

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910811128303321
Titolo	Applying priming research to L2 learning, teaching and research : insights from psycholinguistics // edited by Pavel Trofimovich, Kim McDonough
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Amsterdam ; ; Philadelphia, : John Benjamins Pub. Co., 2011
ISBN	90-272-8692-2 9786613051424 1-283-05142-7
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	viii, 254 p. : ill
Collana	Language learning & language teaching ; ; v. 30
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Disciplina	401/.93072
Soggetti	Second language acquisition - Methodology Priming (Psychology) Psycholinguistics
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	pt. 1. Using priming methods in L2 learning research -- pt. 2. Innovative approaches to L2 priming research.
Sommario/riassunto	The following study uses a bilingual version of the Deese-Roediger-McDermott (DRM) false memory paradigm (Deese 1959; Roediger & McDermott 1995) to investigate conceptual mediation in second language (L2) learners. In this paradigm, participants are exposed to a list of words (e.g. bed, rest, dream, etc.) that are highly associated to a critical lure word that is not presented (e.g. sleep). Later, when asked to recall the words presented, participants will often falsely recall the critical lure that was implicitly generated in memory during encoding. Participants were native English-speaking learners of Spanish (N = 241) with varying proficiency in Spanish. The results suggest that proficiency constrains conceptual mediation. Theoretical and pedagogical implications are discussed.