

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2008 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Kelsey D. Reimer

Project Number

J0625

Project Title

Mind Freak

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

During my experiment, I wanted to see if the human brain took into consideration age and gender when observing optical illusions, the Stroop Effect, and warped words. My objective was to prove that the thirteen to nineteen age group and the male group would be most effecient in these tests that I preformed. The teenagers are more alert than most other age groups. I also believed that men would be better in these tests because I think women concentrate too hard on getting a good time when men don't think, they just do.

Methods/Materials

During this experiment, I used a computer to print out optical illusions, warped words and the Stroop Effect. Then I used a stopwatch to test 24 people (twelve men and twelve women, using equal men and women in each age group) and recorded the results in my science journal. Then, I took the logged times and the number of people who got the correct answer on the optical illusions and input them into a graph. I communicated my results to my science class, teacher and the RIMS Science Fair judges.

Results

After observing the graphs and the number of people who veiwed the old woman and the straight lines, my hypothesis proved inconclusive. teenagers did the best out of any age group on all the tests. Males however, were efficient on only two out of the three tests. Men were having a little trouble observing warped words.

Conclusions/Discussion

In conclusion, my hypothesis proved to be inconclusive. The males were only efficient in two out of the three tests. The teenagers were great on all three tests. My hypothesis proved correct there. This project was a challenge but was extremely fun and exciting. Working with the community and the people you are around almost everday was a really good learning expirence for me. I would recommend this project to anyone .

Summary Statement

Determining if the human mind takes into consideration age and gender when viewing the Stroop Effect, Warped Words, and Optical Illusions.

Help Received

Mother assisted with glueing