

The Effects of Online Video Gaming on Creativity

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Abstract : Effects of videogame play on players cognitive abilities is a growing research field in the recent decades, however, little is known about how 'out-of-school' use of videogame influences creativity. This interdisciplinary research explores the cognitive and emotional effects of two different types of online videogames (an action videogame and a non-action videogame) on subsequent creativity performances using a within-participant design study with 36 participants. Results showed that after playing the action game participants performed higher originality, elaboration and flexibility than after playing the causal game. The results explored effects of emotional states elicited during playing the games suggesting that arousal may be a significant emotional factor which influence subsequent creativity performance. The cognitive and emotional effects of videogame were discussed followed with implications for emotion-creativity-videogame play research, game designers, educational practitioners and parents.

Keywords : attentional breadth, creativity, emotion, videogame play

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