De La Salle University – Dasmariñas

ABSTRACT

Name of Institution	:	**De La Salle University - Dasmariñas**
Address	:	**Dasmariñas, Cavite**
Title	:	**"The Effects of Noise on Memory Retention Among 2nd Year Psychology Students of DLSU-D S.Y. 2003 – 2004"**
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OBJECTIVES

General:

To know if there is an effect of noise on memory retention among the 2nd year Psychology students of DLSU-D:

Specific:

To answer the following questions:

1. What will be the raw score of the two experimental groups and the control group?
2. What will be the mean score in the post-test of the two experimental groups when exposed to different kinds of noise and what will be the mean score of the control group not expose to noise?
3. Is there any significant difference between the mean score of the participants of the:
    a. Two experimental groups
    b. The Control group and Two Experimental groups
4. Which among the three groups will give the most significant difference?

SCOPE AND COVERAGE

This study was conducted to determine the effects of noise on memory retention. It consisted of 101 second year Psychology students S.Y. 2003-2004. This study was conducted in De La Salle University - Dasmariñas.

The participants were three groups: the class section of Psychology 2-1, 2-2, and 2-4 school year 2003-2004. Two classes were assigned to be the two experimental groups and the remaining was the control group. The treatment for group one was exposure to soft noise, which consisted of bird's chirping, soft waves on beaches, sound of nature in rainforest, raindrops, and sound of the leaves or trees being blown by the wind. The treatment for group two was

exposure to harsh noise, which consisted of traffic, equipments at work, chainsaw, aircraft, and people chatting. The control group was not exposed to any noise. To measure the memory retention of the participants of the three groups, they were given a 15-item Identification type of post-test based on the lecture made by the professor and the researchers. Exposure to the two kinds of noise of group one and two was only for 30 minutes. The allowance for the preparation for the post-test was only for one minute.

METHODOLOGY

Multi-group experimental design was used because there were more than two groups of subjects and each group ran through a different treatment conditions. The second year Psychology students of DLSU-D enrolled in Human Development were considered as the pool of participants. Using Cluster Sampling Technique, the researchers randomly selected three sections. Every member of each class was automatically taken as a participant of the study. The researchers then randomly assigned each class to be the two experimental groups exposed to two different types of noise, which was the soft and harsh noise, and the remaining class, the control group, was not expose to any noise.

MAJOR FINDINGS

1. The mean score of group one (9.16) was almost the same as the mean score of group three (8.78), and group one and three got a higher score than group two (6.22).
2. The computed F (10.616) was greater than the critical value (3.09). Therefore, the alternative hypothesis, there is a significant difference, was accepted.
3. Comparison of group one and group two showed a significant difference, comparison of group one and group three showed no significant difference. Group two and three showed a significant difference.

CONCLUSIONS

1. Exposure to harsh noise resulted to a negative effect on the memory retention of group two.
2. The computed F of 10.616 was greater than the critical value of 3.09. It implied that there was a significant difference on the memory retention of the three groups.
3. Pair (a) and Pair (c) had a significant difference while Pair (b) was the least significant among the pairs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Teachers and students should try to avoid conducting classes in a noisy environment for this could harm the students' and the teachers' performance that may lead to missing out important details of the discussion and interrupt teacher-and-student communication.
2. School administration and staff should provide conducive learning situation for the students. Noises that could harm the students' and teachers' concentration should be eliminated or reduced by the school administration and staff.
3. For the future researchers it is recommended that they explore more on the effects of noise on different cognitive levels, personality type and gender.