The current study combines components of reviewed research. This study examines the shift in accessibility. Gunawan and Gerkens (in press) demonstrated recovery of neutral categorized word lists for previously blocked items. (2005) in a directed forgetting procedure. Results suggested that hypermnesia did occur would also result in recovery of blocked items. Repeated tests were used by Goernert critical items. However, it was unclear if repeated tests, in the absence of strong cues, inhibited memory for emotional material.

It was predicted that there would be higher recall rates for pictures that elicit emotionality have a greater hypermnesia effect compared to neutral pictures. Emotional pictures are effectively blocked using the retrieval bias manipulation developed by Smith et al. (2003). Therefore greater recall of filler pictures. This demonstrates the blocking effect. The experimental group has an advantage of repeated exposure and more filler pictures than the control group, regardless of emotionality. Emotional pictures are more likely to be blocked than neutral pictures. The effect of hypermnesia supports Erdelyi (2006) recovery of blocked memories through repeated testing. Although critical pictures were recalled less than filler pictures. This effect of hypermnesia supports Erdelyi (2006) recovery of blocked memories through repeated testing. The results support the claim that the retrieval bias manipulation is effective at blocking recall even for material otherwise easily recalled. The experimental group recalled fewer critical pictures than control group [t(35) = 3.81, p < .001].

The experimental group recalled more filler pictures than the control group [t(35) = 3.11, p = .003]. Results are consistent with Gunawan and Gerkens (2011) who found the same result using the retrieval bias paradigm. The memory of blocked/nonemotional stimuli was better preserved than memory for emotional stimuli.

Emotional pictures will have a greater hypermnesia effect compared to neutral pictures. Although critical pictures were recalled less than filler pictures. Emotional pictures are more likely to be blocked than neutral pictures. The effect of hypermnesia supports Erdelyi (2006) recovery of blocked memories through repeated testing. Although critical pictures were recalled less than filler pictures. This effect of hypermnesia supports Erdelyi (2006) recovery of blocked memories through repeated testing. The results support the claim that the retrieval bias manipulation is effective at blocking recall even for material otherwise easily recalled. Despite the typical advantage in recall of emotional over neutral pictures in all other conditions, emotional critical pictures have a smaller low level of recall as control critical pictures. Results are consistent with Gunawan and Gerkens (2011) who found the same result using the retrieval bias paradigm. The memory of blocked/nonemotional stimuli was better preserved than memory for emotional stimuli.

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Results support our first hypothesis that pictures that elicit emotionality were recalled at a higher rate than neutral pictures. Main effect of Emotionality (Emotional, Neutral), F (1, 28) = 20.051, MSE = 1.253, p = .001. Emotional pictures were recalled at a higher rate than neutral pictures [t(28) = 4.32, p = .001]. Support Payne, Band, and Carson (2006) study which found that emotion had a priming effect on retrieval. Emotional pictures were recalled at a higher rate than neutral pictures [t(28) = 4.32, p = .001].

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