

## Cover Page

- a. Running head: TITLE OF YOUR PAPER
- b. On each subsequent page, header should be TITLE OF YOUR PAPER
- c. Page numbers on top right corner of each page
- d. Title of your paper centered midway down the page
- e. Underneath title, your full name
- f. Underneath Name, Institution

## Abstract

- a. One paragraph (maximum  $\frac{3}{4}$  page)
  1. 1-2 sentences per section of the paper (why the Stroop effect matters in the real world, what previous research has to say, why is posture relevant or important (must bring up the previous study whose findings you're trying to replicate); statement and justification of your hypothesis, brief description of method, results, some discussion topics)

## Introduction

- a. Broad description – Paragraph 1
  1. Discuss the Stroop effect using practical examples—not that doing a Stroop task is an everyday thing, but rather the phenomenon of “selective attention”; what are the real-world problems to which task-switching is relevant?
  2. Tell the reader that the purpose of the current experiment is to measure the Stroop effect along with a posture manipulation using a laboratory procedure
- b. Defining the key terms/concepts – Paragraph 2
  1. Define and discuss the Stroop effect in general (refer to research that has been done by others)
  2. Define important terms, aka what is meant by an incongruent or congruent stimulus/word? What is selective attention, why is it important?
- c. Introducing your experiment – Paragraph 3
  1. Briefly explain what the participants will be doing in this task (In this experiment, we will attempt to measure.... by...) Include posture here (sitting, standing)
  2. Briefly give predictions for performance in each condition (make your hypothesis CLEAR). Remember, there are two IVs here, so you want to make predictions about congruency AND posture.
  3. Provide the rationale for your hypothesis: why do we expect congruent RT to be < incongruent, and why should posture make a difference? Refer to the posture

paper given to you because we are trying to replicate their finding. Explain WHY they think posture makes a difference, and HOW do they propose it makes a difference?

## Methods

The methods section should be a complete recipe that anyone could follow to replicate your experiment. There are lots of details that you can include, some of these are listed below. Be brief and concise

- a. Participants: how many people? Where did they come from?
- b. Materials: size of computer monitor, program used to carry out experiment, what numbers were used, what tasks were used, what cues were people given as signal to perform each task
- c. Procedure: Describe the design of the experiment
  1. What was the independent variable (there are two—each with 2 levels)
  2. How was it determined who sat or stood; did everyone do both? If so, did everyone do it in the same order? Or half stood first while half sat first?
  3. What was the dependent variable
  4. Within or between subjects?
  5. How many trials
  6. How were the stimuli for each trial chosen
  7. Describe the complete trial sequence--first the fixation cross appeared (for how long), then the cue appeared, then the stimulus appeared (for how long)—all the details of the actual computer program that is used to administer the experiment
  8. Response times were recorded (in what units?)
  9. How was the next trial triggered?

## Results

The result section is used to report the patterns in the data, and the statistical support for those patterns. You will compute the results using JAMOV in the lab computers.

- a. Describe the statistical analysis (t-test? ANOVA?)
- b. Tell the reader where they can see the data (Figure # or Table #).
- c. You can provide basic descriptive statistics (Mean, SD) in the text of this paragraph. Which condition(s) yielded longer RTs?
- d. You will have to make a table or figure to display the data in your paper
- e. Describe the pattern of each main effect and interaction effect, followed by proper statistical report (e.g. The main effect of congruency (or posture) was significant/not significant:

$F_{IV1}(df1, df2) = xx.xx, p < .05$  or  $p = NS$

$F_{IV2}(df1, df2) = xx.xx, p < .05$  or  $p = NS$

$F_{IV1*IV2}(df1, df2) = xx.xx, p < .05$  or  $p = NS$

Remember you are testing 3 null hypotheses, one for each of the main effects (congruency, posture) and one for the interaction between the two.

When describing a finding, be specific. For example:

“There was a significant main effect of congruency,  $F(df1, df2) = xx.xx, p < .05$ . The congruent condition yielded a shorter response time ( $M = 300ms, SD = 82ms$ ) than the incongruent condition ( $M = 500ms, SD = 59ms$ ).” (you will have to write something like this for ALL 3 hypotheses that are being tested—the main effect of congruency, the main effect of posture, and the interaction between congruency and posture).

## Discussion

The discussion can be used to briefly restate verbally the pattern of the most important results, and then to relate the results to theory and ideas developed in the introduction.

- a. Highlight the main findings from the experiment
- b. Discuss how the data can be reconciled with existing findings (existing Stroop findings and the existing study about posture)
- c. Discuss general importance of Stroop research, suggestions for further research
- d. What were the shortcomings of your study? Were there problems with the stimuli, testing conditions, participant previous experience that could have affected the outcome? How would you address/fix this in the future?

## References

Include citations used in the paper. Be sure to have at least 3 references and present them in proper APA style format. a. One of these should be the paper(s) provided to you.

## Tables & Figures

- a. Create a figure or a table that shows the mean RTs for the four conditions (congruent-standing, incongruent-standing, congruent-sitting, incongruent-sitting). A bar chart would be best here but JAMOV often defaults to a line graph so that is ok too.
- b. Include Table/Fig #s, Titles, and make sure all axes are labeled