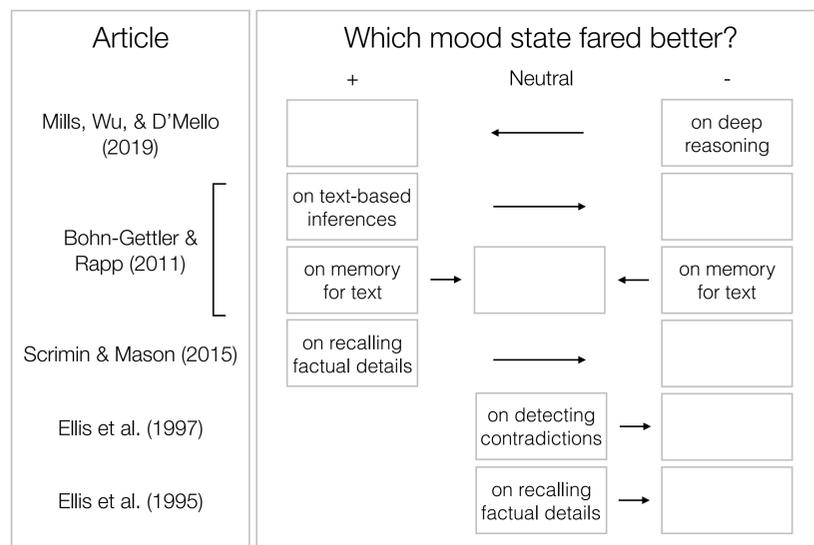
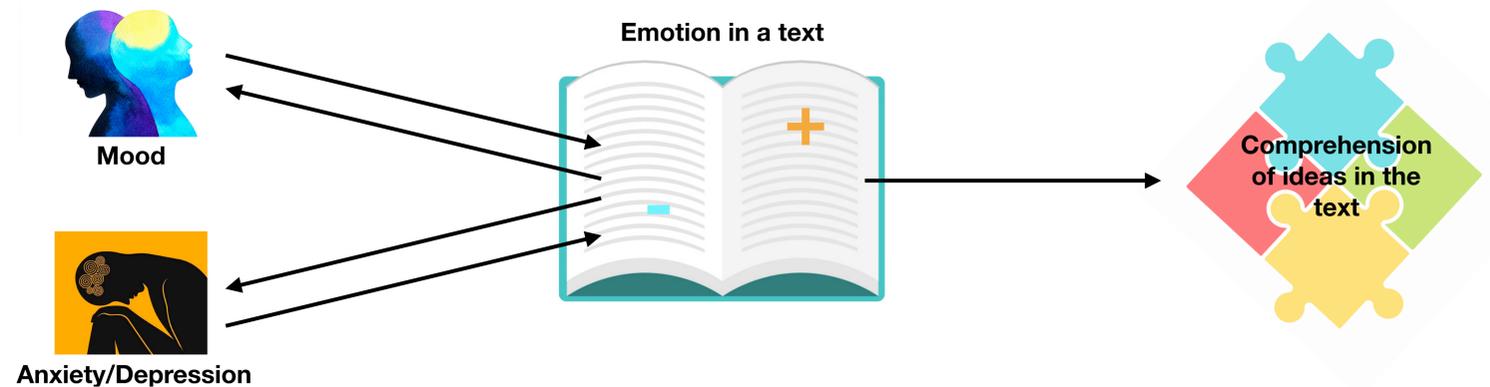


**Background:** Mood influences the way we read



**Does emotional content within a text moderate how affect influences comprehension?**

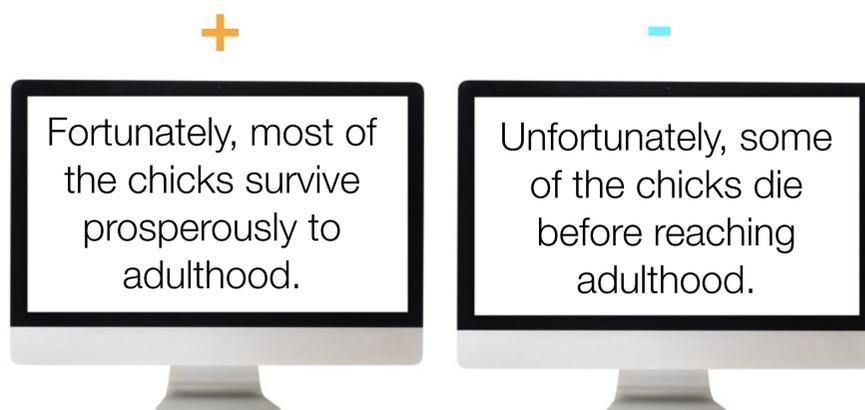
Individuals experiencing strong emotion, such as anxiety, tend to focus on affective information



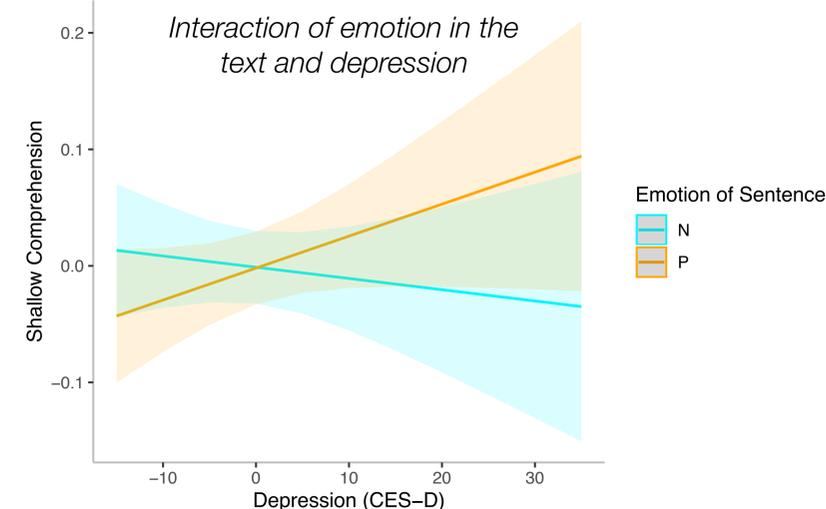
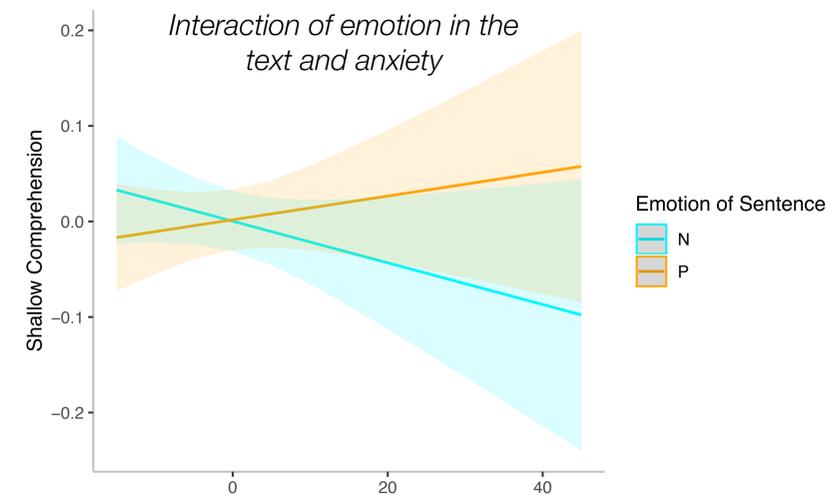
**Our approach:** To see whether state affect as well as measures of anxiety and depression influence how readers comprehend emotion in text

## Method overview:

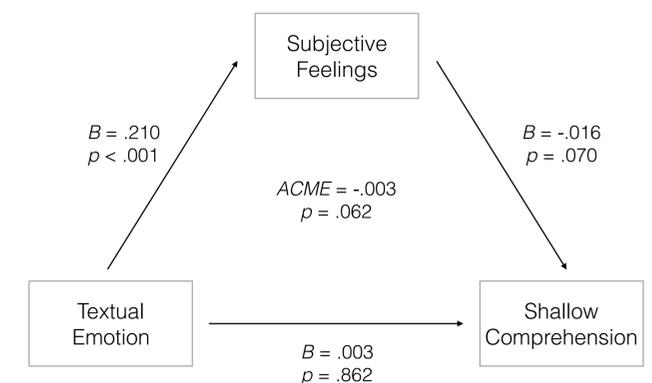
- 222 participants ( $M_{age} = 19.4$ ; range: 18-25)
- Read six texts about albatross birds with manipulated emotion in target sentence
- Probed on thoughts and mood during each paragraph
- Comprehension was assessed using forced-choice questions
- Anxiety was measured using the BAI and depression was measured using the CES-D



## Results:



*Mediation model of mood on emotion in the text and comprehension*



## Conclusion:

1. The emotion in a text influenced participants' reported mood, which marginally impacted comprehension.
  - Mood mediated the relationship between the emotion written in a text and participants' comprehension.
2. Anxiety interacted with the emotion in a text to predict comprehension.
  - Reading comprehension of those with greater anxiety was negatively influenced when presented with negative information.
3. Depression similarly interacted with emotion in a text when predicting comprehension.