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Analyzing a journal article

Please read one of the uploaded journal articles and answer the following questions. Make sure to paraphrase to avoid plagiarism (except in 1a).

Your name: _____

Date: June 10, 2020

Journal article APA citation: Allen, T. A., Morris, A. M., Stark, S. M., Fortin, N. J., & Stark, C. E. (2015). Memory for sequences of events impaired in typical aging. *Learning & memory (Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y.)*, 22(3), 138–148. <https://doi.org/10.1101/lm.036301.114>

1. What is the purpose/hypothesis/aim/objective of the study?

The purpose statement for this article is, "This task was designed to test the ability of animals and humans to learn and remember sequences of nonspatial and nonverbal items and illuminate the underlying cognitive processes and mnemonic representations using different types of probe trials," pg. 139. The purpose of this study aims to understand why memories become impaired as people grow older (Allen et al., 2015). The authors were trying to fill the gap of episodic memory that occurs due to personal experiences.

2. What is/are the major finding(s) of the study?

The study proves that cross-species sequence task is normally a critical measure concerned with age-associated memory disorders, as well as may additionally prove helpful as fully effective early detection test for various cognitive dysfunctions as far as Alzheimer's disease is concerned. According to the conclusion from this journal, it proves to show that the use of cross-species sequence on older people aged from 65 years and above who are at risk of developing Alzheimer's disease will prevent them from contracting the disease early.

3. How did the authors test their hypothesis?

The authors used nonspatial and nonverbal methods to test their hypothesis on the younger generation, aged 18 to 22 years and older people aged from 62 to 86 years. These methods separate the different cognitive processes that relate to aging. They used these methods to compare the performance of sequence memory on younger and older people. There were problems with the methodology they used, and one of them was the lack of identifying impairments due to the age factor, particularly to the older generation. The only problem I noted was based on the age factor. When it comes to learning new things due to poor memory, the older generation tends to forget things quickly. The authors used the cross-

species sequence they had developed earlier to analyze their data. Specifically, they used two phases, namely, no memory phase and memory phase, by using sequential images projected on screens.

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4. **Based on your analysis, are the claims made in this journal article accurate?**

The conclusions make sense to me based on the results they presented. Although the conclusion is narrow, it is straightforward, and it has stated the importance of the research. Based on the methodology used to conduct the study, the findings are believable because of the sequence of events used on memories.

5. **What is the importance of this scientific work?**

This study's contribution is to help understand how diseases like Alzheimer's occur in older generations and how they can be prevented. It is strong scientific research because it proves useful in predicting cognitive issues.

6. **What is the take home message of this article?**

The study shows that memories can last forever, depending on the human mind's capacity or illness.

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