Abstract

By making use of the phonetic nature of Chinese characters, two experiments were carried out to examine three previous proposed theoretical accounts for LoP effect in implicit perceptual tests, namely, contamination of explicit retrieval, conceptual processing in retrieval test and incomplete processing during physical study condition. In Experiment 1, no LoP effect occurred in both implicit character stem completion and fragment completion test. By enlarging the difference between two study condition, Experiment 2 found an LoP effect in the implicit character stem completion test but only restricted to characters pronounce similar to their phonetic stems. Only the incomplete processing account was compatible with current result. To adequately account for the current findings, context-reinstatment seem to be the most important factor of LoP effect in implicit perceptual test.