

Abstract

The enhancement effect of listening to Mozart on the visuo-spatial ability of Chinese children was investigated in this study. Elementary school pupils ($N = 102$) were assigned to one of the three treatment groups, the musical treatment group, the concurrent musical treatment group, and the silence group. In the musical treatment group, the subjects first listened to the music of Mozart for 10 minutes, and then they were examined by the Rey-Osterrieth Complex Figure Test (RCFT) and the verbal learning test. In the concurrent musical treatment group, the subjects completed the two tests while listening to Mozart. In the silence group, the subjects first listened to a silence tape for 10 minutes, and then they were also tested by the two tests. The results showed that the subjects in the musical treatment group had higher scores in the copy section of the RCFT than those in the silence group, but there was no difference in the scores of the verbal learning test between them. It was concluded that listening to Mozart could improve the visuo-spatial ability of Chinese children, and this effect was found to be specific in the right hemisphere.