**Cognitive psychology panel discussion assignment. PSY 201 – Fall 2021.**

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Please watch the cognitive psychology panel posted on SUCourse and answer the following questions. Please upload your assignment to SUCourse by Oct 30th 23:59.

1. **Describe the similarities and differences of areas in which PSY 201 instructors do their cognitive and neuroscience research. What are their common and diverse subjects of study? Give examples of research questions in these areas (at least 3). Which area is more interesting for you and why? (130-150 words)**

As they mentioned during the panel, Nihan hoca and Eren hoca work closely using EEG machine to understand the relation between brain activity and human behavior. On the other hand, one of the areas that Rob hoca studies is skin conductance in which he measures the sweat level. In comparison, Çağla Hoca measures behaviors by directly asking them, observing gestures. So, they are all interested in human behavior and how people react to things, however the way they measure/learn it is different from each other, they use different technologies/methods. One thing that they all mention was these words: memory and attention. Nihan hoca’s current question was “What is more memorable? face, object or landscape?”(question 1), Çağla Hoca’s question was “Where memories are located and their relationship with gestures?”(question 2), one of the ares that Junko Hoca has mentioned was the relationship between memory ang language, Eren hoca’s question was “Why are not our memories continuous?”(question 3). The most interesting one for me is what Junko Hoca does because I am curious about whether the uncanny valley is going to happen or not.

1. **Think of a specific psychological phenomenon and how it can be studied by using different (at least 2) research methods described by PSY 201 instructors. Which method seems to be the most appropriate to study this phenomenon and why? (130-150 words)**

I searched popular psychological phenomena on the Internet, and one of them is Déjà vu which is one of the interesting things for me as well and I experience it frequently. As Eren and Nihan hoca explained, EEG may be one of the research methods because this phenomenon is directly related to neurons. Some scientists explain it as cryptomnesia, some as delay in brain lobes. Using EEG, a search can be done by observing neural activity whether there is a difference between a normal memory and déjà vu. On the other hand, one of the study areas that Çağla hoca work is remembering, memories. As another research method Çağla hoca’s could be useful to understand if the person experiencing déjà vu lived a similar moment before or how does s/he feel during it or is there reason why that specific moment in dejavu has been seen.

1. **The panelists talked about possible potential applications of cognitive psychology. Can you think of any other applications? Select any one panelist’s research area and describe how it can be used to improve human lives. (130-150 words)**

Nihan hoca mentioned that people with autism sample information differently compared to typically developed people and they may be able to identify this difference at neuron level. Also, Junko hoca’s interesting area was the people’s interaction with robots/tablet/phones. Maybe these two areas can be combined for autistic people to learn/understand the things faster. Firstly, the effective ways for them to learn can be found using maybe EEG or by observing in long run, then using these methods a mobile application can be created. For example, different teaching methods can be tested such as by playing games, watching, colors, shapes. And then interaction of autistic people with these tablets or apps should be observed. An app developed based on these two aspects could be successful in that sense. And after I thought about this, I found a few applications that provides such a helper education, one of them is a Turkey-based app Otsimo which offers games helpful in learning according to child’s age and level.