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Mixed Metaphors: Electrophysiological brain responses to (un)expected concrete and abstract prepositional phrases

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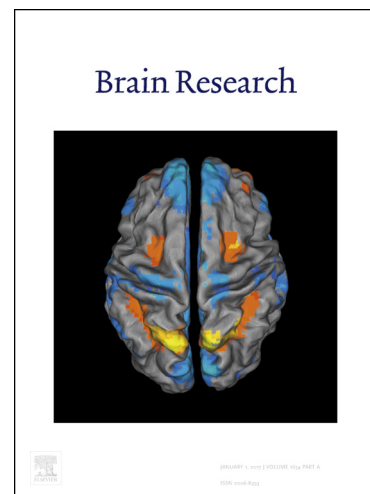
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Mixed Metaphors: Electrophysiological brain responses to (un)expected concrete and abstract prepositional phrases

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Abstract

Languages around the world use spatial terminology, like prepositions, to describe non-spatial, abstract concepts, including time (e.g., *in the moment*). The Metaphoric Mapping Theory explains this pattern by positing that a universal human cognitive process underlies it, whereby abstract concepts are conceptualized via the application of concrete, three-dimensional space onto abstract domains. The alternative view is that the use of spatial propositions in abstract phrases is idiomatic, and thus does not trigger metaphoric mapping. In the current study,

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