

Reducing retrieval time modulates the production effect

Megan Kelly

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

Xinyi Lu

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

Colin MacLeod

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

Evan Risko

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

Abstract

Memory is reliably enhanced for information read aloud compared with information read silentlythe production effect. Three preregistered experiments examined whether the production effect arises from a time-consuming recollective process operating at test that benefits items that were produced at study. To accomplish this, participants were required to respond within a short deadline under the assumption that a time-consuming recollective process would be less able to operate when less time is available. If so, the production effect under speeded responding instructions should be reduced relative to a standard nonspeeded condition. Results generally supported this prediction. However, even under speeded responding instructions, there was a robust production effect, potentially suggesting that other, more rapid, processes also contribute to the production effect.