2.5 Explanations for Forgetting: Proactive and Retroactive Interference: 10-minute Pack

AQA 7182 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer all questions. For questions worth 4 marks or more write your answers in full sentences. Time guidance: 10 minutes.

1 Define retroactive interference as an explanation for forgetting in long-term memory, naming which information interferes with which.

(Total for Question 1 is 2 marks)

2 Distinguish between proactive and retroactive interference in memory. Give one clear contrasting sentence for each type and an example of everyday forgetting for each.

(Total for Question 2 is 4 marks)

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Mark scheme · 2.5 Explanations for Forgetting: Proactive and Retroactive Interference: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

states that retroactive interference occurs when newer learned information disrupts recall of older information oe	**B1**
makes clear which interferes with which, e.g. new information interferes with old information cao	**B1**

Answer: Retroactive interference occurs when newly learned information interferes with recall of previously learned information.

Question 2

states that proactive interference is when older learning interferes with new learning oe	**M1**
gives an everyday example for proactive interference, e.g. an old phone number making it hard to remember a new phone number oe	**A1**
states that retroactive interference is when new learning interferes with older memories oe	**M1**
gives an everyday example for retroactive interference, e.g. learning a new password causes forgetting of the previous password oe	**A1**

Answer: Proactive interference: earlier learning disrupts later recall, for example an old phone number making it hard to remember a new number. Retroactive interference: later learning disrupts earlier recall, for example learning a new password causing you to forget the previous password.

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