

ABSTRACT

Not less than ninety percent of the world population exhibits 'directionally consistent' right-hand preference for most unimanual activities. Approximately 10% left-handers would always exist in the population either due to genetic, probabilistic or socio-cultural reasons. The present study aims to examine (a) preference and performance pattern of hand and foot (b) lateral superiority in terms of visual-field, and (c) the relationship of handedness and accidents, in self classified left, mixed and right-handers. While preference was determined with the help of questionnaire, performance, hemispheric dominance and frequency of accident were assessed using tapping task, split visual-field task, and accident inventory, respectively. Results suggested that unlike mixed-handers, right and left-handers performed better with their preferred hand and foot. With respect to visual-field superiority, right and left-handers showed consistency in terms of normal hemi-field dominance; mixed-handers however failed to show any specific hemispheric dominance. It was found that left and nonright-handers were more prone to accidents than right-handers.

Key words: Handedness, footedness, visual-field, accident.