

# CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2014 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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**Project Number** 

**J2103** 

**Project Title** 

**ThINK Before You Print!** 

#### **Abstract**

## **Objectives/Goals**

This project was designed to find out which of the most commonly used font styles would save the most ink, and thus save companies, government, schools, and individuals a substantial amount of money spent each year on very expensive ink cartridges.

#### Methods/Materials

A new cartridge was placed inside the printer. The letters ETAIO, the most commonly used letters in the English alphabet, were printed in pre-set margins. The alphabets were printed repeatedly on several sheets of paper until the first signs of fading occurred. This indicated that the ink cartridge was emptying out. A wait time of twenty four hours was given before another cartridge was used. After this process was performed repeatedly over different time spans, with multiple font styles, the amount of lines that were printed were recorded.

#### Results

Times New Roman, Century Gothic, and Arial were tested to find which one would prove to be most economic. All 45 tests indicated that Times New Roman proved to save the most ink by printing over 400 lines more than Century Gothic or Arial. The results throughout this project were very steady and did not change drastically.

## **Conclusions/Discussion**

After the experiment was conducted, the hypothesis was proved wrong. Times New Roman was in fact the most ink-saving font. It would be interesting to repeat this experiment with several other font styles and different content to confirm whether or not Times New Roman would still hold the number one spot in ink-saving fonts.

### **Summary Statement**

My project is about finding the font that saves ink and thus is most economical.

### Help Received

Mother helped purchase material.