

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Scientific Method Read & Write Handout

### Musical Memory

Nathan and his brothers loved to listen to music while they did their homework. Their mother did not like this. She told them to turn it off. The boys argued that listening to music was beneficial to their studies.

For his science fair project, Nathan decided to test this idea. While writing his research paper, he discovered that certain types of music relaxed people and was helpful in learning new material. He was confident that he would be proving his mother wrong.

Nathan tested three groups of students, all the same age. Group 1 listened to no music, group 2 listened to classical music and group 3 listened to rap music. While they did this, each group studied the same list of 20 words. This went on for five minutes. At the end of that time, the music was turned off and each person wrote down as many words as they could remember from the list.

Group 1 remembered an average of 12 words. Group 2 remembered an average of 16 words. Group 3 remembered an average of 11 words. Nathan proved to his mother that listening to music would in fact help him study. He also proved, however, that he should listen to classical music and not rap, which he preferred.

His mother happily agreed to play classical music while her boys studied each evening.

1. State the problem.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Underline Nathan's research.

3. What is the control in this experiment?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Why is it important that all of the students tested be the same age?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. How could Nathan improve this experiment? Name two ways.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Circle the analyzed data.

7. Box-in the conclusion.

8. How is the conclusion useful in real life?  
How could we apply this to our daily lives?

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