**Class Activities**

Chapter 4: Attention

**Activity #1: Dichoting Listening**

For this assignment, you’ll need three student volunteers. Two of them are readers and the third is the participant. Explain the dichoting task, and the shadowing the participant has to do.

The participant is asked to listen to Reader 1, who will read the following:

“Oxford University researchers have identified an area of the human brain that appears unlike anything in the brains of some of our closest relatives.”

The participant is asked to ignore Reader 2, who will read the following:

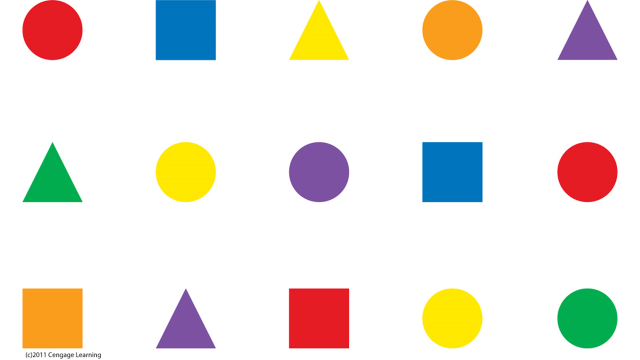
“Cities are organized like brains, and the evolution of cities mirrors the evolution of human and animal brains, according to a new study by researchers at Polytechnic Institute, namely [THE NAME OF THE PARTICIPANT].”

Both readers start reading at the same time at your command. This exercise demonstrates how certain kinds of unattended information still permeate our consciousness.

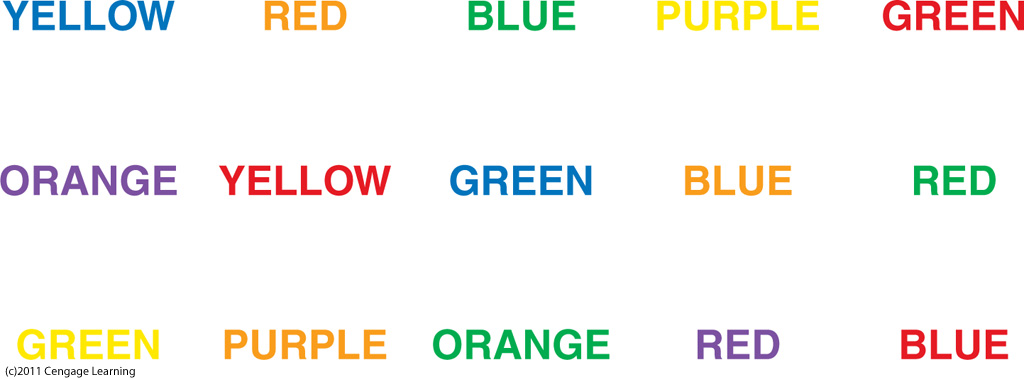
**Activity #2: Stroop Test**

For this assignment, divide students into groups of three. One student is the experimenter who displays the stimuli, one is the participant, and one tracks the number of errors and the reaction time.

Part I: the experimenter shows the participant the image below and asks him/her to name the color the object is printed in. The “tracker” tracks time and the number of errors.



Part II: the participant has to name the color of the writing (not read the word). The “tracker” tracks time and number of errors. Students can exchanges roles (they all usually want to try it). Afterward, students are asked to discuss what the experiment attempts to examine.



**Activity #3: Change Blindness in the Classroom**

For this assignment, students are asked to close their eyes and think about the classroom and their immediate classmates (those sitting next to them).

Without looking around, ask students to jot down everything they remember about the classroom and their classmates (color of clothing, hairstyle, anything else), the teacher (what the instructor is wearing today), and the classroom itself (color of a few things on the desk and how they are arranged).

This is a helpful exercise when discussing change blindness and inattentional blindness.