Forgetting induced by recognition of visual images
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Question
Is memory for simultaneously learned visual stimuli subject to a memory impairment similar to retrieval-induced forgetting (Anderson, Bjork, & Bjork, 1994)?

Hypothesis
Representations in visual long-term memory are sufficiently veridical to be immune to a recognition-based impairment, unlike retrieval-induced forgetting of verbal materials.

General Method

Study Phase

Recognition Practice Phase

Test Phase

Predictions
• If the hypothesis is correct that visual long-term memory is immune to recognition-induced forgetting, we will find no significant difference between practiced objects (Rp+), non-practiced objects from practiced categories (Rp-), and objects from non-practiced categories (Nrp).
• If the hypothesis is correct that objects in visual long-term memory are subject to a memory impairment similar to retrieval-induced forgetting, we will find best memory for practiced objects (Rp+) and worst memory for non-practiced objects from practiced categories (Rp-).

Conclusions
• Visual recognition-induced forgetting does exist for detailed, real-world visual information stored in long-term memory.
• The impaired memory for Rp- objects is specific to objects shown in the experiment, not all semantically related objects.

References