



FIGURE 9.6

Social Facilitation, Social Loafing, and Task Difficulty

When a task is easy, the presence of others improves our performance on an easy task if our performance can be identified and evaluated (social facilitation) but impairs our performance if our performance cannot be identified and evaluated (social loafing). When a task is difficult, the presence of others impairs our performance when our performance can be identified and evaluated (social impairment) but improves our performance when our performance cannot be identified and evaluated (social comfort).

Source: Sanna (1992).