Abstract

Recent inquiries on human memory have recovered the relevance of phenomenal data in understanding recollection. This trend has been consistent especially in autobiographical memory research. This study reviews some recent methodological approaches to the relationship between those processes and their neural correlates. Additionally, we review two frameworks for investigating autobiographical memory: source monitoring and component processes. In source monitoring, qualities of recollection determine judgments concerning the event and the memory itself. In contrast, the component process framework imposes no serial order for those processes, accepting that perception of qualities and judgments may occur in parallel. We argue that both models converge in stressing the implicit processes of recollection. Finally, both frameworks are ascribed to a common approach to the phenomenal qualities of experience. In that sense, they constitute an experimental phenomenology, understood as systematic empirical inquiry into conscious experience, with phenomenal data as correlates of implicit cognitive processes.

Keywords

Autobiographical memory, recollection, phenomenology, neuroscience.