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How to Negate the Stroop Effect

The purpose of this investigation was to test if the changing of the order of letters in words would negate the Stroop Effect. I hypothesized that if I scramble the letters enough it is possible to break the Stroop Effect.

The experiment involved the testing of six volunteers, each with six test-sets. The first test set shows the words written in the same color of their meaning. The second set shows the words written in a color that is different from their meaning, the third one shows words that are related to the color in which they are written. Test sets four to six show scrambled words, all in a different color from their meaning. All six volunteers had to name the color of the words, not the meaning, while I took the time they needed for this process.

The data I collected did not support my original hypothesis. None of the test sets three to six significantly shortened the time, needed by the volunteers to name the colors of the words. Test set number six is the one that comes closest to negating the Stroop Effect, with an average time of 16.73 seconds, only 5.8 seconds more than test set one and 3.8 seconds less than test set two.

These findings lead me to believe that if you scramble and do not capitalize the words that are different from their meaning, the volunteers stop trying to read the word and concentrate more on naming the color of the word.