Computational Skills for Cognitive Science – Assignment2

In order to complete the truth-judgement stage of the experiment, participants verified the pictures they have seen during the 'Encoding Phase' against the sentences/utterances. The differences in the response times in the various conditions reflect differences in the degree to which the picture is primed by the representations that are available from processing the sentences. If the sentence is followed by a task that requires the identification of a depicted scene, then responses in this task should be fast when the picture matches the mental representation available from processing the sentence, and slow when it mismatches this mental representation. For negatives, it is the false case in which there is a match with respect to the order of the arguments. This explains why true negatives take longer to verify than false negatives. Negative sentences are converted into affirmative true ones before starting the comparison process. This explanation accounts for the pattern of results obtained in the experiment.

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