

Are left-handed people more ambidextrous than right-handed people?

Although most people identify as either left-handed or right-handed the majority exhibit some degree of ambidextrousness.

In this project people will perform writing and drawing tasks with their dominant hand and then with their subordinate hand. The shapes in each task are supposed to have varying degrees of familiarity to the students.

The students should choose their own sets of shapes and give their reasons for the particular selection.

The times taken and the differences between the two times will be used in attempting to answer the question above.

The group targeted for sampling could be selected for example by gender or age and the data could be analysed in total or task by task.

The data should be collated and displayed in ways which assist in drawing a conclusion. It can be difficult to convey to students that reaching no conclusion can be a legitimate result.

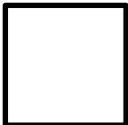
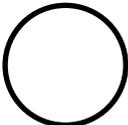
Other tests for ambidextrousness could involve throwing, kicking, sawing or hammering.

Provided a large enough sample can be found, the comparison might be narrowed to for example piano players or some other group in which both hands are used to perform complex tasks.

Example test for ambidextrousness

Group: _____ Identifies as: _____ Subgroup: _____

1. Copy the four shapes shown by freehand and record the time you take.

					Time taken
Right hand					
Left hand					

2. Copy the four letters shown and record the time you take.

	a	b	e	f	Time taken
Right hand					
Left hand					

3. Copy the four letters shown and record the time you take.

	P	Q	R	S	Time taken
Right hand					
Left hand					

4. Copy the four symbols shown and record the time you take.

	!	?	©	℞	Time taken
Right hand					
Left hand					

5. Copy the four characters from other alphabets shown and record the time you take.

	℥	æ	Ƶ	Д	Time taken
Right hand					
Left hand					

6. Copy the four symbols shown and record the time you take.

	ω	⊛	⊛	□	Time taken
Right hand					
Left hand					