

Author's Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0028-3932(17)30129-X
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.neuropsychologia.2017.04.008>
Reference: NSY6322

To appear in: *Neuropsychologia*

Received date: 27 February 2017
Revised date: 4 April 2017
Accepted date: 5 April 2017

Cite this article as: Pawel J. Matusz, Mark T. Wallace and Micah M. Murray, A multisensory perspective on object memory, *Neuropsychologia*, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.neuropsychologia.2017.04.008>

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A multisensory perspective on object memory

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Abstract

Traditional studies of memory and object recognition involved objects presented within a single sensory modality (i.e., purely visual or purely auditory objects). However, in naturalistic settings, objects are often evaluated and processed in a multisensory manner. This begets the question of how object representations that combine information from the different senses are created and utilised by memory functions. Here we review research that has demonstrated that a single multisensory exposure can influence memory for both visual and auditory objects. In an old/new object discrimination task, objects that were presented initially with a task-irrelevant stimulus in another sense were better remembered compared to stimuli presented alone, most notably when the two stimuli were semantically congruent. The brain discriminates between these two types of

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