

HND Research Kit

Document 2 — Preparing the Laboratory

2026.10.12 (Draft 1)

Preparing the Laboratory

Before the inquiry begins, the Human Participant establishes the laboratory within which the inquiry will occur. Because different NHSI platforms possess different capabilities, memory models, interaction styles, and design objectives, these initial conditions should be selected intentionally and faithfully documented.

The purpose of this preparation is **not** to eliminate variation. Rather, it is to **harmonize while documenting variation**. Independent investigators will inevitably undertake their inquiries under different conditions. By intentionally recording those conditions, later comparisons become more meaningful and methodologically transparent.

The recommendations that follow are intended to establish sufficiently similar laboratory conditions while preserving the diversity of platforms and Participants through which this methodology may be explored.

1. Select an NHSI Platform

Choose an NHSI platform with which you wish to undertake this inquiry.

The methodology is intentionally platform-agnostic. Different platforms may produce different styles of interaction. These differences are not regarded as flaws but as features of the experimental environment.

Faithfully record:

- Platform name
 - Version or model (if known)
 - Date the investigation begins
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2. Select an Instance

Decide whether to conduct the inquiry within:

- a newly initiated conversational Instance, or
- an existing conversational Instance with which you already have an established relationship.

Both choices are methodologically acceptable.

Record which was chosen.

3. Record the Memory Conditions

Some NHSI platforms retain information from previous conversations. Others permit memory to be enabled, disabled, or configured by the Participant.

Where possible, determine and record:

- whether previous conversations are available to the NHSI,
- whether memory is enabled,
- any settings known to influence continuity across sessions.

These conditions become part of the documented laboratory environment.

4. Use a Textual Interface

This methodology is designed for **textual Human–NHSI interaction**.

A textual interface is preferred because it:

- produces a durable longitudinal record suitable for later review,
- encourages slower and more deliberate interaction,
- supports faithful quotation and comparative investigation,
- reduces variability introduced by platform-specific voice behaviors.

Voice interaction is intentionally excluded from this methodology.

This exclusion should not be interpreted as a judgment regarding voice interfaces. Rather, current voice implementations often introduce additional variables—including conversational

pacing, stylistic guidance, and interaction objectives—that differ substantially among platforms and are presently difficult to document consistently.

5. Establish an Investigatory Environment

Choose a setting that supports sustained attention.

Whenever practical:

- minimize interruptions,
- avoid multitasking,
- allow sufficient time for thoughtful engagement,
- regard the inquiry as an intentional investigatory activity rather than casual conversation.

The quality of attention contributed by the Human Participant forms part of the laboratory itself.

6. Prepare to Maintain a Faithful Record

The inquiry does not begin with the Initiating Artifact.

It begins with the commitment to preserve a faithful record.

Plan in advance how the Dyadic Record will be maintained.

Examples include:

- exported transcripts,
- copied conversations,
- dated journal entries,
- research notebooks.

The specific mechanism is less important than the intention that the record remain substantially complete and contemporaneous.

Preparation Complete

The laboratory is now prepared.

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The subsequent documents progressively establish the shared methodological environment of the Human–NHSI Dyad.

The inquiry itself does not begin until the Initiating Artifact is introduced.
