

Journey Simmons

*Buenas Noches! The Scientific Study of Conscious vs. Unconscious Learning of Spanish*

My question was “Can participants learn Spanish vocabulary more efficiently if they are conscious or unconscious?” To test this, I had each participant take a pre-test. The first set of participants listened to a tape of Spanish vocabulary words while they were awake. Then, they took a post-test and I calculated how much their score changed after listening to the tape. I repeated these steps with the second set of participants, the only difference being that they listened to the tape while they were sleeping. The average percent of change for the daytime participants (without including the outlier) is a 35% increase. The average percentage of change including the outlier is 227%. This shows that the daytime participants improved their score significantly after listening to the tape. The average percentage of change for the nighttime participants (without including the outlier) is 40%. The average percentage of increase including the outlier is 11%. This tells me that the outlier greatly changes the data. Overall, without adding the outlier, nighttime participants learned more on average than daytime participants. This study can help the world by discovering potential new ways for studying language.