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13 APRIL 2021

Can Metacognitive Sensations of Memory Lead to Recollective Confabulation?

Abstract:

Metacognitive sensations of memory occur when a person feels as if a relevant memory is present but cannot access it. One example is when a word feels as if it is on the tip of the tongue; another is when a situation feels highly familiar for an unidentifiable reason. Recent work in our lab suggests that these metacognitive sensations of memory—tip-of-the-tongue and feelings of familiarity—may drive illusory recollection, or overconfidence in recollective access.