

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2003 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

S0306

Project Title

Correlation between Human Laterality and Visual Direction Tendencies

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The purpose of this experiment was to observe whether left-handed people prefer to look towards the right rather than the left. The test was designed to determine if there is a correlation between the direction people initially look and their dominant hand. It was believed that the people who are right-handed would look to the left and the people who are left-handed would look to the right.

Methods/Materials

A computer program was developed to display two groups of random pictures on a computer screen for a short period of time. The groups of pictures were situated on the far right and far left of the screen. After the pictures were briefly displayed, the subjects were asked to write down what they saw on the screen. This data was transferred onto a grid sheet and evaluated.

Results

Fifty percent of the left-handed test subjects looked right and the other fifty percent looked left. Unlike the left-handed subjects, the right-handed subjects looked to the left 75% of the time.

Conclusions/Discussion

These results were inconclusive due to the small number of left-handed test subjects. Even though the experiment lacked left-handed people, there was a trend worth taking note of and this experiment should be continued.

Summary Statement

The purpose of this experiment was to observe whether left-handed people prefer to look towards the right rather than the left.

Help Received

Grandmother helped me implement and test the computer program used for the experiment.