

Developing a 'Recipe' for Success in ESP Experimental Research (Phase III)

Results:

One hundred individuals took part in a free-response ESP experiment. Half of them were tested using a standard Ganzfeld condition while the other half were through a modified experimental condition that integrated a series of psi-conducive practices recommended by researchers in the area in a previous phase of research. Participants in the modified experimental condition (15 direct hits, 30%, $z = 0.82$, $p = 0.21$) were more successful than in the Ganzfeld (11 direct hits, 22%, $z = -0.49$, $p = 0.31$). However, this difference did not reach significance ($z = 0.92$, $p = 0.18$). The mean z -score for the sample was not significant either ($z = 0.19$, $p = 0.42$).

Among the measures that could be quantified in the modified condition only the degree of success of the *target stimulus* in previous studies correlated positively with the session outcome at an alpha level below 0.01 (0.39, $p = 0.004$). Two other variables: *feedback to the sender participant* and *post-session review* showed correlation indices in the expected direction with p -values below 0.05 (0.36, $p = 0.01$ and 0.32, $p = 0.02$, respectively). Variables *male-female pairing* and *personalised setting* showed small, non-significant coefficients (0.11, $p = 0.44$ and 0.10, $p = 0.47$, respectively).

In a multiple regression analysis only the variable *post-session review* contributed to the prediction of performance by participants in this condition with a significant coefficient of 0.15 ($p = 0.006$). *Feedback to the sender participant* showed a marginally significant coefficient of 0.06 ($p = 0.05$). The set of predictors accounted for 26.4% of the criterion.

Published Works:

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Area(s) of interest:

Parapsychology, ESP, Ganzfeld.

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