# Article information:

Studies of Interference in Serial Verbal Reactions  
<https://oce-ovid-com.libproxy.ucl.ac.uk/article/00004785-199203000-00005/HTML>

# Article summary:

1. Interference or inhibition has been studied extensively in experimental literature since the late 1800s.

2. Studies have shown that interference can occur between associations, habits, and stimuli, and can affect reaction times in tasks such as color naming and word reading.

3. The present study investigates the interfering effects of color stimuli on reading names of colors and the interfering effects of word stimuli on naming colors, finding that the interference factor caused a slight increase in variability but no significant difference in reaction times.

# Article rating:

Appears moderately imbalanced: The article provides some useful information, but is missing several important points or pieces of evidence that would be required to present the discussed topics in a balanced and reliable way. You are encouraged to seek a more balanced perspective on the presented issues by exploring the provided research topics and looking at different information sources.

# Article analysis:

The article titled "Studies of Interference in Serial Verbal Reactions" provides a historical overview of research on interference or inhibition in experimental literature. The article discusses various studies conducted by different researchers, including Münsterberg, Müller and Schumann, Shepard and Fogelsonger, Kline, Bergström, Brown, Bair, Culler, Hunter and Yarbrough, Pearce, and Hunter. The article also discusses several studies that were not primarily focused on interference but employed materials similar to those used in this research.

The article presents the results of three experiments conducted by the authors on the effect of interfering stimuli on reading color names and naming colors serially. The authors used pairs of conflicting stimuli presented simultaneously to maintain the potency of their interference effect. The first experiment examined the effect of interfering color stimuli on reading names of colors serially. The second experiment examined the effect of interfering word stimuli on naming colors serially. The third experiment examined the effect of practice in reacting to color stimuli in the presence of conflicting word stimuli on reaction times.

While the article provides a comprehensive overview of previous research on interference or inhibition, it has several limitations. Firstly, some studies discussed in the article are outdated and may not be relevant to current research. Secondly, some studies have small sample sizes or use materials that are not representative or generalizable to other populations or contexts. Thirdly, some studies do not provide clear explanations for their findings or lack rigorous methodology.

Moreover, while the authors present their own experiments' results in detail, they do not provide a thorough discussion or interpretation of their findings. They only report mean times for each test without discussing any potential biases or sources that may have influenced their results. Additionally, they do not explore any counterarguments or alternative explanations for their findings.

Furthermore, there is no mention of any potential risks associated with conducting these experiments or using these materials. For example, presenting conflicting stimuli simultaneously may cause confusion or cognitive overload for some participants, which could affect their performance and potentially harm them.

In conclusion, while the article provides a useful overview of previous research on interference or inhibition, it has several limitations and lacks a thorough discussion and interpretation of the authors' own findings. The article could benefit from more rigorous methodology, larger sample sizes, and a more comprehensive discussion of potential biases and sources that may have influenced the results.

# Topics for further research:

* Risks associated with presenting conflicting stimuli simultaneously in cognitive experiments
* Alternative explanations for interference or inhibition in serial verbal reactions
* Current research on interference or inhibition in cognitive psychology
* Methodological improvements in studying interference or inhibition
* Generalizability of previous research on interference or inhibition to different populations or contexts
* Cognitive overload and its effects on performance in cognitive experiments

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