



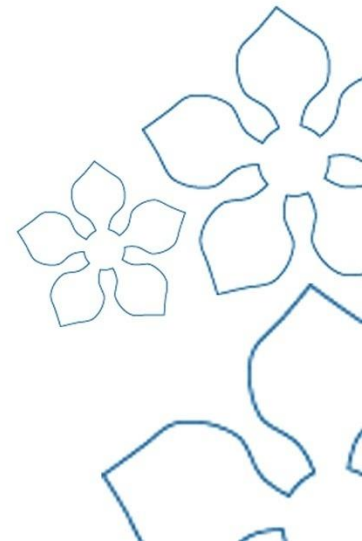
M5X00908: Brain, Behaviour, and Cognition (BBC)

Seminar: Assessment Information:
Writing a method essay

Dr Kate Williams



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Assessment 1

- 1 x 1,250 written word method essay.
- Counts towards 25% of overall module mark
- Question provided on assessment proforma on Moodle.
- **Submission Deadline: Tuesday 5th March 2019 by no later than 23:59 hrs.**



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Cognitive Method Essay

- Word count: 1,250 words ($\pm 10\%$).
- **Draft** TurnItIn submission portal on Moodle.
 - Use this to check the similarity rating of your work:
 - **Do not** just look at overall %,
 - Instead must look at breakdown of similarity.
 - Give yourself time to make any changes!!
- Make sure you then upload correct and final document to **Main** TurnItIn portal.



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Cognitive Method Essay

- Title:
 - Critically discuss the Methods used to explore the language deficits experienced by aphasic patients.
- This is a method essay:
 - Work should be based **solely** on discussing methods used to explore language deficits experienced by aphasic patients.
- It is **NOT** “write generally about language and aphasia”.
- **DO NOT** write about treatments of aphasia.



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Cognitive Method Essay

- You can refer to the type of language deficit investigated by a particular method.
 - But the argument **must focus** on the suitability of that method in assessing the language deficit in question.
 - Must evaluate strengths and limitations of methods discussed.
 - Must use supporting, relevant, and empirical evidence for your critique.
 - Students who do not engage with methods literature and do not critically discuss relevant methods will not do well on this essay.
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Cognitive Method Essay

- Section in Eysenck & Keane Cognitive Psychology book on “aphasia”.
 - Chapter 11: Pg. 470 (in the 2015 edition).
- Also, section in Pinel Biopsychology book.
 - Chapter 16: Cortical localisation of Language section
 - Pg. 429-435 in the hard paper copy.
 - Pg. 441-447 in the online library e-book
- These give a general overview of language deficits in aphasic patients, historical background, & current theories.
- So, this reading is to give you a base understanding of aphasia
 - You might find some ideas of methods used based on the research described in these chapters (e.g., CT, fMRI scanning, etc.).
 - But you need to do your own literature search for articles specifically discussing methods of assessment.

Cognitive Method Essay

- Aphasia: “A condition involving severe impairments in the comprehension and/or production of language caused by brain damage.”
- Aphasia = collective term, there are specific types
- Distinction between Broca and Wernicke’s aphasia.
 - These link to Broca and Wernicke’s areas in the brain
 - Broca’s area: Inferior frontal gyrus in the prefrontal cortex
 - Wernicke’s area: Superior temporal gyrus in the temporal lobe



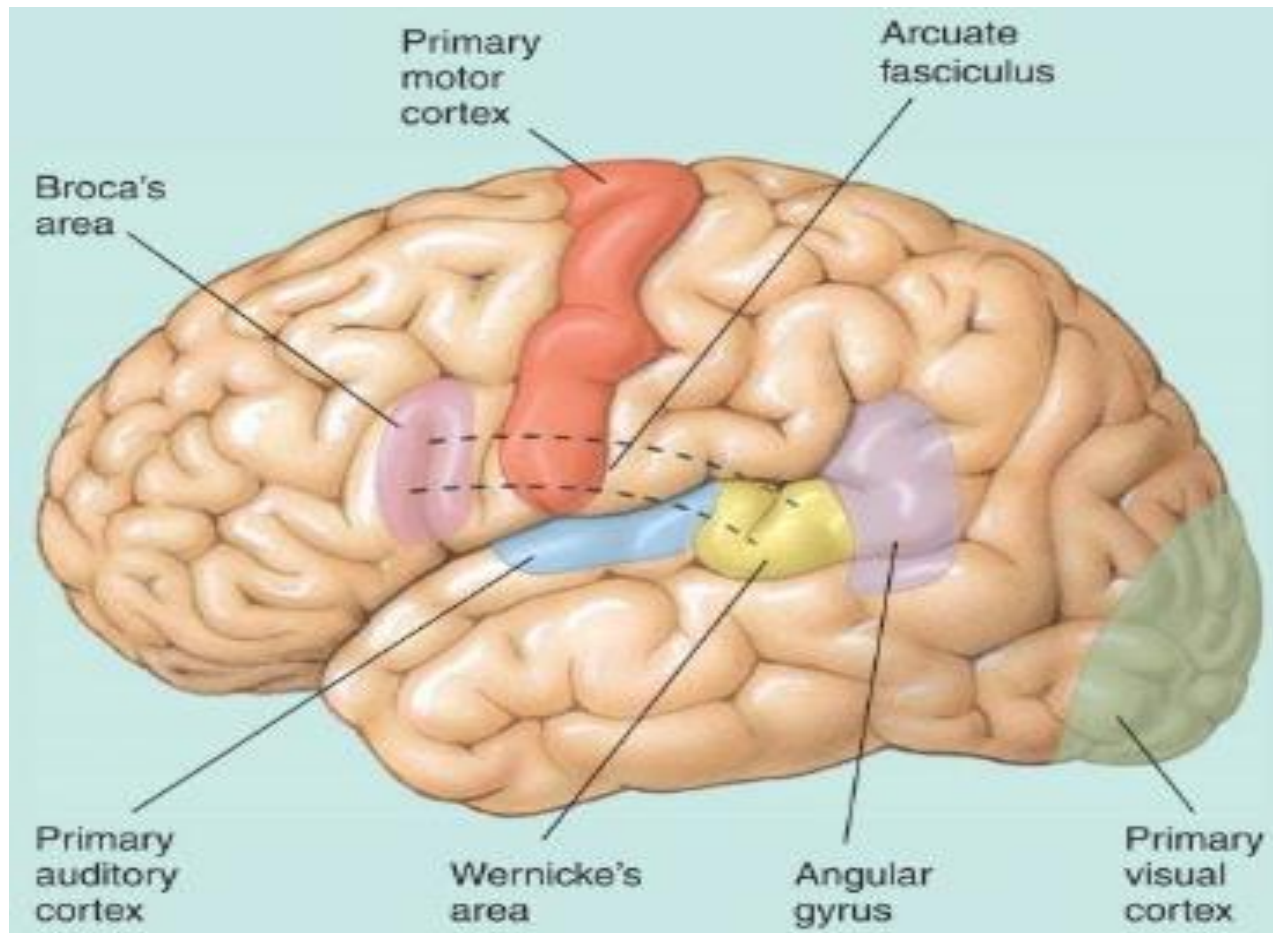
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Cognitive Method Essay

- Broca's Aphasia (also known as expressive):
 - Involves patients having slow non-fluent speech.
 - Also, have poor ability producing syntactically correct sentences (they make many grammatical errors).
 - But sentence comprehension is intact.
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWC-cVQmEmY>
- Wernicke's Aphasia (also known as receptive):
 - Can speak fluently with apparent grammar
 - But severely lacks meaning
 - Many key words will be missing
 - They have severe problems with speech comprehension.
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3oef68YabD0>

Cognitive Method Essay

- Conduction aphasia:
 - Damage to pathway connecting Broca's & Wernicke's areas
 - Called the Arcuate Fasciculus



Cognitive Method Essay

- Your task before even starting to write the essay is to find empirical research studies that have examined the methods for assessing language deficits in aphasic patients.
- You can then use this information to build-up your essay.
- Importantly you need to discuss the appropriateness of the method and what it tells us about language deficits in aphasic patients.



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Cognitive Method Essay

- For the methods you choose to include, you will need to discuss the following.....
 - What aspects of aphasia do these methods address?
 - What are the advantages and the disadvantages of these methods?
 - Are they the most appropriate methods for examining the aspect of aphasia they wish to examine?



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Cognitive Method Essay

Some examples of methods used for assessing language deficits in aphasic patients:

- Comprehensive Aphasia Test (CAT)
- Frenchay Aphasia Screening test
- Language Screening test
- Western Aphasia Battery (Bedside)
- Acute Aphasia Screening protocol
- Aachen Aphasia bedside test
- Mount Wilga High Level Language test
- Sklar Aphasia Scale
- Neuroimaging (to examine lesion site)
- Aphasia Screening test
- Aphasia Language performance scales
- Boston Diagnostic Aphasia Examination
- Token Test

Cognitive Method Essay

- However, there are many, many more.
- Best place to get a comprehensive list comes from:
 - Rohde, A., Worrall, L., Godecke, E., O'Halloran, R., Farrell, A., & Massey, M. (2018). Diagnosis of aphasia in stroke populations: A systematic review of language tests. *PloS one*, 13(3), e0194143.
 - <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0194143>
- They break each down into a table based on a range of characteristics – E.g.,
 - Tests with stroke vs. non-stroke sample
 - Tests used by speech pathologists
 - Tests with published validity
- Also report the context from where the tests was found:
 - Commercial vs. academic publishers
 - Stroke and speech pathology webpages
 - Language tests used by clinicians

Cognitive Method Essay

- **A WORD OF CAUTION!!!!!!**
- It is up to you to decide which/how many methods you discuss.
- **However**, keep in mind the limited word count for the essay:
 - It will be far better to discuss only two or three methods in order to go in to greater detail about each of them and to provide a thorough evaluation/critique of them.
 - As opposed to simply listing/describing lots of methods without providing a discussion of them with support from empirical evidence.
- **Remember the question is asking you to Critically discuss** (it is **NOT** asking you to list all the methods you know).



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- You should focus on discussing the methods that have credible peer-reviewed references associated with.
 - **NOT** ones from random websites.
- Also, you should discuss the methods that have sufficient amounts of empirical research studies conducted that have used that method, in order for you to evaluate it appropriately.
- Also, keep in mind that as aphasia can impact verbal expression, auditory comprehension, reading, and writing:
 - Different methods are going to focus on examining these different aspects.
 - So, you need to discuss specifically which aspect of the aphasia the method is attempting to explore.



Cognitive Method Essay

- Other points to consider:
 - Are the methods you have chosen to discuss used to assess stroke, non-stroke, brain-damaged, or Alzheimer patients?
 - Need to consider original language the test was created in and whether it has been translated in to another language?
 - Any potential issues with this????
 - Be aware that there are general assessment tests for brain injury that include a language component....
 - For the purpose of this essay, the focus should only be on methods specifically designed to examine aphasia patients.
- 

Cognitive Method Essay

- Your assignment must be well written, professionally presented and have excellent referencing throughout. All referencing must be in APA style.
- You must read the assignment Proforma on Moodle for further details regarding this assignment and ensure you adhere to the information provided in the proforma when writing your essay.
- You **MUST** only gather evidence from appropriate sources
 - i.e., peer-reviewed journal articles and/or textbooks
 - **DO NOT** use random internet sites/Wikipedia, etc.
 - You will be penalised marks!!!! ---- Heavily!!!!



Cognitive Method Essay

Suggested Journal articles to get you started:

- El Hachoui, H., Visch-Brink, E. G., de Lau, L. M., van de Sandt-Koenderman, M. W., Nouwens, F., Koudstaal, P. J., & Dippel, D. W. (2017). Screening tests for aphasia in patients with stroke: a systematic review. *Journal of neurology*, 264(2), 211-220.
- Fyndanis, V., Lind, M., Varlokosta, S., Kambanaros, M., Soroli, E., Ceder, K., ... & Gavarró, A. (2017). Cross-linguistic adaptations of the Comprehensive Aphasia test: challenges and solutions. *Clinical linguistics & phonetics*, 31(7-9), 697-710.
- Lacey, E. H., Skipper-Kallal, L. M., Xing, S., Fama, M. E., & Turkeltaub, P. E. (2017). Mapping common aphasia assessments to underlying cognitive processes and their neural substrates. *Neurorehabilitation and neural repair*, 31(5), 442-450.



Cognitive Method Essay

Suggested Journal articles to get you started:

- McNeil, M. R., Pratt, S. R., Szuminsky, N., Sung, J. E., Fossett, T. R., Fassbinder, W., & Lim, K. Y. (2015). Reliability and validity of the computerized Revised Token Test: Comparison of reading and listening versions in persons with and without aphasia. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*, 58(2), 311-324.
- Meteyard, L., Bruce, C., Edmundson, A., & Oakhill, J. (2015). Profiling text comprehension impairments in aphasia. *Aphasiology*, 29(1), 1-28.
- Vogel, A. P., Maruff, P., & Morgan, A. T. (2010). Evaluation of communication assessment practices during the acute stages post stroke. *Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice*, 16(6), 1183-1188.



Cognitive Method Essay

Suggested Journal articles to get you started:

- Wilson, S. M., Eriksson, D. K., Schneck, S. M., & Lucanie, J. M. (2018). A quick aphasia battery for efficient, reliable, and multidimensional assessment of language function. *PloS one*, 13(2), e0192773.
- Yourganov, G., Smith, K. G., Fridriksson, J., & Rorden, C. (2015). Predicting aphasia type from brain damage measured with structural MRI. *Cortex*, 73, 203-215.



Cognitive Method Essay

- In your essay you will be required to describe the procedure involved in the various methods used for examining language deficits in Aphasic patients.
 - Provide evidence from empirical research studies that have used these methods.
 - Discuss the strengths and limitations of the methods and their suitability for assessing the particular aspects they aim to examine.
 - The **word count** for this essay is very **limited** so do **NOT** go off on a tangent.
 - Do **NOT** waste word count at the beginning of the essay with a long and drawn out introduction – just set-up the purpose of the essay, briefly explain/describe aphasia, then get straight into discussing the methods.
- 

Lets now have a look at some past examples of submitted methods essays

- Read the papers provided and decide what mark you would give this work.
- For each piece of work I want you to make notes and feedback to the class any errors/mistakes or aspects that you do not think have been discussed appropriately in relation to the essay question (you can work in groups).
 - You can also make use of the marking criteria.
- I will then tell you the actual mark this work received and we will discuss how/why they differed.



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Any Questions?



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