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Retrieval Induced Forgetting and Online Advertising

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Introduction

• Advertising content prevalent in online activities

• Possibility to immediately purchase



• Cognitive manipulations may have bigger impact

- Remembering some things causes other things to be harder to remember
- Stimuli split into categories (e.g. restaurants)
- Practice half the category causes worse memory for other half
- Does not reduce access to unrelated categories

Encoding Phase





Practice phase







Aims

- Investigate effect of RIF on memory of brands
- Investigate RIF effects for implicit and explicit memory
- Investigate the effect of RIF on video adverts

Brand Norming

- Use known brands
- People asked to name brands in category
- Remove most frequently generated and least to get stimuli

Experiments 1-3

- 1. Explicit memory for brand images with caption Significant RIF effect
- 2. Explicit memory for brand image alone Significant RIF effect
- 3. Implicit memory for brand images with caption Significant RIF effect



Experiment 4

- Video advertisements
- Increased ecological validity



WeTube Conditions

Stimuli set	Experiment		
	Explicit	Implicit	Total
А	19	11	30
В	10	18	28
Total	29	29	58

Procedure

Encoding phase: Participants viewed videos and adverts on WeTube Practice phase: Recognition retrieval practice Distractor task Retrieval phase: Category-Cued Recall

WeTube Results

Mean Scores by Set- Explicit





Implications

- Brands are subject to RIF effects
 - Even when an explicit effort is made to memorise the brands
- RIF manipulations occur for ecologically valid online content
- Indicates risk of consumers being manipulated into remembering or forgetting certain brands
- For companies not advertising when competitors do could lead to negative effects from RIF



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