Study 5 – Mood induction study (March 2018) (#8301)

1) Have any data been collected for this study already?
No, no data have been collected for this study yet.

2) What's the main question being asked or hypothesis being tested in this study?
1. The sad mood induction group will show reduced narrative coherence compared to the neutral and happy mood groups, even after controlling for baseline depressive symptoms.
2. Change in narrative coherence from pre-post mood induction (across the sample) will be positively associated with change in mood state, even after covarying baseline depressive symptoms.
3. The association between narrative coherence and mood is mediated by working memory capacity.

3) Describe the key dependent variable(s) specifying how they will be measured.
- Mood: participants will be asked to rate 16 emotions on a scale from 0-100 before and after watching the film clips. We will focus on “sad” and “happy” to assess whether the manipulation was successful.
- Narrative coherence: participants will be asked to write about a very positive and a very negative life experience before and after the mood induction. These narratives will later be coded for narrative coherence by using the Narrative Coherence Coding Scheme (Reese et al., 2011).
- Working memory capacity: participants will be asked to complete an Operation Span Task or OSPAN.

4) How many and which conditions will participants be assigned to?
Participants will be assigned to one of three conditions at random (between-subject design):
- Positive condition: happy film clip
- Neutral condition: neutral film clip
- Negative condition: sad film clip

5) Specify exactly which analyses you will conduct to examine the main question/hypothesis.
We will test our hypotheses by conducting the following analyses:
1. Condition (sad, happy, neutral) by Time (pre-mood induction, post-mood induction) repeated measures ANOVA.
2. Calculating simple correlations between the change in narrative coherence (pre-post) and the change in mood (pre-post).
3. Mediation analyses with bootstrapping (Preacher & Hayes).

6) Describe exactly how outliers will be defined and handled, and your precise rule(s) for excluding observations.
We will perform Condition (sad, happy, neutral) by Time (pre-mood induction, post mood induction) repeated measures ANOVA for the “happy” and “sad” ratings to check whether our manipulation was successful. Participants for whom the mood induction was not successful, will be excluded.

7) How many observations will be collected or what will determine sample size? No need to justify decision, but be precise about exactly how the number will be determined.
This type of experimental study has never been done before within the domain of autobiographical narrative coherence. A similar study examining the influence of sad mood induction on autobiographical memory specificity reported large effect sizes. Power analyses show that overall sample size should be at least 79 in order for the study to have sufficient power (.85).

8) Anything else you would like to pre-register? (e.g., secondary analyses, variables collected for exploratory purposes, unusual analyses planned?)
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