

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2005 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

S0305

Project Title

Remember Me?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

My project was focused on which tools would help people remember things best. Through my research on many memory topics, I have found that visuals usually helped a person remember things better than other tools or techniques that were used. Based on this, I formed my hypothesis which states that the poem and images handed to a person to memorize would work better than the other four techniques that I was going to use.

Methods/Materials

As I began to test, I gathered eighteen different subjects and tested them on four different poems. I had six groups where each group had three subjects of different age groups (20's, 30's, and 40's). The six groups were labeled as: Control, Audio, Visual, Mnemonic, Repetition, and Note-taking. Each group was to read the poem given to them and try to use the technique indicated by the group name. I tested all the groups for fifteen minutes on each poem and had each recite the poems to me, while I recorded their scores.

Results

Many did not finish the poem, but they did get at least ten words right in each poem. One person from the 20's age group did very well and almost finished reciting all the poems with most of the correct words. The subjects in the 30's age group had scores in between what the subjects scored in the 20's and 40's age group and the subjects in the 40's age group couldn't memorize as many lines as the subjects in the 20's age group could.

Conclusions/Discussion

Overall, the youngest subjects in their 20's memorized each poem better than the subjects in the 30's and 40's. But each age in the Visual group scored the highest than in any other group with the different tools. According to these conclusions, it shows that the Visual tools worked the best to help someone memorize something and the younger subjects memorized more than the older ones.

Summary Statement

The primary focus of this project is to determine which tool, out of five selected tools, will help a person remember things best.

Help Received

Advisement from Science teacher, Mrs. Zadik; Suggestions from Psychologist, Mr. Ortenberg; Science-related websites from school Librarian, Mrs. Morris; Mother helped arrange pictures on board; Older brother helped buy supplies; All family and friends who participated.