

CALIFORNIA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR 2018 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Aria Delgado

Project Number

J1307

Project Title

The Devil in Music: The Power of Tritones on Human Behavior

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

Can tritones can affect human memory, pulse, and blood pressure

Methods/Materials

Make an original sheet of music with different tritones Play the tritones on the two clarinets and record it Create a group of 16 students Have one student take their memory test Take the student's blood pressure/heart rate with the monitor Repeat step 4-6 for 15 more students Have one student from the same group of 16 students listen to the tritones played on the clarinets with their earbuds while taking their memory test Take the student's blood pressure/heart rate with the monitor Repeat step 8-10 for 15 more students Collect data and compare the results of the control group and the tritone clarinet group

Results

The results of my investigation on tritones affecting human behavior indicate that the tritones did raise SYS blood pressure and lower the ability to concentrate for the students during the memory test. Control - Heart Rate Results

Lowest heart rate = 60 units

Highest heart rate = 102 units

Average heart rate = 79.0625 units

Tritone Clarinet - Heart Rate Results

Lowest Heart Rate = 60 units

Highest Heart Rate = 94 units

Average Heart Rate = 72.0625 units

Tritone Harp - Heart Rate Results

Lowest Heart Rate = 60 units

Highest Heart Rate = 134 units

Average Heart Rate = 101.8125 units

Conclusions/Discussion

After completing my investigation on whether tritones affect human behavior by analyzing changes in heart rate and blood pressure, I discovered that my hypothesis on tritones affecting the students was supported. My hypothesis stated that the tritones would affect human behavior because of the dissonant and restless harmonies produced by this specific combination of notes. The control group resulted in levels of 103.25 units for the SYS (systolic) blood pressure, 71.0625 units for the DIA (diastolic) blood pressure, 79.0625 units for the heart rate, and 30.1875 units for the memory test. The tritone clarinet group

Summary Statement

During my experiment, I noticed that the tritones played on the harp resulted in students having higher test scores, but these tones also raised students' average heart rate.

Help Received