

**Introduction to the Special Issue:** Integration: The keystone of comprehension

We are delighted to present this special issue of *Discourse Processes*, Integration: The keystone of comprehension.

This special issue developed from a symposium presented at the 28th annual meeting of the Society for Text and Discourse held in Brighton, UK, July 17-19, 2018. Each paper presents a resulting symposium

All of the articles in this special issue are based on ideas presented in that symposium and include a range of methodologies, age groups, and experimental paradigms. They each went through a full review process.

The special issue begins with a theoretical piece by Charles Perfetti and Anne Helder and examines the process of word-to-text integration across sentence boundaries. It reviews ERP studies that indicate the conditions under which integration, rather than new structure building, occurs. The second paper by Marloes van Moort, Arnout Koornneef, and Paul van den Broek, uses eye movement data to examine when and how readers integrate contextual information and background knowledge to construct a meaning-based representation of the text. They also examine how individual differences in working memory influence this process. The role of executive functions, which include working memory, in text comprehension is the focus of the third paper by Mercedes Spencer and Laurie Cutting. The experimental data highlight the significant relationship between executive function and text comprehension and discuss its theorized due to its role in supporting critical integration processes. The fourth contribution from ROUET IN HERE, .....

In addition the advances in knowledge provided by these articles, we hope that they will inspire you to submit your work to the journal, as well as to participate in future conferences of the Society for Text and Discourse.

Kate Cain  
Department of Psychology, Lancaster University

Jane Oakhill  
School of Psychology, University of Sussex. UK