



Cognitive Definitions

SHORT TERM MEMORY

Memory that is lost within a brief period (from a few seconds to a maximum of about 30 minutes) **unless reinforced**.

SIMULTANEOUS PROCESSING

The ability to integrate separate stimuli into a cohesive, interrelated whole.

VISUAL MEMORY

The ability to recall visual images in the form of objects, events, or words.

WORKING MEMORY

The average working memory span for children is 5 seconds (items) and for normal adults is 7 second (items).

ATTENTION

The ability to selectively attend to stimuli while ignoring other distractions.

AUDITORY DISCRIMINATION

The ability to differentiate and recognize sounds.

AUDITORY MEMORY

The ability to recall series of numbers, lists of words, sentences, or paragraphs presented orally.

COGNITIVE PROCESSING

The process of obtaining and storing knowledge.

PLANNING

The ability to make decisions about how to solve problems and perform actions. It involves setting goals, anticipating consequences, and using feedback.

PROCESSING SPEED

The speed of performing basic cognitive operations. Highly correlated with measures of intelligence.

