Title
Processing various conceptual metaphors at the same time with a bad mood

Permalink
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/0050m0k2

Journal

ISSN
1069-7977

Authors
Spatola, Nicolas
Oullet, Marc
Santiago, Julio
et al.

Publication Date
2014

Peer reviewed
Processing various conceptual metaphors at the same time with a bad mood

Nicolas Spatola  
Clermont Université, Université Blaise Pascal, Laboratoire de Psychologie Sociale et Cognitive

Marc Ouellet  
Clermont Université, Université Blaise Pascal, Laboratoire de Psychologie Sociale et Cognitive

Julio Santiago  
Universidad de Granada, Dept. de Psicología Experimental y Fisiología del Comportamiento

Brice Beffara  
Université Grenoble Alpes, LPNC

Martial Mermillod  
Université Grenoble Alpes, LPNC

Abstract: The activation of conceptual metaphors has always been studied one mapping at a time. What happens when various conceptual metaphors are processed at the same time is still unknown. The experimental design used here enabled the activation of three conceptual metaphors at the same time (past-left/future-right, negative-left/positive-right and negative-past/positive-future). Participants had to make temporal or valence judgments with their left or right hand on negative or positive verbs conjugated to the past (e.g. “he cried”) or to the future (“she will smile”). Our results showed that the three conceptual metaphors were processed in parallel: the processing of one conceptual metaphor did not interfere with the processing of the other metaphors, even if they shared a conceptual domain. We also tested whether participant’s mood could bias the perception of the concepts used here. Depressive participants showed a past-oriented bias that changed towards the future after a therapy session.