



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2014 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Sawyer A. Kelly	Project Number 34034
Project Title Musically Minded	
Abstract Objectives/Goals What genre of music, if any, increases efficiency while doing schoolwork? I tested this because when I was listening to music while working. While researching, I discovered that when we listen to music, a chemical called dopamine is released into our brains. This makes us energized and happy, therefore, music may help our efficiency. Methods/Materials I tested 6 people to see if listening to a certain type of music made them work more quickly while doing schoolwork. They were each given a test with math, vocab matching, and a word search on it and then I timed them while they listened to a certain type of genre. Results My testing revealed that listening to hip-hop music allowed my participants to finish their tests fastest with an average time of 2:08, this beat the runner-up (classical) by a lot. Taking the tests without music being played had the 3rd fastest time and the Choice section of music had the slowest time. Conclusions/Discussion Though my hypothesis was correct; I still think this subject could be delved deeper into. Humans are so diverse, it's impossible to get a completely accurate result. If I redid this experiment, I would want to test different age groups and include more music genres. I also want to put in some harder problems that require critical thinking/reading comprehension. I found it interesting that choice had the slowest time. I believe this happened because since this song was my participants' choice, they got distracted by the music because they enjoyed the song. One final note: Had I included harder problems, I believe classical would have been the best, as that affects your ability to comprehend things better and also assists your ability to think critically.	
Summary Statement My project is testing to see what genre of music, if any improves speed while doing schoolwork.	
Help Received Tested human subjects	