*Interactions Between Short-Term and Long-Term Memory in the Verbal Domain*
New York: Psychology Press

*Interactions Between Short-Term and Long-Term Memory in the Verbal Domain*, edited by Annabel Thorn and Mike Page, presents a variety of theoretical viewpoints and research on these two types of memory functioning. Each chapter offers a unique theoretical perspective on the relationship between short- and long-term memory. Collectively, the book reviews research from a variety of fields, including behavioral, cognitive, developmental, and biological psychology. The purpose of this review is to highlight the strengths and weaknesses of this resource.

The depth of information, theories, and ideas presented in this book is tremendous. Most chapters include graphs and tables that allow the reader to inspect and draw conclusions from data from many seminal articles in the field. In addition, many chapters include figures and diagrams that provide the reader with a visual approach to understanding complex theoretical models. Classic experimental paradigms are also explained, making this compact book an extremely useful research resource.

The interaction between short- and long-term verbal memory is complex, and the volume of information provided in this book is likely to stimulate further thinking on these phenomena. The book presents distinct and divergent opinions on the subject matter. It is rare to find such differing opinions explained within the same resource, and the authors do a nice job of providing support and data for their various points of view. This allows the reader to develop an informed opinion about the nature of the connection between temporary and more permanent verbal memory systems.

Although the book primarily presents research supporting various theories, there are at least three chapters that meaningfully address the clinical applications of those empirically based theories. The inclusion of information on clinical applications allows the reader to evaluate the divergent theories presented in this book in terms of their clinical utility. Furthermore, these chapters would be useful to clinicians seeking an in-depth understanding of a variety of cognitive impairments. Too often there is a divide between basic research, theory, and the clinical application; it is commendable that this book makes an effort to integrate these pieces.

Although this is a comprehensive and useful resource, there are also some considerations one should keep in mind when selecting this book. First, the chapters in this book are very technical; therefore, it may not be
appropriate for readers who do not have advanced knowledge in the area of verbal memory. Also, the scope of the book is quite narrow. While there are a variety of opinions and theories put forth regarding short- and long-term verbal memory, the book does not discuss other aspects of memory such as visual memory, nor does it provide information on related cognitive areas. Thus, this resource would likely be of most interest to researchers focused specifically on verbal memory. In addition, although the book provides information that would be relevant to clinicians, there is not an extensive amount of such information. Most clinicians would find three of the chapters to be pertinent and would require additional resources to fully understand and evaluate specific cognitive impairments. A final critique is that Thorn and Page’s book offers little in terms of integrating the divergent theories and opinions presented. Many of the chapters describe contradicting opinions regarding the presence, nature, and interaction between short- and long-term verbal memory. The book would benefit from a better attempt to compare, contrast, and unite these theories to provide a more cohesive understanding of verbal memory.

In sum, *Interactions Between Short-Term and Long-Term Memory in the Verbal Domain* presents research from diverse fields supporting various theories about the existence, characteristics, and relations between short- and long-term verbal memory. The depth of information presented in this book is phenomenal, and it provides a superb review of influential research and classic experimental paradigms in this field. This resource appears to be most suitable for academicians and researchers focused specifically on verbal memory. For detailed information, theories, and viewpoints related to this specific aspect of memory functioning, Thorn and Page’s book is an excellent resource.

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