

UC Merced

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society

Title

Do Rhymes Enhance Memory Processes? Real word and pseudoword recall in rhyming conditions

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/5b93g1fh>

Journal

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, 46(0)

Authors

Finta, Klàra E.

Fitch, Tecumseh

Publication Date

2024

Copyright Information

This work is made available under the terms of a Creative Commons Attribution License, available at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

Peer reviewed

Do Rhymes Enhance Memory Processes? Real word and pseudoword recall in rhyming conditions

Klára Finta

University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

Tecumseh Fitch

University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

Abstract

Rhyme is regarded as a powerful mnemonic device that facilitates cognitive processing. Previous studies mainly examined rhyme-perception development in the case of children (e.g., Király et al., 2017); thus, instead, the present research focuses on information-recall processes in the adult population. In cultural transmission processes, rhyme and memory are closely connected (cf. Kirby et al., 2008); therefore, there is a need for research investigating whether and how the adult population's recall ability is enhanced by rhymes to gain a better understanding of the rhyme–memory relationship. The present study examines whether rhyming words are more likely to be recalled than their non-rhyming counterparts. Results suggest that rhymes affect short- and long-term consolidation of real words and pseudowords in the case of adult participants ($N = 38$). By gaining insight into recall processes related to rhyming, it may be possible to understand information retrieval procedures in the context of cognitive poetics.