Working with APA in Social Sciences
(Psychology, Education, etc.)

General Guidelines

APA (American Psychological Association) style is commonly used to cite sources within social sciences. APA style is used because it is straightforward and spotlights ideas being presented. What sets this apart from other APA papers is that the manuscript structure (abstract, introduction, method, results, and discussion), word choice, punctuation, visuals, and references move the idea forward with minimal distraction. The font type of the draft should be 12 pt., Times New Roman font, double-spaced with 1 inch margins on all sides of the paper.

Cover Page

Running head: ATTACHMENT AND STROOP   1

Effects of Attachment Style on Information Processing

Valerie Viray

California State University, East Bay

In the **header**, the running head should be a shorted version of the paper's full title. In left-hand corner of the cover page, "Running head" as well as the title should be no more than 50 characters. Additionally, "Running head" should only appear on the cover page. The page number should be placed in the right hand corner.

The **title of your paper, your name,** and **the name of the institution** should be listed, centered, and double-space. The **title** should summarize the paper's main idea and identify the variables and the relationship between them.

Abstract

Title the page "**Abstract**." This should be centered.

The **abstract** is a brief summary of the paper. The abstract gives readers a quick overview of the main idea and key points of the paper. The abstract might also briefly suggest any implications or applications of the research discussed in the paper.

The abstract should not be indented and should be between 150-250 words. Make clear of any abbreviations or acronyms that will be used throughout the draft.

Abstract

The purpose of the study was to see whether attachment style had an effect on Stroop latency. The measures in this study were a modified Stroop task with four word lists (neutral, negative general, negative attachment, and positive attachment) and ECRI. We had a convenient sample of 56 adults. The participants in this study were close family and friends selected by experimenters. We expected for all groups to be similar across the neutral words while there would be differences between certain attachment groups on specific cards. We found no significant differences between attachment groups on specific cards. We found no significant attachment group differences in latency on any of the attachment cards on latency.

Working with APA in Social Sciences
(Psychology, Education, etc.)

Introduction

ATTACHMENT AND STROOP   3

Effects of Attachment Style on Information Processing

Attachment is biologically-based, behavioral system which promotes survival of a species (i.e. infants). According to Bowlby (1998), the system activates when a child demonstrates an attachment cue in response to their parent. This deactivates when their caregiver sensitively responds to those cues. For instance, a baby cries because he wants to be held since his parent is standing on the other side of the room (activation). The safe proximity or physical closeness leads to the deactivation of the system. Children form relationships with their parents to increase their odds of survival. Children try to maintain proximity by demonstrating certain behaviors. If a child has easy access to their parent during an emergency, this makes the child feel safe. A child's desire for caregiving or comfort is most apparent when they feel sick or scared.

Bretherton (1992) discussed Ainsworth's fourth infant styles: secure, anxious-avoidant, anxious-ambivalent, and disorganized (which

The title should be centered. The title should not be bolded, underlined, or italicized. The title will be the same as the title on the cover page

The goal of the **introduction** is to provide background information on the topic. This may include explaining theories and discussing previous studies related to the topic. You should define important key terms and clearly state your research questions as well as hypothesis.

It is important to cite any information that is taken from different sources within the body.

In-text Citations guide:
https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/

Methods

Title the section Method and center it. This should not be bolded or italicized.

The **methods** section consists of 3 parts:

The **participants** section describes who is conducting and who is participating in the experiment. This includes demographics such as age, nationality, and gender.

The **materials** section describes the materials being used in the experiment.

The **procedure** section describes what is going on in the experiment, from beginning to end.

*Tip: Be as descriptive as possible. The reader should be able to picture the materials used as well as what is going on in the experiment.

ATTACHMENT AND STROOP   5

Method

Participants

An Experimental Psychology class of 14 students at California State University, East Bay was assigned to find at least 4 subjects, specifically four friends or relatives to participate in the experiment. Our final sample consisted of 56 subjects...

Materials

The experiment included a protocol sheet, color chart, practice sheet, a modified Stroop task with four interchangeable Stroop lists (positive attachment, negative attachment, general negative, and neutral), a stopwatch, and a recording sheet. The purpose of the protocol...

Procedure

Subjects were tested individually. Subjects first filled out a consent form and were informed that the experiment would take around thirty minutes to complete...

Working with APA in Social Sciences

(Psychology, Education, etc.)

Results

ATTACHMENT AND STROOP   6

Results

Preliminary Analyses

Stroop tests and ECRI questionnaires were administered to 56 participants. Participants who took the Stroop tests did them without any problems. However, on the ECRI, there were a few questions that participants did not answer.

Before we tested, our hypothesis, we looked at the distribution of our continuous variables. By looking at histograms for each Stroop list, we saw that they were all normally distributed.

Primary Analysis

In order to examine whether attachment style and Stroop stimulus had an effect on latency, we conducted a 4x4 mixed ANOVA. The between subjects independent variable was attachment style (secure, dismissing, preoccupied, and fearful). The within subjects independent variable was Stroop list stimulus (neutral, negative general, negative

Title the section Results and center it. This should be bolded.

The **results** section may consist of several subsections. The results section should summarize the data collected during the experiment, remind readers of the variables used.

To the left is a sample results section consisting of a preliminary and primary analysis.

See your instructor about requirements.

Discussion

ATTACHMENT AND STROOP   8

Discussion

The purpose if this study was to see if there was a relationship between attachment style and Stroop latency. As mentioned earlier, we hypothesized that all groups would not differ on the neutral and negative general words than the dismissing, preoccupied attachment group would take significantly less time on positive attachment words than the secure and dismissing attachment group. The fearful attachment group would take significantly longer than the preoccupied, secure, and dismissing attachment group on negative attachment cards.

We found that attachment style did not affect Stroop latency. We were not able to see a relationship between attachment style and Stroop stimuli.

An implication of this study could be attachment style may not be related to Stroop latency. As mentioned in previous studies, there seemed to be no connection between specific groups (i.e. depressed subjects) and Stroop stimulus on latency. We still believe that

Title the page Discussion and center it.

Start the **discussion** section by reminding readers of the purpose and thesis or hypothesis of your paper.

Other parts that may be included in the discussion: your findings compared to previous studies, implications, strengths, limitations, and further research possibly needed.

Working with APA in Social Sciences

(Psychology, Education, etc.)

References

ATTACHMENT AND STROOP   10

References

Bartholomew, K. (1990). Avoidance of intimacy: An attachment
        perspective. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships, 7,* 147-
        178.

Bowlby, J. (1988). *A secure base: Parent-child attachment and healthy
        human development.* New York: Basic Book Inc., Publishers.

Brennan, K. A., Clark, C. L., & Shaver, P. R. (1998). Self-report
        measurement of adult attachment: An integrative overview. In J. A.
        Simpson & W. S. Rholes (Eds.), *Attachment theory and close
        relationships.* (pp. 46-76). New York: Guilford Press.

Bretherton, I. (1992). The origins of attachment theory: John Bowlby
        and Mary Ainsworth. *Developmental Psychology, 28(5), 759-775.*

Foa, E., & Feske, U. (1991). Processing of threat-related information in
        rape victims. *Journal Of Abnormal Psychology, 100(2), 156.*

Start the references on a new page and center and title the page "**References**." Do not underline or italicize the title.

The reference list should appear at the end of the paper. The reference list provides the information necessary for readers to locate and retrieve sources cited throughout the paper. Each source cited in the paper must appear in the reference list.

The references should start on a separate page. "References" should be centered at the top of the page (do NOT bold, underline, or use quotation marks for the title). All text should be double-spaced just like the rest of the paper

Reference entries guide:
https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/05/

Figures and Tables

If you have figures and/or tables, place those at the end of the paper, after the references section. Tables should be titled and captioned. See your instructor about these requirements.

For more information on figures and tables:
https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/670/05/

--

References - The following works were referred to during the creation of this handout: The Online Writing Lab (OWL) at Purdue University