

Name:

Catherine (D0101)

Project title:

Distractions: How They Affect Your Reaction Time

The purpose of this behavioral science experiment is to show how distractions namely listening to music, having a phone conversation, and reading text affect reaction time. It is hypothesized that listening to music will not affect reaction time but having a phone conversation and reading text will affect reaction time. This experiment is helpful because it gives insight into how these distractions affect reaction time.

Using <https://faculty.washington.edu> reaction time test, the researcher will test each of the thirty participant's reaction time by having them tap on a computer keyboard when the traffic light on the computer screen changes from red to green. The website calculates how long it takes for the participant to react to the changing light. Once the participant taps on the keyboard the test resets and is repeated four more times. They will do this test while listening to music, having a phone conversation, and reading text. These activities will be randomized to remove the practice variable, for example, participant 1 will do no distraction first while participant 2 will listen to music first.

I calculated the average and standard error for the samples' reaction time. It can be concluded that listening to music did not affect the reaction time of the participants but having a phone conversation and reading text did affect their reaction time.