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What Does Science Mean To You?

“Science is the magic you can explain.”

– Caroline Boyd-Rogers, Clinical Psychology Grad Student.

“To me, science is directed passion involving both advancing knowledge of the world at basic and applied levels and balancing ethics, ego, and exhaustion.”

– Solange Bolger, Clinical Psychology Grad Student.

“Science is the tool I use to answer questions of the universe and how it functions.”

– Olivia Jones, Physics Grad Student.

“Science is responsible for the information of everything, from miniscule atoms to the vastness of the universe.”

–Erin Barrick, Undergrad Research Assistant

“For me, science is a rigorous method for advancing our contextualized understanding, assessment, prevention, and treatment of behavioral health challenges faced by highly diverse individuals”

– Dr. Teresa Treat, Psychological & Brain Sciences

What Does Science Mean To You?

Science, a method of discovery

A method of learning, of progress

To me, science consists of meticulous moments

Reaching a predictable possibility

A series of steps, of strides forward, toward

What is previously unknown

Impact of Science

Science is a living, breathing thing.

Malleable and moving,

Always making its way forward.

Advancements in healthcare,

Communication, the environment

All play a role in revolutionizing our lives.

Scientific Method

Question everything, even the curiosities in your mind

Research it all, relating what you know to what you don't

Hypothesize, synthesize what you are thinking

Experiment openly, actively participate in productive processes

Data Analysis is only intimidating if you let it be

Concluding the research is like the closing of a sentence

Communication is key, sharing with those who may or may not agree

Accessibility

Accessing aspects of research is acutely essential

Centering the celebration of concrete creations

Allows alternative explanations to alleviate, assuming that

Science has been sought out by some serendipitous system

Statistics

The t -statistic of this poem is likely to be
Not statistically significant, relating the
Relationship that art and science have –
The group means don't differ in a quantifiable way

The correlation coefficient r is likely to be
A near-linear line between art and science –
A positive relationship. The two are connected,
Unlikely, though that may appear to be

The Cohen's d of this poem is likely to be
high in magnitude, near .80, I think –
It's large, its effect size suggesting
A strong relationship between the two groups

Knowledge

An open mind is allowed to utilize their own internal power

To create, to question.

An inquisitive soul is encouraged to better the world, now or

Never – no not never.

Always. There is always time for knowledge, a second – an hour

To learn, to progress.

Writing

There are various types of writing,

Some creative, some scientific.

That suggest innovation.

That belie precision.

Writing is an art.

Words allow us

To express meaning.

To portray imagery and reason.

The multitude of written forms allow for

A message to be succinctly and efficiently relayed.

Dissemination

Sharing.

It's one of the most basic

Forms of community-building in societies.

Sharing resources, sharing knowledge.

The spread of knowledge is so

Important to the

Development of thought –

Of inquisitive endeavors. Science

Is one source of knowledge that creates

New ideas, new opportunities. Art is another

Aspect of knowledge vital to bettering

The pathways of the mind. Art and

Science go hand in hand, their

Paths branching but

The same.

Creation and critique

Both go into a product, which

Gets shared with others, perpetuating

Access to knowledge.

Disseminated.

Science and Creativity

The act of creating is a personal thing.

The act of creating – anything – requires you to dive deep

And discover what you want from the project.

If you will be conducting research, you have to dive into the depths

Of yourself to address your own abilities, your biases,

Your concrete goals for the project. You need to have that spark of creativity.

An idea that starts you off, that gets the

Gears going, blood flowing. Science, at its heart, is a generative act.

You need to have some pulse of creation

To start your study. Although many scientists claim that they are not

The creative type, my personal hypothesis

Is that science and creativity are intertwined, aligned.

About the Author

Madalyn R. Lovejoy is a published poet and undergraduate researcher majoring in Psychology and Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies at the University of Iowa. She has over thirty published poems and creative writing projects in various magazines or publications on-campus and online. Madalyn is a recipient of the UI:MARC fellowship, and is a member of the Clinical-Cognitive Science Lab. She and her mentor, Dr. Teresa Treat, work on various projects relating to sexual attitudes and behaviors of college students. Madalyn's current research looks at the rape-supportive attitudes that college men and women endorse between gender-inclusive and heteronormative measures. She wrote and defended an honors thesis on this subject in October 2023. Her research has been presented at various conferences and festivals hosted by the University of Iowa, and she will be presenting her most recent project at the Midwestern Psychological Association Conference in April 2024. Her drive to combine artistic and scientific endeavors reflects her belief that science is a creative practice that affects many aspects of life.

