



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2012 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Nathan R. Fennacy	Project Number J0714
Project Title Let's Test the Test!	
<p style="text-align: center;">Abstract</p> <p>Objectives/Goals The objective of this project is to determine if a testing style, in this case verbal versus written, shows a better result in scores for math, spelling, history, and/or science.</p> <p>Methods/Materials The materials needed for this project included developing appropriate 7th-grade level questions to create an exam. Copies of the exam were then reproduced in order to supply tests to each participant, who also had to have signed permission from his/her parent to be a part of this study. Twenty-six 7th grade students were given five-question mini-quizzes on math, spelling, history, and science. The test questions remained the same, but students were given the test in both a verbal and written format. The verbal exam was read and answered on supplied sheets of paper. The written exam was then given after that.</p> <p>Results For math and spelling, students performed best on the written exam. A third factor came into play when interpreting data where students scored the same on both exams. For the science and history section, more students scored identical on both formats of tests. When combining all subjects, overall scores showed students did best on the written exam.</p> <p>Conclusions/Discussion This project concludes that a written test shows better results for 7th graders at a certain school. I can tell teachers my results so that they can use the written test format in order to allow students to perform their best on tests. If I were to continue with this project, I would test more grade levels and different schools. I would also try and test a bigger populous of students to get more accurate results.</p>	
Summary Statement I explored the difference between verbal and written test formats to see which format showed better results for seventh-grade students.	
Help Received Science teachers Gina Burdine and Kendia Herrington were mentors on this project. My mom helped edit my board and research paper. And my dad helped me with the sticky spray to get all the items on the board.	