

## **SHORT TERM MEMORY**

### **PROBLEM:**

It is a common experience that numbers are difficult to remember. It has been shown (Peterson & Peterson, 1959) that short term memory decays rapidly. However, the subject must be occupied in some other task, so as to prevent rehearsal.

### **PROCEDURE:**

The E will read a number, then a category name, either fruits, colors, cities or animals. The subject first must give three examples of the category, and then try to repeat the number. His answer is scored as correct or wrong. The digits are read evenly, one each second, then the category name is given in rhythm. The subject must give examples of the category immediately, with no pause to rehearse the number. (Ost, 1969)