

Nowadays, people are more and more used to the aptitude assessment for children by using basic cognitive test at first then upgrading the test level regarding to different situations, different perception ability of each child. In some American schools, there are special programs for talented students that are able to identify them basing on IQ and standardized tests. In Canada, parents usually take their children to anthropometric tests at the very young age so as to learn about personality and strengths of their children. However, you should not entirely trust schools in terms of discovering children's talents. Anthropometric results sometimes cannot keep track of the children everyday because changes in perception and thinking are calculated in day unit, not just once can possibly enough to assess the whole growth process. There are many factors to identify a talented kid, yet some of which are not noticed in the traditional educational system. If your children are talented, you need to ensure they get essential attention to grow. You can recognize a talented kid through outstanding studying ability, amazing communication skill, thorough thinking and strong empathy ability. According to Howard Gardner PhD. of Harvard Graduate School, there are 7 types of aptitude commonly spotted from children, including: space, body aesthetic, music, extrovert, introvert, linguistics and mathematical logic.

For the first time, CAT applies tests assessing potential and outstanding ability of children in distinct fields like music, painting, memory, language, ... The questionnaire system in tests is built by CAT members in cooperation with education experts and top researchers of children's psychology in America. The tests fully apply thinking methods verified all over the world. In the beginning of 2018, CAT, for the first time, experimented 8 perception tests and received trust of 6 million parents with over 14,000 children in 5 countries where education is highly developed, like Britain, America, Germany, Australia and Canada. These are international standardized perception tests, helping children outstandingly think, awakening their gifted potential and enhancing their creativity.

Perception test is a system of questions in different fields, used to assess and sort out the thinking and perception of the test takers. Perception is the action or the absorbing

process of knowledge and understanding through thoughts, experience and senses, including procedures like consciousness, attention, memory, evaluation, estimation, reasoning, calculation, problem solving, decision making, comprehension and use of language. That perception path is carried out through periods, from simple to complicated, from low to high, from detailed to abstract, from the outer appearance to the inner nature. Understanding the basic principle of that perception, the questionnaire is divided into 8 tests in 8 different fields with different features suitable for children from 0-10 years old, following suitable levels so as to precisely, objectively and fully assess the potential of the children.

With this perception test, children can start shaping their aptitudes and strengths, grow and choose to follow the talents inside them. Little Mozart had an utterly outstanding talent in music. With any music verse, any difficult music technique, he only needed his father to teach him once and already understood and could play right away. At the age of 4, he already played the piano so beautifully, even complicated tunes. At the age of 5, he made his first works, many of which were incredible, like Melodica. His father, once again, was shocked by his talent because his father only taught him piano, violon, never writing music.

The importance of developing children's aptitude from the early age is becoming the prior concern of parents. They expect their children to fully grow and get to do what they do best. Young geniuses all have outstanding characteristics in some different fields, yet if without enriching and practicing everyday, talents get faded and eventually vanished. With the advantage of personalized curriculum following each small change of children, CAT commits that the output quality after the tests will be the children capable of perceiving and thinking three times better than other children at the same age. Many children, after experiencing the curriculum, started to get significant achievements while mastering their aptitudes.

### ***About CAT General Knowledge Test***

#### **1. Overview:**

5-year old kids always long for exploring the world. Practical experience helps them form theories, which explain to them about reasons and the ways things work.

Besides, children can use simple tools like thermometer or ruler to gather information, performing some kinds of experiment by themselves. 5-year old kids also use more descriptive language in representing information, raising question or explaining.

### Common skills

- Finding answers alone by planning and performing simple experiments basing on learnt lessons. For examples: making water flow down from a bucket on a high place after seeing the movement of water in tubes, pipes in class.
- Generalizing the features of a group of animals after studying some of them. Learning to use simple tools like thermometer or rulers to gather information.
- Increasing the ability to gather, recognize information from images or graphics.
- By witnessing things around, finding explanation and the way things happen alone. Drawing conclusion based on comparing information from different sources. For examples: images from books, the play time at school with friends, alone time.
- Using more words to collect information, raise question as well as give explanation.
- Making plans, carrying out and discussing about small works to cooperate with others. For examples: experimenting which object rolls down the slope faster and using stopwatch to determine who is right, who is wrong.

### Knowledge about Natural Science

- Realizing that matter can be changed under impacts like heating, cooling, mixing or bending. But not all matters change in the same way.
- Starting to discover the sources of sound, light as well as its features. For examples, kids can determine what causes sound from the neighbor's house or

how the class is lighted. Kids can also experiment changing the position of sources of sound, light to find out about the change.

- Learning more about water and its features basing on the kids' experience. For examples, kids will realize the change of the flow, notice the shape, size of the drop, determine which floats, which sinks. Besides, kids know water can be frozen to ice, or ice can be melted to water.
- Basing on their complicated experience to form the perception of position and movement.

### Knowledge about life

- Understanding the concept of shape and function of things. For examples, understanding the function of tree roots. Kids also need to know about organs inside the body. For examples, kids need to know when running, the heart beats faster; the brain is for thinking, throwing balls is the job of muscles. Besides, kids need to know that sapling or young animals have much similarity to their parents.
- Knowing different ways that trees and animals use to meet their demand. Kids need to obtain basic knowledge about things humans need from nature, like food, drink or air.
- Identifying the difference between living creatures and non-living things.
- Using knowledge to create habitat in house for the pets they bring home.
- Seeing the diversity of trees as well as animals. For examples, the leaves on different trees have different shapes. Even the leaves on one tree do not have the same size, color or shape.
- Describing the life cycle of a tree or a creature basing on the observation of its changes. Kids also need to know a bit about the life cycle of a human by observing family members.

### Knowledge about the earth and space

- Realizing that stones, pebbles have various shapes and sizes.
- Realizing weather can change everyday, and each season has its distinct features.
- Identifying basic shapes of the moon, the sun basing on daily observation.

## **2. Purpose of the test**

General knowledge test of CAT aims to help parents estimate the general knowledge of their children, then gives the right orientation to the growth and practice of their children, enriching the general knowledge.

The test should be taken multiple times after each time the children undergo practicing step by step of the growth process.

Each child has a distinct way to perceive, so if your child's general knowledge test results are unfortunately poorer than expectation, you should not worry yourself too much because it has absolutely no impact on your child's IQ.

## **3. What are the features of the children with good general knowledge and how do they grow?**

Good general knowledge is being good at summarizing. Yet, parents should notice to improve the specific skill for their children. The kids good at general knowledge can grow and succeed in many different fields.

For examples, kids can use words to describe hearable sound. When telling stories to children, if you change their content, words, children will correct them. These children are drawn to music. Parents need to guide and develop the linguistic talent of their children. You can add more vocabulary and details when telling stories, like describing scenario or mentality of some characters, animals ... Do tell stories with open ending so that the whole family can play "what happens next". Take the children to special places to observe then describe detail about them, like designing scenes like

“small pond after the rain”, “playground on Sunday” ... When children tell you about their desire, you need to carefully listen and respond, encourage them to describe their “beautiful dreams” in a more reasonable way.

Children like to raise odd question, like why humans cannot fly, why fishes live under water, why flowers are red ... They like sorting out toys in terms of size or color. It means that they are gifted in logic-mathematics. Encourage and improve that talent. You can play “hours on the clock” game after they get used to time so that they can tell the hours correctly. You can also put household objects together to play the game of “sorting and arranging”. Walk on the stair while counting then ask them such questions like: “If you go down from 7<sup>th</sup> floor, how many steps are there in total?” or “How many steps are there from 2<sup>nd</sup> floor to 5<sup>th</sup> floor?” ... and observe the ability to memorize and quick calculate of the children. You can use cards to count scores, and get the whole family to join the game.

Or, children know how to navigate in case of getting lost. They clearly remember places, signs on the street and regularly mention the times passing by those places. They enjoy painting, making drafts of objects that look so real. If your children have those features, it means they have rich space imagination. Take every opportunity to get them to comprehend maps, like the map at the bus stop. Let them guess whether the painting of other kids have any kind of relation or ratio combination or not. At first, you can choose rectangle supermarket to decrease the difficulty of finding the cashier. Then, you can gradually up the level to L-shaped or U-shaped supermarket. Before playing this game, you must tell your children how to call for help from the staff in case of “failing to find the person”, how to describe names, features of adults, how to write phone number on hands, ...

#### **4. Which level of the test is your child at?**

Though the test result shows that your child is below average, it does not mean he/she is not smart because IQ and general knowledge do not have too much in common.

Test result totally changes through time by such factors like practicing and obtained experience. To children without good general knowledge, you can guide them to other fields like mathematics, analysis and research.

However, after the test, we see that you can support your child in the field of music, action ability. You can apply such methods as: if you give children space or suitable stage, they can not only practice their body moving skill, carefully moving, but also improve the ability to imagine, create. Parents can let their children take part in relating courses and activities like emotion training, special course, physical exercise, choreography, play acting ... Preschool is the best time of developing music potential, so adults should teach their children essential skills and basic knowledge relating to music like notes, staves, how to guess the song through rhythm, tune; simple skills to distinguish common way of singing, Bel canto, folk music ... with basic way to perform, correct skill, posture when playing common musical instruments like organ, accordion, violin, erhu ... When children are young, obtaining primary knowledge is enough. Try to avoid tough requirement and knowledge for children.

Introduce them to guests and base on their characteristics to arrange some “interesting old friends” to chat with them so as to improve their potential of “psychological understanding”. Get them more access to strangers. Constantly correct wrong perceptions and flaws when seeing strangers. Encourage and guide them right. When parents feel the children’s concern about their feelings, they need to say thanks to the children. After being encouraged, children will become more aware of “understanding and thinking about other people”.

In fact, by realizing and noticing the gifted talents of the children soon, parents can guide them to improve those talents in the best way, helping them succeed in the future.

CAT hopes to stay close to the growth of your children. CAT gifts you and your children free growth process and will be with them on the path to their success.