

Chapter V

Summary and Recommendation

The purpose of this study was to examine the development of central and incidental memory of Thai children from a provincial town in North East of Thailand. The Subjects in this study were hundred students from 4 to 21 year old. They were divided into five groups by age level. There were an equal number males and femals in each age groups. The test materials were adapted from Hagen (1967), consisting of fourteen sets of seven cards, and containing familiar pictures of animal and object pairings. Each subject was requested to join in a game to test the central and incidental memory. The central memory was tested by asking the subeects to recall the location of the pictures on which they were asked to focus their attention. The incidental memory was tested by asking the subjects to recall the second pictures in the pair on which they were not asked to focus their attention.

Mean, standard deviation and proportion correct were calculated for the central memory scores. Similar calculation was done for incidental memory scores. Comparison were made for central memory performance between age levels, between sexes and between serial positions. Comparison were made for incidental memory

performance between age levels and between sexes. Lastly, central and incidental memory scores were correlated for all age groups.

The results were as follows:

1. Central memory was constant at ages 4 - 5 and 7 - 8 then increased with age, from ages 7 - 8 to 20 - 21.

2. There were significant differences both by age level and by serial positions, but there was an interaction between age and serial position on central task scores ($F = 3.66$, $p < .01$).

3. There were no sex differences in any age level on central task scores.

4. Incidental memory increased from ages 4 - 5 to ages 10 - 11, then declined at ages 14 - 15 and then increased again at ages 20 - 21. There was a curvilinear relation between incidental learning and chronological age.

5. There were statistically significant differences by age level on incidental task scores ($F = 3.49$, $p < .05$).

6. There were no sex differences in any age level in incidental task scores.

7: There was no correlation between central and incidental task scores.

Limitation of this study and recommendation.

1. The present study included only one provincial town in the North East, and all the subjects were from schools and university. Thus the results cannot be generalized to all provincial towns in the North East or to unschooled subjects. Future studies should include subjects from other provincial towns, and schooled as well as unschooled subjects to examine whether education effect on the development of central and incidental memory.

2. This study did not control for the intelligence level of the subjects. So future study should include subjects of various intelligence levels to compare the performance of subjects with higher and lower intelligence.

3. The subjects in this study were from 4 to 21 year of age. Future research should include older subjects to examine whether the curvilinear relation for incidental memory performance exists and what form it takes.

4. The present study included subjects from a provincial town. Future study should include urban subjects from big cities and from rural areas to compare the effect of urbanization on central and incidental memory performance.



ศูนย์วิจัยทรัพยากร
จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย