Lizette van Zyl
Junior Behavioral & Social Sciences

Reading In Colors

This experiment was conducted in order to better understand the effect that different colored texts had on the average sixth grader's reading comprehension speeds. It determines which color out of red, blue, green, or purple is comprehended the fastest. The experiment was done by gathering 60 sixth graders and testing them individually. They were asked to read two paragraphs in systematically selected different colors. They then answered a question about the reading. Times were recorded and then made into averages. After all experimentation was completed, the data showed results opposite to the hypothesis. The hypothesis, that brighter and lighter colors would be processed the slowest, was proved incorrect. The color red was processed the fastest by students, and the two darkest colors, (blue and purple,) were the slowest. Green was the second best color to use. The results show that the color red may be best used to highlight words in a paragraph, instead of making the entire paragraph that color; sixth grade students will better remember those highlighted sections of the reading.