



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2010 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Sarah E. Mullen	Project Number J0626
Project Title Do You Comprehend?	
Objectives/Goals My project was to determine if reading captions on the television would increase one's comprehension.	
Abstract Methods/Materials The materials that I used in my experiment were: six video tapes, two televisions and VCRs, Three comprehension tests, 78 experimental subjects, a pencil and a sharpie. I had two parts in the procedure. The first part describes how I recorded the show with the auditory and caption conditions on to six videotapes, each being a five minute segment. I placed a videotape in to the VCR and record five minutes of a cooking show with captions and no auditory (volume). I would do this two more times with the same condition. Then I would put in another videotape into the VCR and record a five minute segment of the same show but just with the auditory stimulus. Then I compose three comprehension test for each of the three five minute segments of the show. Then I label the three caption videotapes the quotation mark experimental group the quotation mark and the three auditory videotapes the quotation mark control group the quotation mark. On the second part of my procedure, I describe how I test my experimental subjects. I had 37 test subjects watch the first segment of my video, the quotation mark experimental group/captions the quotation mark and gave them the comprehension pertaining to that section. I would do this two more times than average all there scores together to get there average score correct. I then continued to do this for the the quotation mark control group/auditory the quotation mark as well.	
Results The auditory condition had an average of 64.7 % of test questions correct while the caption condition had an average of 34.7% of test questions correct.	
Conclusions/Discussion My conclusion showed that of the 41 students tested through auditory and visual/caption conditions, the auditory condition helped students comprehend better.	
Summary Statement My project is about which condition: auditory or captions, will best help students comprehend material that is being show to them.	
Help Received Father helped record shows and set up board; Mother bought necessary supplies, provided me with a great problem,advice and helped set up my board; Mr. Graham's 2nd period and Mrs. Snow's 4th period classes were my experimental subjects; Mr.Graham and Mrs. Snow let me use their classes for my science fair	