



Colorado Science and Engineering Fair

2025 Team Project Abstract Form

Please print 2 copies of the completed form. Sign both copies, keep 1 for your notebook and submit 1 copy to your Regional Fair Director with your other paperwork.

Title of Project: Mandela Effect: Identifying Confirmation Bias

Team Leader's Name: Paisley Vezeau

Team Member 1: Isabella Lorenzini

Team Member 2: Kenya Abaroa

School and City: Ignacio High School, Ignacio, Colorado

Sponsor's Name: Crystal Redman

Category: Behavioral & Social Science

Division: Senior (grades 9 - 12)

Abstract (250 words or less):

Our project examines the role of confirmation bias in the Mandela Effect, a phenomenon where large groups of people share false memories despite evidence to the contrary. We aimed to determine whether individuals would cling to incorrect memories even after being presented with accurate information.

Participants recalled specific Mandela Effect examples, such as misremembered brand names or movie quotes, and were then shown the correct information. Our hypothesis was that participants would favor their initial, incorrect memories due to confirmation bias.

We conducted a survey via Google Forms, including examples like "Looney Tunes" vs. "Luney Toons" and "Shaggy's Adam's Apple." The results showed that, of 78 responses, 58 participants maintained their incorrect memory, while 20 acknowledged they were mistaken. This observation supports our hypothesis that confirmation bias influences the persistence of false memories.

We hereby certify that the above statements are correct and the information provided in the Abstract is the result of one year's research. We also attest that the above properly reflects our own work.

Team Leader's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Team Member 1's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Team Member 2's Signature: _____

Date: _____

In addition, all students must complete the ISEF Student Checklist (1A), Research Plan, Approval Form (1B), and Checklist for Adult Sponsor (1), and any other ISEF forms required for this type of project. See the International Rules and Guidelines for form requirements. Return COPIES of all of these forms to your Regional Fair Director with your Finalist Verification/Permission Form. **A signed copy of this form must be included in your notebook.**