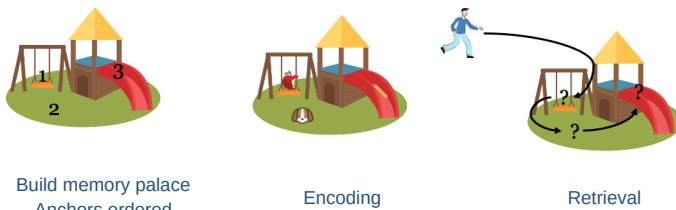


METHOD OF LOCI ON NAIVE SUBJECTS: PILOT STUDY

INTRODUCTION

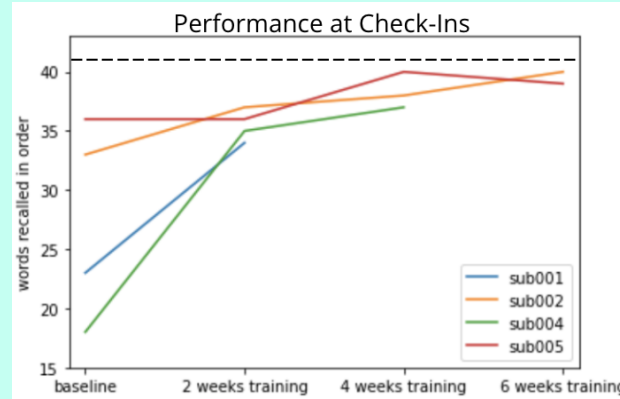
The method of loci is a memorization technique that allows people to memorize a list or series of random words or numbers quickly. The technique binds items, or things to be memorized, to loci, or anchors located in the memory palace. A pilot study was conducted consisting of 4 naive subjects who trained in this technique.



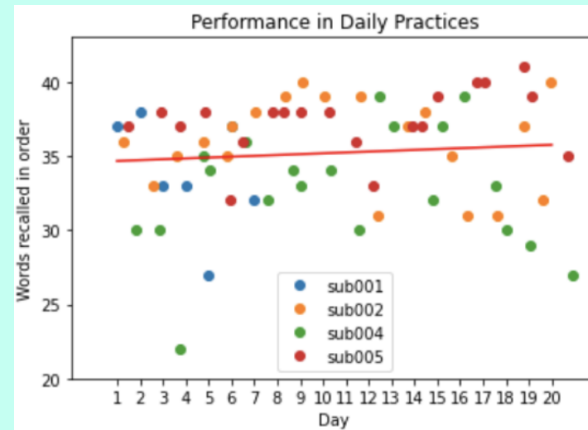
MATERIALS & METHODS

- Subjects were affiliates of the Department of Psychology who have never received any prior memory training
- Participants trained with USA Memory Championship coach over Zoom
- Experiments conducted virtually through Gorilla.sc platform
- Participants created personal Roman rooms with 40 personal loci
- Participant goal: memorize 40 concrete words
- Pilot study lasted for 6 weeks
- Participants engaged in daily practices with new word lists each day and also had check-ins every two weeks

RESULTS



- Performance during participant check-ins which occur every two weeks.



- Day 1 = Week 2 of training
- Subjects performed near ceiling
- Not much overall Improvement over time

Generalization Task Data	
Participant sub002	Accuracy: 18/20 (forgot parts of two case names)
Participant sub005	Accuracy: 12/20 (failed to use an ordered memory strategy)

GENERALIZATION TASK

A generalization task was included into the pilot study to see if the method of loci can be transferred to practical material. Participants were asked to memorize 20 landmark supreme court cases. The data revealed that the participants were able to successfully remember the material well using the method of loci, although further research is required to draw conclusions.

Year: 1803

Case: Marbury v. Madison

Description: John Adams issued William Marbury a commission as Justice of the Peace, but the new Secretary of State, James Madison refused this. Marbury sued to obtain his commission. The decision of Marbury v. Madison by Chief Justice John Marshall established the principle of judicial review to keep branches of the federal government in "checks and balances."

Holding: Established the principle of judicial review

Click here if you are ready to move on to the next case. [Next](#)

CONCLUSION

The data from this pilot study showed that performance improved with training. Participants were able to formulate loci and use them throughout various tasks. Future downstream steps would be investigating the method of loci through fMRI imaging analysis of other naive subjects who will undergo similar training protocols.

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