

The Effect of Type of Stimulus on Speed of Response

IV: _____ DV: _____

Hypothesis: _____

Procedure:

1. Gather the following materials:
String
Marker
Weight
Ruler
2. Tie the weight onto one end of the string.
3. Using the ruler, make marks one inch apart, starting at the weight and continuing to the end of the string.
4. Have your partner hold the string with the top end of the weight level with the top of your fist. (The weight should be hanging between your fingers and thumb.)
5. When your partner drops the weight, try to catch the string before the weight hits the floor.
6. Count the number of marks between the top of the weight and your thumb and forefinger (you can estimate to the nearest half of a mark).
7. Record this in the data table.
8. Repeat this for a total of five trials and then calculate the average.
9. Repeat steps 4-8 but when your partner drops the weight, have him/her say "Go!" when it is released. (Make sure you do five trials and find the average.)
10. Repeat step 9, only this time, you must close your eyes.
11. Switch with your partner and then repeat the procedure.

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Type of Stimulus	Speed of Response (# of marks)					Average Speed of Response
	Trial #1	Trial #2	Trial #3	Trial #4	Trial #5	
Sight Only						
Sight & Hearing						
Hearing Only						

Questions: *Answer the questions using complete sentences!*

1. Which type of stimulus gave you the fastest response time? Why do you think this happened?

2. For each type of stimulus, did your reaction time improve with each trial? Why or why not? Explain each type of stimulus separately.

3. Write your partner's average results below and explain how your partner's results compared to yours. Give two reasons why your partner's results are not identical to yours.

Type of Stimulus	Speed of Response
Sight Only	
Sight & Hearing	
Hearing Only	