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The nature of mental images and their relation to language has caused controversy amongst psychologists for years, and the so-called "imagery debate" is still unresolved. Fresh light is now being shed on this topic using recent findings in neuroscience and the development of behavioural studies. This book analyses how this research can be used to explain the performance of complex tasks in every-day life.

Reviewing state-of-the-art research in the field of imagery, visuo-spatial memory, spatial representation and language, with special emphasis on their interactions, this volume shows how, and to what extent, findings from studies on imagery can positively influence and enrich other psychological areas, such as working memory, space and time representation, language and embodiment.

Chapter 9, written by Michel Denis, to whom this book is dedicated, analyses more than three decades of research, and outlines the shared scientific journey of friendship and discovery that has developed across various cognitive topics, all of which are linked to, and inspired by, imagery conceptualization.

This is the only book to present a critical outline of research on these topics in a single volume, and as such will be invaluable to advanced undergraduates, postgraduates and researchers in such fields as cognitive psychology, neuroscience, computer science and neuropsychology.

VG
FP

I am grateful to Valérie and Francesca for their splendid editorial work in putting together the chapters of "From Mental Imagery to Spatial Cognition and Language". — MD