	NO
25. Is the liar likely to convince themselves of their lie - believing what they say is true?	YES	NO
26. Are they a "natural liar" or psychopath?	YES	NO
27. Does the liar's personality make them vulnerable either to fear, guilt, or duping delight?	NO	YES
28. Is the liar ashamed of what they are concealing?	Difficult to predict: while shame works to prevent confession, leakage of that shame may betray the lie	
29. Might suspected liar feel fear, guilt, shame, or duping delight even if suspect is innocent and not lying, or lying about something else?	YES: can't interpret emotion clues	NO: signs of these emotions are clues to deceit

Questions about the lie catcher	HARDER for lie catcher	EASIER for lie catcher
30. Does the lie catcher have a reputation of being tough to mislead?	NO: especially if liar has in the past been successful in fooling the lie catcher	YES: increases detection apprehension; may also increase duping delight
31. Does the lie catcher have a reputation of being distrustful?	Difficult to predict: such a reputation might decrease deception guilt, it may also increase detection apprehension	
32. Does the lie catcher have a reputation of being fair-minded?	NO: liar less likely to feel guilty about deceiving the lie catcher	YES: increases deception guilt
33. Is the lie catcher a denier, who avoids problems, and tends to always think the best of people?	YES: probably will overlook clues to deceit, vulnerable to false negative errors	NO
34. Is lie catcher unusually able to accurately interpret expressive behaviors?	NO	YES
35. Does the lie catcher have preconceptions which bias them against the liar?	NO	YES: although lie catcher will be alert to clues to deceit, they will be liable to false positive errors
36. Does the lie catcher obtain any benefits from not detecting the lie?	YES: lie catcher will ignore, deliberately or unwittingly, clues to deceit	NO
37. Is the lie catcher unable to tolerate uncertainty about whether they are being deceived?	Difficult to predict: may cause either false positive or false negative errors	
38. Is the lie catcher seized by an emotional wildfire?	NO	YES: liars will be caught, but innocents will be judged to be lying (false positive error)