

Language as a Window into Creative Ideation

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Creativity is commonly defined as the ability to generate novel and context-appropriate ideas and solutions (e.g., Guilford 1967, Beaty et al. 2016). It manifests across various domains of human activity, including the arts, sciences, or inventive solutions to everyday challenges. Language is a primary medium through which creative thought is expressed. Indeed, studies focusing on language and language-mediated processes have offered valuable insights into the mechanisms underlying creative ideation (e.g., Gilhooly et al. 2007, Alhashim et al. 2020, Benedek et al. 2018, Witczak et al. 2024). Critically, individuals who speak two or more languages have been found to outperform monolinguals in a number of creative tasks (for review, see Kharkhurin, 2018) or perform a creative task experiencing less cognitive stress in their second than their native language (Jończyk et al., 2024).

This session invites contributions from researchers interested in the empirical studies of creativity in both controlled (laboratory) and more naturalistic environments, exploring creativity through the medium of language. The topics of interest include (but are not limited to):

- Bilingualism and creativity
- Multilingualism and creativity
- Creative ideation and evaluation
- Creativity assessment
- Divergent and convergent thinking in creative ideation
- Problem-solving and creativity
- Applications of AI in creativity research

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