

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2003 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Kimberlee M. Moses

Project Number

S0315

Project Title

Caffeinated Typing

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

My project was to determine what effects does caffeine have on a person's typing speed and accuracy. I believe that the female subjects will increase in their words per minute and errors and decrease in accuracy after consuming caffeine.

Methods/Materials

Two typing tests were devised and made of equal difficulty. 16 volunteers of the same age and weight range were found for the experiment (8 females and 8 males). The volunteers took a pre-test. The words per minute, accuracy, and errors of the volunteers were tested and recorded before they drank caffeine. The test was timed for 3 minutes. 8 volunteers, 4 males and 4 females, then drank decaffienated Diet Pepsi and the other 8, 4 males and 4 females, drank caffeinated Diet Pepsi. The volunteers did not know which kind of Pepsi they were drinking at the time. The volunteers waited 30 minutes and then took the second 3 minute typing test. After the test, the words per minute, accuracy and errors were recorded, aveeraged out, and compared.

Results

The females increased in words per minute and errors. The males increased in words per minute and errors as well, but not as much as the females.

Conclusions/Discussion

In conclusion, my hypothesis was right. The females increased in words per minute and errors more so than the males. I conclude that females may have a faster metabolism and the caffeine works quicker. I also conclude that people who work as typists should avoid caffeine before work if their employers prefer quality over quantity.

Summary Statement

My project is about determining how caffeine consumption effects a person's typing speed and frequency of errors.

Help Received

My mother helped me the most with buying certain materials I needed and being there when I conducted the experiments. The student volunteers were from Jamestown Elementary School.