

Australian Journal of Educational & Developmental Psychology (AJEDP)

Volume 5 2005

Incongruity as a universal component of humor appreciation: Some Hong Kong data

Maria P. Y. Chik
Department of Education Studies
Hong Kong Baptist University

Geoffrey N. Molloy
Institute of Human Development & Counselling
Faculty of Education, Monash University

C. S. Benjamin Leung
Institute of Human Development & Counselling
Faculty of Education, Monash University

Abstract

The development of a humor measure was described in a brief report in this journal. In that report, a series of suitable congruous and incongruous pictures were developed with a community sample of children. The findings of that study were consistent with those reported by others (Chik, 2001; Masten, 1989; Schultz, 1972), indicating that incongruity is an essential component of humor appreciation. With a larger (n=140) and more representative sample, we embarked on a follow-up validation study. The findings of the present study provide further support for the universality of the incongruity as an essential component of humor appreciation across age and cultures.

[Link to full text paper pdf \(910KB\)](#)

Uploaded: 2 May 2005
