



DIVIDED ATTENTION GAME



Material

White paper and 1 story



Procedure

We started by forming 4 groups. Afterwards, we explain the activity and ask the groups to choose which element will tell the story, while the rest will be the performers.



Instructions

The elements of the group that have the exercise with the mathematical calculation in front of them have 1 minute to solve it (executor). They all start at the same time. In the meantime, your colleague will read you a story, just once. They will have to memorize as much information as they can, while solving the mathematical calculation, and then reproduce it.

Debriefing: asking task performers what the result of the mathematical calculation was and checking if they got it right; explore with the performers what they felt and whether they focused attention on a single task or on both tasks; highlight the difficulties of performing two tasks simultaneously (execution and memorization); to stimulate reflection on the connection between this exercise and the role that talking on the cell phone plays in terms of cognitive overload when walking on the street, riding a bicycle or driving a vehicle.











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Mathematical Calculation

- $28 + 12 + (5 \times 2) \div 2 = 55$
- $112 (9 \times 10) + 8 + 33 = 63$
- $45 + 35 + (5 \times 1000) \div 10 = 580$



Story

Francisco is raising money to buy his first moped. For that, he decided to help his parents during the summer holidays who have a restaurant near Peniche.

As he often plays football, Francisco takes the bus from his home to training, but sometimes he gets a ride from his best friend Luís, who is 2 years older and already drives a moped. What Francisco doesn't like at all is walking.

His parents have already told him that the best alternative would be to go by bicycle, which would be safer, but Francisco thinks that this will not impress his group of friends.

Last Saturday he took the 8:30 am bus and sat next to a long-time friend with whom he talked the whole trip to training. He thought she looked beautiful in that pink dress but he didn't have the heart to tell her. Upon arriving at her stop, she said that she hoped to see him more often now as she had found a summer part-time.

That day, Francisco told his parents that he would no longer buy a moped and that he would ride the bus more often, as it would be cheaper and better for the environment.











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Questions

- Francisco is saving money to buy a car. F
- Francisco's best friend is called Manuel. F
- Francisco doesn't like to walk. V
- Parents would like Francisco to ride a bicycle.
- His longtime friend's dress was red.F
- Francisco gave up the idea of buying a moped. V



