**The influence of test format and type of material on recollection and familiarity in the elderly**

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According to the dual-process perspective, recognition memory is supported by recollection and familiarity (Yonelinas, 2002). Different variables can influence the proportion of responses associated with recollection and familiarity through an experimental task. The current study aimed at testing the effect of the test format and the type of material used in recognition in elderly adults. Twenty elderly participants performed four different tasks (2 formats x 2 materials). For each task, participants began by learning 76 words or pictures. After a short break, participants completed a forced-choice task or a yes/no task. In the forced-choice task, two items were presented and participant had to choose the studied item. In the yes/no task, participants had to indicate if the item presented has been learned before or not. In addition, for all tasks, participant made remember/know judgments. The results showed a picture superiority effect. Pictures were better recognized than words regardless of the task and they were associated with more remember responses. In addition, familiarity contributed less to performance in yes/no task with words compared to all others. This suggests that the use of either pictures or a forced-choice format is particularly beneficial to memory decisions in the elderly.

Key words: episodic memory, recollection, familiarity