

Manipulations for Wilkins & Kaiser, 2014, Studies 2 and 3

Below are the manipulations we used (as well as the follow-up questions) that tested participants' attention.

STUDY 2**Study 2 Manipulation**

Instructions: Please read the following article carefully. You will be asked to recall information from your memory about this article and to also answer questions about it.

Underdogs Snatch Another Surprise Victory

Published: October 21, 2009

WASHINGTON (AP) - Although the Jets are relative newcomers to the National Swimming League (NSL) competition – competing alongside longtime heavy weights of the tank – they have now surpassed all former forerunners leading up to the NSL competition.

In this season's tryouts, the Jets out-performed team Torpedo (last year's NSL champion team) in the number of gold and silver medals picked up. Surprisingly, the Jets have emerged from their underdog status and now claim prowess in the breaststroke, backstroke, *and* the butterfly. This is a rare feat, as most teams tend to excel in one stroke.

Recently media frenzy attests to the athletic superiority of the Jets over all other teams in the Northwest. They have been dubbed by *Sports Illustrated* "swimming's greatest success story," and have been described as "shaking up the swimming establishment." Swimming pundits anticipate that this winning streak will continue, leaving the door open for members of the Jets to outperform members of team Torpedo in qualifiers for the US national team, which is set to compete in the 2012 Olympics.

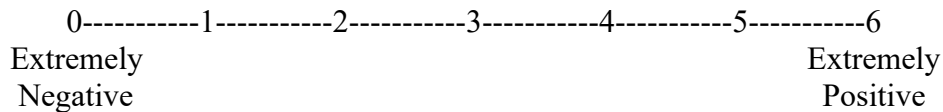
Kevin Smith, a renowned sports commentator, asks the provocative question, "Will the Jets be swim team USA?" So far, the answer seems to be, "most likely."

Article Measures

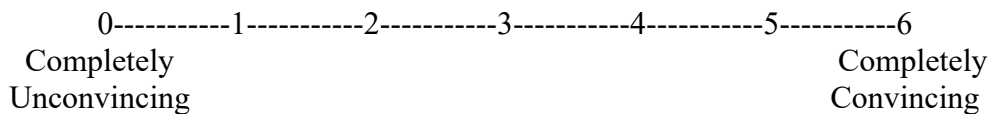
1. Please write a few sentences summarizing the article you just read.

Use the provided scales to answer the following questions. Circle your answer.

2. What was the tone of the article?



3. How compelling or convincing were the facts presented in the article?



Instructions: The following questions are designed to assess the clarity of the article you just read. They ask you about facts from the article. Please select the multiple-choice letter that best corresponds to the correct answer.

4. Which of the following statements is true of the Jets?

- They were last year's champions and have remained undefeated this year.
- They out-performed last year's NSL champions by receiving more gold and silver medals.
- They have always been crowd favorites.
- None of the above.

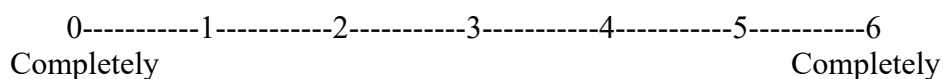
5. What is true about the Jets' team members?

- Many have prospects of making it onto the US national swim team.
- They dislike members of team Torpedo.
- They excel primarily in one type of stroke.
- None of the above.

6. Swim pundits believe there is a chance that team USA will be made up of the Jets team members.

- a) True.
b) False.

7. The Jets are obviously a talented team.



Disagree

Agree

Instructions: Please read the following article carefully. You will be asked to recall information from your memory about this article and to also answer questions about it.

The Rise of Minorities in America

Published: October 21, 2009

WASHINGTON (AP) - Although African Americans and other minorities have occupied a relatively low social position during much of this nation's history, racial minorities have made tremendous social progress. They have risen on all the standard markers of success: in terms of occupational status, income and power. During the last decade, in particular, African Americans and Latinos have gained access to some of the most coveted positions in the US. Condoleezza Rice, Colin Powell, Sonia Sotomayor and Barack Obama are notable examples of racial minorities who have occupied among the most powerful positions, not only in the US but also in the world.

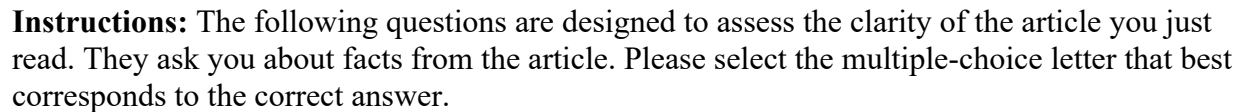
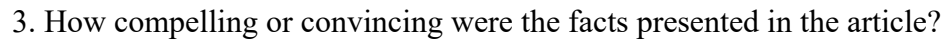
These individuals are not simply exceptions; the social position of average racial minorities has also improved. College enrollment of Blacks, and Latinos has increase by 50% in the last 20 years (while enrollment of Whites has slightly declined). The annual income of minorities who graduate from college has also increased by more than 10% in the last decade (while the incomes of Whites has remained steady).

All of this suggests that Whites no longer occupy a position of privilege relative to other racial groups. Social analysts suggest that if recent trends continue, by 2020, race will no longer be a marker of social status in the US.

Article Measures

1. Please write a few sentences summarizing the article you just read.

2. What was the tone of the article?



4. What is true of the incomes of racial minorities who graduate from college?
 - a) Their incomes have increased by more than 10% in the last 10 years.
 - b) Their incomes have fallen due to economic strains.
 - c) Their incomes are the same as Whites.
 - d) None of the above.
5. Which of the following statements are true of White college students?
 - a) White college enrollment has increased more rapidly than that of racial minorities.
 - b) White enrollment in colleges has remained steady over the last two decades.
 - c) White enrollment has declined slightly.
 - d) None of the above.
6. In the article, Barack Obama is described as an example of racial progress that is representative of all Blacks.
 - a) True.
 - b) False.

- 0-----1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6
Completely Disagree Completely Agree

STUDY 3**AFFIRMED CONDITION**

Instructions: Please examine the following list of values and pick the one that you consider most important to you:

- a. business/economics*
- b. art/music/theater*
- c. social life/relationships*
- d. science/pursuit of knowledge*
- e. politics/civic activities*
- f. religion/spirituality*
- g. power/fame*
- h. honesty/morality*
- i. being attractive*
- j. Humility*

Fill in the blank with the letter (a. – j.) associated with the value you listed as being most important to you: _____

Instructions: Please write a few sentences about a time when your behavior exemplified your *most* important value. Please include a specific description of how your behavior demonstrated this value and how it made you feel about yourself.

CONTROL CONDITION

Instructions: Please write, in detail, about what you ate during the day yesterday (from the time you woke up to the time you went to sleep).

→ NEW PAGE

Instructions: Now you will read a short news article. After reading the article you will be asked to complete questions that assess your beliefs about society.

Racial Progress:***The Rise of Minorities in America***

Published: October 21, 2009

WASHINGTON (AP) - Although African Americans and other minorities have occupied a relatively low social position during much of this nation's history, racial minorities have made tremendous social progress. They have risen on all the standard markers of success: in terms of occupational status, income and power. During the last decade, in particular, African Americans and Latinos have gained access to some of the most coveted positions in the US. President

Barack Obama, Condoleezza Rice, Colin Powell and Sonia Sotomayor are notable examples of minorities who have occupied among the most powerful positions, not only in the US, but also in the world.

(next page)

Memory Question:

Which of the following individuals was NOT mentioned in the article?

- a. Condoleezza Rice
- b. Colin Powell
- c. Oprah Winfrey
- d. Barack Obama