Today

Review of Wednesday
   Memory of a Significant Event
   Prospective Memory

Reading for Monday
   Chapter 4 in Schacter

Lecture Today
   Modern Models of Memory
      Nodes and Links
      Elaboration
      How Retrieval Uses Multiple Paths

The Sin of Blocking
Modern Models of Memory

Nodes and Links

Examples

Semantic Memory

“The Doctor Hated the Lawyer”

You are in a Psych. Lab and are asked to memorize…

1. The Doctor Hated the Lawyer

2. Subject studied this sentence in the psychology laboratory one dreary morning.

3. The lawyer had sued the doctor for malpractice.

4. The malpractice suit was the source of the doctor’s hatred.

5. This sentence in unpleasant.

In Long Term Memory


Elaboration is the construction of the multiple links!!
Many Different Kinds of Memory Elements

Visual Appearance
Conceptual Knowledge
Facts
Context
Object Identity Node
Personal Identity Node
Lexical Information
Phonological
More...

Key to understanding the sins of blocking, misattribution, suggestibility, and bias.

Any memory is a complex network of different kinds of nodes.
The Problems with Proper Names..

Figure from Schacter

The baker/Baker paradox

Many fact and conceptual links between the appearance of a baker and the lexical entry for baker.

The fact, context, and conceptual links for John Baker all converge on his personal identity note. ONE link to his name. This link is very vulnerable to disuse.

Also, we have alternatives lexical entries for most objects.
Tip of the Tongue

Examples

An absolute rule, a tyrant.

A stone cavity lined with crystals.

A great circle of the earth passing through the geographical poles and any give point on the earth surface.

A person appointed to act as a substitute for another.

Five offspring at a single birth.

The red coloring mater of the red blood corpuscles.

Flying reptiles that were extinct at the end of the Mesozoic era.

Despot

Geode

Meridian

Surrogate

Quintuples

Hemoglobin

Pterodactyl
What Is Going On Here?

Cue is a collection of words that activate fact and concept nodes.

What is the relation between the correct answer and the activated nodes?

None or a few weak links.
Weak links and/strong links to related concepts
Strong links to correct answer.

First letter
Number of syllables
Related meanings

Competing nodes (similar meaning or sound)

“the ugly sister hypothesis”

Weak links between lexical and phonological

TOTs are very often rare words.
Role of ‘ugly sisters” in lengthening TOT episodes
Other Examples of Blocking

Repression (Freud)

Amnesia for traumatic experiences

Without brain injury in adulthood

For childhood experiences (abuse of all kinds)

Very, very controversial

Interference theories of forgetting

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>List 1</th>
<th>List 2</th>
<th>Test</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A-C</td>
<td>A-B</td>
<td>A-C?</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-C</td>
<td>A-B</td>
<td>A-B?</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-C</td>
<td>A-B</td>
<td>both tests</td>
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Retrieval- induced inhibition

red/blood   food/radish

test red/blood and show interference with call of food/radish