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Effects of Stress and Working Memory Capacity on Foreign Language Readers' Inferential Processing During Comprehension

creating a global mental representation of the situation they represent, which is known as the *situation model* leveTDs

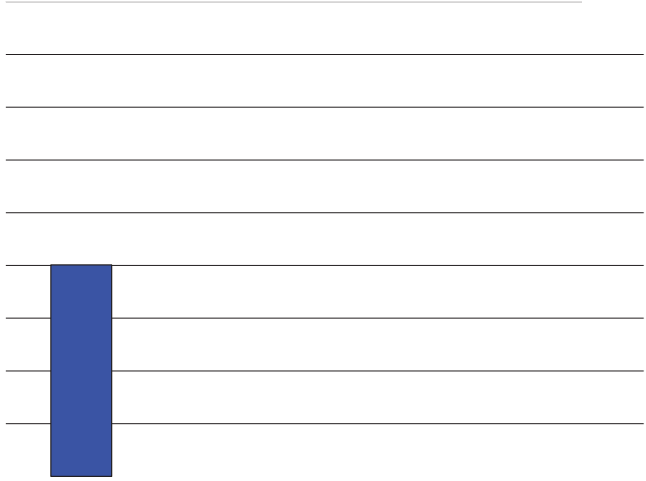
state and trait anxiety can mediate the effects of stress in depleting executive

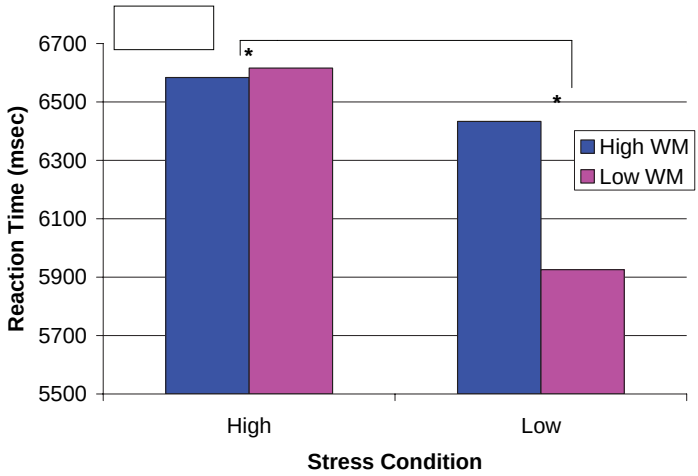
1997) and greater FL proficiency (Hammadou, 1991; Horiba, 1996; Kembo, 2001; Shimizu, 2005).

stress level. The questionnaire asked whether anyone had told them anything

would divert attention from the task at hand (i.e., the reading comprehension

significant main effect of WM capacity, $F(1, 52) = 9.75$, $p < .001$, Cohen's $f =$




6700
6500
6300
6100
5900
5700
5500
Reaction Time (msec)
*
*
High WM
Low WM
High
Low
Stress Condition

result in greater decay from short-term storage. In the current study, increased decay from WM with longer RTs could be particularly problematic for those

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hen waiting to be adopted! Vicente, my brother, saw a pot-bellied pig. As my mother was explaining how dirty farm animals are, the pig suddenly snorted at him!