

ICPSR 25281

**Midlife in the United States
(MIDUS 2): Cognitive Project,
2004-2006**

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Protocol

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MIDUS II Cognitive Battery
Brief Test of Adult Cognition by Telephone (BTACT)
P. A. Tun and M. E. Lachman
Brandeis University

Annotated Protocol with MIDUS II Variable Names
April 6, 2009

In this phone interview I will ask you to try and do some exercises that involve remembering and making judgments about words and numbers. Before we begin, I need to tell you a few things. Your participation is completely voluntary. If you prefer not to answer any question, just let me know and we will go on to the next question. The information that you give me will be confidential and used for statistical analysis only. It will be identified only by computer code and at no time will your name or other identifying information be attached to the survey results. Therefore, I won't be able to give any specific feedback. After the whole study is completed we will send you a summary of our overall findings.

These tasks are not harmful in any way. The exercises will take about 15 minutes. Do you have any questions about your participation in this study?"

We will be tape recording the interview today so that we can score the exercises later. Do I have your permission to go ahead with this?

(If participant seems distracted, or there is noise or commotion in background such as young children, TV or radio, or other people talking, say "It is important that you are able to concentrate without being distracted while we do these exercises. Would it be better for me to call you back another time?" If so, make an appointment for another time.)

First I would like to make sure that you are able to hear me clearly. Please repeat these numbers after me: 2, 8, 3, 6, 9. *(If not loud enough, ask person to speak up clearly.)* Could you hear me clearly?

Now you will hear some words and numbers. Please do not use a paper and pencil for any of the questions. We suggest that you close your eyes while you are doing these to help you concentrate. Some of the questions will be easy for you, and some will be harder. We do not expect anyone to get all of these correct - just do the best you can.

WORD LIST RECALL (1.5 minutes on average)
Rey Auditory-Verbal Learning Test (Lezak, 1983)

I am going to read a list of 15 words. Listen carefully. When I am finished, you are to repeat as many of the words as you can remember. It doesn't matter in what order you repeat them. Just try to remember as many as you can. I will say each word only one time, and I cannot repeat any words. You will have up to one and a half minutes, and I will not say anything until I tell you that your time is up. Do you have any questions? Are you ready?

(Read with one second interval between each word)

DRUM
CURTAIN
BELL
COFFEE
SCHOOL
PARENT
MOON
GARDEN
HAT
FARMER
NOSE
TURKEY
COLOR
HOUSE
RIVER

Now tell me as many words as you can remember.

*(Record words recalled **correctly by entering the one or two letter code**, as well as repetitions of same word and intrusions).*

B3TWLI1 to B3TWLI26, word list immediate-recalled #1 to recalled #26

B3TWLITU: Word List Immediate: Tot Unique Items

B3TWLITR: Word List Immediate: Tot # Repetitions

B3TWLITI: Word List Immediate: Tot # Intrusions

If person stops before 1 1/2 minutes is up, say, "There's still time left, can you think of any more?"

Good, now let's go on.

DIGITS BACKWARD (2.5 minutes)

WAIS III (1997)

I am going to say some strings of numbers, and when I am done I would like you to repeat them backwards, in the reverse order from which I said them. So if I said “3, 8”, you would say “8, 3”. Do you understand? The sets will get larger as we go.

(Read in monotone, 1 sec per number..Drop your voice on the last digit to indicate it is time to respond. If they get the first trial on one level, move on to the next level.

Discontinue after 2 trials missed on a level).

1. 2 - 4 (4 - 2) _____
5 - 7 (7 - 5) _____
2. 6 - 2 - 9 (9 - 2 - 6) _____
4 - 1 - 5 (5 - 1 - 4) _____
3. 3 - 2 - 7 - 9 (9 - 7 - 2 - 3) _____
4 - 9 - 6 - 8 (8 - 6 - 9 - 4) _____
4. 1 - 5 - 2 - 8 - 6 (6 - 8 - 2 - 5 - 1) _____
6 - 1 - 8 - 4 - 3 (3 - 4 - 8 - 1 - 6) _____
5. 5 - 3 - 9 - 4 - 1 - 8 (8 - 1 - 4 - 9 - 3 - 5) _____
7 - 2 - 4 - 8 - 5 - 6 (6 - 5 - 8 - 4 - 2 - 7) _____
6. 8 - 1 - 2 - 9 - 3 - 6 - 5 (5 - 6 - 3 - 9 - 2 - 1 - 8) _____
4 - 7 - 3 - 9 - 1 - 2 - 8 (8 - 2 - 1 - 9 - 3 - 7 - 4) _____
7. 9 - 4 - 3 - 7 - 6 - 2 - 5 - 8 (8 - 5 - 2 - 6 - 7 - 3 - 4 - 9) _____
7 - 2 - 8 - 1 - 9 - 6 - 5 - 3 (3 - 5 - 6 - 9 - 1 - 8 - 2 - 7) _____

B3TDBS: Digits Backward: highest # digits recall

Good, now let's go on.

CATEGORY FLUENCY (1.5 minutes)

Drachman & Leavitt (1972)

** NOTE: these instructions were rewritten 12/18/03

Now I am going to give you a category and you will name things that belong in that category. Let's practice with the category "fruit". You could say peach, or pear. Can you think of any other fruits? (*wait for 2 correct items*). In a moment I will give you another category. When I say begin, you will name all the things from this **new** category you can think, as fast as you can. You will have one minute to do this. I will let you know when your time is up. The new category is animals. Do you have any questions? Ready?

Begin. (*Time for one minute*). If person stops before 1 minute is up, say "There's still more time, can you think of any more?"

(If person asks whether birds, fish, insects, reptiles, etc. are acceptable, say yes.)

1 – 15 sec.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

15- 30 sec.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

30- 45 sec.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

45-60 sec.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

B3TCTFLU: Category Fluency: Tot Unique items

B3TCTFLR: Category Fluency: Tot # Repetitions

B3TCTFLI: Category Fluency: Tot # Intrusions

Good, now let's go on.

RED/GREEN TEST (3-3.5 minutes)

Next I am going to see how quickly you can respond to the words RED and GREEN. Every time I say RED you will say STOP, and every time I say GREEN you will say GO. Try to be accurate, but respond as quickly as you can. So when I say RED you will say...

And when I say GREEN you will say...

Do you have any questions? Let's begin. This will last about 1 minute.

(Do 20 trials. Allow 1 second between response and next cue. Record accuracy with 1 for correct answers, 0 for incorrect or self-corrections, 2 for invalid trials.)

RED/GREEN TASK: BASELINE NORMAL

ALLOW 1 SECOND BETWEEN TRIALS

1	B3TSWN1	GREEN	GO
2	B3TSWN2	RED	STOP
3	B3TSWN3	G	GO
4	B3TSWN4	R	STOP
5	B3TSWN5	R	STOP
6	B3TSWN6	G	GO
7	B3TSWN7	R	STOP
8	B3TSWN8	G	GO
9	B3TSWN9	R	STOP
10	B3TSWN10	G	GO
11	B3TSWN11	R	STOP
12	B3TSWN12	G	GO
13	B3TSWN13	G	GO
14	B3TSWN14	R	STOP
15	B3TSWN15	R	STOP
16	B3TSWN16	G	GO
17	B3TSWN17	R	STOP
18	B3TSWN18	G	GO
19	B3TSWN19	G	GO
20	B3TSWN20	R	STOP

Now you will do just the reverse of what you have been doing. So when you hear RED you will say GO, and when you hear GREEN you will say STOP. Do you have any questions? When I say RED you will say... and when I say GREEN you will say... Try to be accurate, but answer as quickly as you can.

(Do 20 trials. Allow one second between response and next cue. Record accuracy with 1 for correct answers, 0 for incorrect or self-corrections, 2 for invalid trials.)

RED/GREEN TASK: REVERSE BASELINE

ALLOW 1 SECOND BETWEEN TRIALS

1	B3TSWR1	GREEN	STOP
2	B3TSWR2	RED	GO
3	B3TSWR3	G	STOP
4	B3TSWR4	R	GO
5	B3TSWR5	R	GO
6	B3TSWR6	G	STOP
7	B3TSWR7	R	GO
8	B3TSWR8	G	STOP
9	B3TSWR9	R	GO
10	B3TSWR10	G	STOP
11	B3TSWR11	R	GO
12	B3TSWR12	G	STOP
13	B3TSWR13	G	STOP
14	B3TSWR14	R	GO
15	B3TSWR15	R	GO
16	B3TSWR16	G	STOP
17	B3TSWR17	R	GO
18	B3TSWR18	G	STOP
19	B3TSWR19	G	STOP
20	B3TSWR20	R	GO

Now we are going to mix up these two types of responses. When I give the cue NORMAL, you will respond the way you did at first: red means stop, green means go. But when I say REVERSE, you will give the reverse responses: RED means GO, GREEN means STOP. We will alternate between the NORMAL and the REVERSE every few trials. Let's try a few for practice.

NORMAL	RED	STOP
	GREEN	GO
	RED	STOP
REVERSE	GREEN	STOP
	RED	GO
	RED	GO
NORMAL	GREEN	GO
	RED	STOP
	GREEN	GO
REVERSE	GREEN	STOP
	RED	GO

Do you have any questions? . Try to be accurate, but answer as quickly as you can. This will take about one minute.

(Allow one second between cue word (normal or switch) and stimulus color item. Also allow one second between subject's response and the next stimulus item. Record correct, incorrect, and invalid trials.)

RED/GREEN TASK: EXPERIMENTAL TRIALS

1	B3TSWX1	NORMAL	GREEN	GO
2	B3TSWX2		RED	STOP
3	B3TSWX3		G	GO
4	B3TSWX4	REVERSE	R	GO
5	B3TSWX5		R	GO
6	B3TSWX6		G	STOP
7	B3TSWX7		R	GO
8	B3TSWX8		R	GO
9	B3TSWX9	NORMAL	R	STOP
10	B3TSWX10		G	GO
11	B3TSWX11		R	STOP
12	B3TSWX12		G	GO
13	B3TSWX13		G	GO
14	B3TSWX14		R	STOP
15	B3TSWX15	REVERSE	G	STOP
16	B3TSWX16		G	STOP
17	B3TSWX17		R	GO
18	B3TSWX18		G	STOP
19	B3TSWX19	NORMAL	G	GO
20	B3TSWX20		R	STOP
21	B3TSWX21		G	GO
22	B3TSWX22		G	GO
23	B3TSWX23		R	STOP
24	B3TSWX24	REVERSE	G	STOP
25	B3TSWX25		G	STOP
26	B3TSWX26		R	GO
27	B3TSWX27		G	STOP
28	B3TSWX28		R	GO
29	B3TSWX29	NORMAL	R	STOP
30	B3TSWX30		G	GO
31	B3TSWX31		R	STOP
32	B3TSWX32		G	GO

Good, now let's do something different.

NUMBER SERIES (2.5 minutes)

Salthouse & Prill (1987)

In the next exercise I will read you a series of numbers that may get larger or smaller in value. At the end you will try to figure out what the next number would be. So if the numbers were 2,4,6,8,10, the next number would be 12. After I say each number I will pause for as long as you need, and then you should say “okay” when you are ready for me to go on to the next number in the group. So if I said 2, you should say “okay” when you are ready for me to go on to the next number, then I say 4, you say okay, 6, okay, 8, okay, 10, and at the end I will ask you what you think the next number would be. In this case the next number would be 12, as each number has increased by 2.

Let’s try one for practice: 35 (okay), 30 (okay), 25 (okay), 20 (okay), 15 (okay) **AND** the next number would be....???? (The answer should be 10 as each number has decreased by 5). There will be different patterns, and some of these will be harder than others, so just do the best you can. If you are not sure of the answer, it is okay to guess. Do you have any questions?
(Pause after each of the first 4 items for okay response; after the last item, say **AND** the next number is...?).

(1) 18, 20, 24, 30, 38.....(48) _____ **B3TNS1**

B3TNS1C: Number Series #1: correct?

Okay. Are you ready for another? The next set is:

(2) 81, 78, 75, 72, 69.....(66) _____ **B3TNS2**

B3TNS2C: Number Series #2: correct?

Okay. Are you ready for another? The next set is

(3) 7, 12, 16, 19, 21.....(22) _____ **B3TNS3**

B3TNS3C: Number Series #3: correct?

Okay. Are you ready for another? The next set is

(4) 28, 25, 21, 16, 10.....(3) _____ **B3TNS4**

B3TNS4C: Number Series #4: correct?

Okay. Are you ready for another? The next set is

(5) 20, 37, 18, 38, 16.....(39) _____ **B3TNS5**

B3TNS5C: Number Series #5: correct?

B3TNSTOT: Number Series: Total Correct

Good, let’s move on.

BACKWARD COUNTING (45 seconds)

Next, I would like to see how fast you can count backwards. When I give the signal to begin, start counting backwards from 100 out loud, as fast as you can. So you will say 100, 99, 98 and so on. You will have half a minute. Do you have any questions? I will let you know when the time is up.

Begin (*Time for 30 seconds*)

Record final number reached, and number of errors.

B3TBKCT: Backward Counting: last # reached

B3TBKERR: Backward Counting: # of errors

**B3TBKTOT: Backward Counting: Total # Counted Correctly (100-
(B3TBKCT+B3TBKERR))**

Good, now one more question.

SHORT-DELAY WORD RECALL (40 seconds on average)

Do you remember the very first list of 15 words that I read to you in the beginning? It was the very first thing we did. (WAIT FOR SUBJECT TO RESPOND YES. MAKE SURE THEY UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS THE WORD LIST, NOT THE CATEGORY FLUENCY TEST). I want you to tell me as many of the words from that list as you can. You will have up to one minute. I will tell you when your time is up. (*Record words recalled, including intrusions and repetitions .*) *If person stops before 1 minute is up, say, “there is still more time can you think of any more?”*

DRUM
CURTAIN
BELL
COFFEE
SCHOOL
PARENT
MOON
GARDEN
HAT
FARMER
NOSE
TURKEY
COLOR
HOUSE
RIVER

B3TWLD1 to B3TWLD26, word list delayed-recalled #1 to recalled #26

B3TWLDTU: Word List Delayed: Tot Unique Items

B3TWLDTTR: Word List Delayed: Tot # Repetitions

B3TWLDTI: Word List Delayed: Total # Intrusions

Thank you very much for your help. We appreciate you taking the time to help us with this research project.

THANK YOU!

Encouraging comments to be used if the person expresses concern about performance:

During the test: “Just do the best you can.”

Remember, we do not expect anyone to get all of these questions correct.”

“Don’t worry. We have deliberately made these questions challenging. If people could get them all right, we would not learn anything. We’re trying to find which questions are harder than others.”
