FACES AND BODY-PARTS FACILITATES DETECTION OF CHANGE

II

ABSTRACT

Sometimes we easily fall into change blindness and it is said that things which are in our

central interest will be more likely to attenuate the change blindness compared to things in our

marginal interest. Human figures like faces and body parts seems to be special usually show

up to be our central interest to catch our focused attention. This study used flicker paradigm to

study change blindness and aimed to find out whether there was significant difference between

reaction time of detecting change in faces and change in body parts and change in environment.

The study designed sets of photos and each set included those three kinds of change and let

participants to do the experiment and then record those reaction time. With statistical analysis,

the study found out there was significant difference between three kinds of changes and

detecting change in faces was significantly faster than detecting change in body parts, and also

detecting change in body parts was significantly faster than detecting change in environment.

The difference between the reaction time of three different kinds of changes showed that when

we see a scene, the elements about human figures like faces and body parts firstly attract our

focused attention to detect the changes. And among them, faces were more special which also

showed that perceiving or giving attention to faces were so common and important and we

usually get used to it.

Keywords: change blindness, central interest, face, body part