



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2002 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Soukarana Stephens	Project Number J1718
Project Title Remarkable Memories: Comparing the Memories of Literate and Non-literate People	
Abstract Objectives/Goals My objective was to determine if people from non-literate societies have better memories than people from literate societies. Methods/Materials I read a list of 16 words to individuals between the ages of 9 and 14 from both a literate and a non-literate society. I asked them individually to recall the words and I recorded the correct answers. I compared the results of the groups to see which group had better memories. Results The group from the non-literate society had a higher percent of correct answers than the group from the literate society. Conclusions/Discussion The result of my experiment supported my hypothesis that people from non-literate societies have better memories than people from literate societies. I also learned that there may be other factors that affect memory.	
Summary Statement My project compares the memories of people from a non-literate society with those from a literate society.	
Help Received Father helped with project design, language on report composition and generation of graphs using computer software.	