

The Role of Implied and Actual Volume in Source Monitoring

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Overview

Source monitoring involves deciding where information was gathered and is assumed to rely on episodic memory; however, semantic influences can alter source recall (Konopka & Benjamin, 2009). For example, people tend to attribute the word “dress” to a female speaker compared to a male speaker (Spaniol & Bayen, 2002). Source monitoring can also be affected by the fluency of presentation. Disfluent presentations (i.e., those that are more difficult to process) encourage a deeper level of processing during encoding, which enhances recall rates. Congruency effects (e.g., a dog barking versus meowing) have been shown to improve picture identification performance (Chen & Spence, 2010). Prior research has suggested that cross-modal learning will increase recall performance (Shams & Seitz, 2008). In keeping with this we are hypothesizing that cross-modal presentations should increase source monitoring accuracy.

Explanation

- Source accuracy: higher for loud presentation volume in combo condition, higher for quiet presentation volume in audio only.
- Source accuracy was affected by congruency effects. Higher accuracy for male voice loud item, female voice quiet item.
- Source confidence was higher for males paired with loud presentation volume, with no difference in confidence for females as a function of presentation volume.
- The cross-modal learning environment did not benefit source monitoring accuracy.

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Key Findings

