

**GNEZDECHKO Oksana: *Memory is Beneficial for Survival***  
***Processing***

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The purpose of this research was to narrow a multitude of possible explanations for the survival effect. The experiments in the given study were designed to investigate how different levels of specificity would affect recall using survival-related and non-related scenarios. Being engaged in a survival task relative to the control, 220 introductory psycholinguistics students were tested individually in sessions lasting approximately 25 minutes. Our goal was to see whether recall would continue to benefit from broader levels of processing. Based on our experiments the survival effect does not appear to be a result of more elaborative processing. In most cases, both recall and our measures of elaboration were not significantly affected by the specificity of the scenarios. In our proceeding experiments we'll compare the general food scenario we have been using to one that explicitly states several ways of finding food. This may encourage participants to think about the items in each of these ways, possibly increasing the amount of elaborative processing.