

Unconscious knowledge and inference

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I will take unconscious knowledge to be knowledge people are not aware of having even when actively using it. Testing whether people have unconscious knowledge therefore means testing whether people are aware of having knowledge when they are using the specified knowledge. Two different knowledge contents can be distinguished in most learning tasks: Knowledge of the structure of the stimuli seen so far (structural knowledge) and knowledge of whether a particular test item has this structure (judgement knowledge). I will argue that when structural knowledge is unconscious, it can lead to inferences, namely judgement knowledge, that can be either conscious or unconscious.