

1086-00-2575 **Rachel E Sefton*** (reb2c@mtmail.mtsu.edu). *Effects of Writing before Tests in College Algebra*. Preliminary report.

Past research has found a negative correlation between test anxiety and test performance. In 2011, Gerardo Ramirez and Sian L. Beilock found that highly test anxious 9th grade Biology students who wrote about their feelings about their impending final exam performed better on the exam than those who wrote about something else; students with low test anxiety were not affected by the intervention. The current research examines whether a College Algebra class writing about feelings before unit tests outperforms another College Algebra class writing about something else and whether any effect changes over the course of the semester. (Received September 25, 2012)