**Calibration Questions**

Here are four calibration tests – two for ranges and two for binary (True/False) questions. If you are using these, you probably still have not achieved acceptable “calibration” after the tests in the book. Review the hints in the book for improving your calibration before proceeding.

As in the book, the range questions ask for a 90% Confidence Interval (CI). In other words, there should be only a 5% chance that the true answer is below your lower bound (95% chance it is above) and a 5% chance that the true answer is above your upper bound (95% chance it is below). The binary questions ask for a “true” or “false” answer. After each answer, circle the probability that best represents you chance you will get it right.

The answer keys are the last four pages of this document. As in the book, answer all the questions in one range test and one binary test. Then look up the answers only for that test when complete. Evaluate these calibration tests as explained in the book. If you still need further calibration, finish the other range and binary test.

**Supplementary Calibration Test: Range 1**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| # | Question | Lower Bound (95% chance value is higher) | Upper Bound (95% chance value is lower) |
| 1 | What percentage of bronze is typically made of copper? |  |  |
| 2 | How many countries have at least one McDonald’s? |  |  |
| 3 | How many employees did ebay have in the first quarter of 2006? |  |  |
| 4 | What was the population of Miami (within the city limits, not the entire metropolitan area) in 1990? |  |  |
| 5 | How many casualties did the French suffer in the Battle of Waterloo? |  |  |
| 6 | What is the range in miles of a Minuteman Missile? |  |  |
| 7 | What is the percentage of IT jobs in the US were unfilled in 1997? |  |  |
| 8 | The Supremes’ (with Diana Ross) song “Stop! In the Name of Love” was how long? (minutes, seconds) |  |  |
| 9 | How many undergraduates attended Cambridge in 1990? |  |  |
| 10 | If you could jump 50 feet straight up into the air, how many seconds would you be airborne before you landed? |  |  |
| 11 | How many gallons are in a bushel (they are both measures of volume)? |  |  |
| 12 | How many sovereign rulers has England had in the last thousand years? |  |  |
| 13 | If the air temperature was 5 degrees below zero (Fahrenheit) and the wind speed was 15 mph, what would the temperature adjusted for wind-chill be? |  |  |
| 14 | Average cost of testing in software development is what percentage of total project costs? |  |  |
| 15 | On average, if a software development project was projected to take 17 months, it actually takes how many months? |  |  |
| 16 | How many meters tall is the Sears Tower? |  |  |
| 17 | How many gold medals did Jesse Owens win at the 1936 Berlin Olympics? |  |  |
| 18 | In 2005, the average combined MPG for all US cars and light trucks on the road was how much? |  |  |
| 19 | The average house in the United States uses how many gallons of water per day? |  |  |
| 20 | What was the average price in the United States of a house sold in 2001? |  |  |

**Supplementary Calibration Test: Range 2**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| # | Question | Lower Bound (95% chance value is higher) | Upper Bound (95% chance value is lower) |
| 1 | The Airbus A380 provides seating for 525 people in standard three-class configuration. How many could it seat if all seats were economy class? |  |  |
| 2 | New development is what percentage of US software costs? |  |  |
| 3 | Human hair on the head grows at an average rate of how many inches per year? |  |  |
| 4 | If the Sahara Desert were the shape of a square of the same area, how long would one side be? |  |  |
| 5 | What is the average daily calorie intake in developed countries? |  |  |
| 6 | How much did the Apollo Command Module (the capsule where the astronauts sat) weigh (pounds)? |  |  |
| 7 | What is the average defects per thousand lines of code for U.S. commercial software? |  |  |
| 8 | What was the total number of pages in the Greater Dallas Yellow pages in 1998? |  |  |
| 9 | The largest meteorite ever found on Earth weighed how many tons? |  |  |
| 10 | Gone With The Wind won the Oscar for best picture in what year? |  |  |
| 11 | What is the road mileage from Seattle to Atlanta? |  |  |
| 12 | How many letters were in the Greek alphabet? |  |  |
| 13 | What year did Walt Disney create Mickey Mouse? |  |  |
| 14 | How many 20th century earthquakes world-wide measured above 8.0 on the Richter scale? |  |  |
| 15 | How many plays did Shakespeare write? |  |  |
| 16 | How many of the elements in the Periodic Table of chemistry were discovered in the 20th century? |  |  |
| 17 | What year was Mozart born? |  |  |
| 18 | The given name “Mathew” was the \_\_th most common name for boys in the US in 2006. |  |  |
| 19 | The average U.S. home has how many television sets? |  |  |
| 20 | Construction of Hoover dam began in what year? |  |  |

**Supplementary Calibration Test: Binary 1**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Statement | Answer (T/F) | Confidence that you are correct (Circle one) |
| 1 | The melting point of tin is higher than the melting point of aluminum. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 2 | In English, the word “quality” is more frequently used that the word “speed”. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 3 | Any male pig is referred to as a hog. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 4 | California’s giant sequoia trees are named for an early 19th century leader of the Cherokee Indians. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 5 | The Model T was the first car produced by Henry Ford. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 6 | When rolling 2 dice, a roll of 7 is more likely than a 3. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 7 | No one has ever been reported to have been hit by any object that fell from space. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 8 | Sir Christopher Wren was a British anthropologist. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 9 | Pakistan does not border Russia. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 10 | The Navy won the first Army-Navy football game. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 11 | The paperback version of the book “The Da Vinci Code”, as of July 2007, still ranks in the top 500 bestselling books on Amazon. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 12 | Italian has more words than any other language. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 13 | The month of August is named after a Greek god. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 14 | The deepest ocean trench is deeper than the Grand Canyon. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 15 | Abraham Lincoln was the first president born in a log cabin. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 16 | As of July of 2007, more people search Google for “Harry Potter” than “Hillary Clinton” (according to GoogleTrends). |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 17 | The population of Alabama is higher than the population of Arizona. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 18 | No category 5 hurricane hit the US in 2004. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 19 | The UK is among the top 10 largest economies in the world (by GDP). |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 20 | The movie Forest Gump has grossed more to date than E.T. The Extra Terrestrial. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |

**Supplementary Calibration Test: Binary 2**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Statement | Answer (T/F) | Confidence that you are correct (Circle one) |
| 1 | A 28 degrees Fahrenheit is colder than -15 degrees Celsius. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 2 | Alveoli are in the lungs. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 3 | The Berlin Wall, the barrier wall running through Berlin and separating East and West Germany was actually less than 2 miles long. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 4 | Another name for aspirin is nitric acid. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 5 | Crop rotation refers to changing the direction of the planting rows. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 6 | America On Line purchased Netscape. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 7 | The “bulge” in the Battle of the Bulge was a break in the Allied Lines caused by a German advance. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 8 | The former president Bill Clinton is taller than Jimmy Carter. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 9 | The TV series “Friends” never had a year when it had the number#1 Nielsen ratings. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 10 | A Google search on “CNN” generates more hits than a search on “weather”. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 11 | Amazon lists more books under the category “Mystery & Thrillers” than the category “Business & Investing”. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 12 | A pentagon has more sides than a hexagon. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 13 | In the English Language, the word “strategy” is used more often than the word “celebrate”. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 14 | The Ford Taurus has sold more cars to date than the Honda Civic. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 15 | The world record long jump is longer than the world record pole vault is high. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 16 | In the United States, more electricity is generated from coal than nuclear power. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 17 | Changing altitude requires changing the “Yaw” of an aircraft. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 18 | “Quixotic” is the proper spelling of an actual word in English. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 19 | Francis Scott Key wrote the lyrics, but not the music, for the American National Anthem. |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |
| 20 | As of July of 2007, more people search Google for “economy” than “virus” (according to GoogleTrends). |  | 50% 60% 70% 80%  90% 100% |

**Supplementary Calibration Test: Range 1 KEY**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| # | Answer |
| 1 | 92% |
| 2 | 120 |
| 3 | 11,600 |
| 4 | 358,500 |
| 5 | 37000 |
| 6 | 5000 |
| 7 | 10% |
| 8 | 2 minutes, 52 seconds |
| 9 | 10,000 |
| 10 | 3.525 |
| 11 | 8 |
| 12 | 47 |
| 13 | -25 F |
| 14 | 25% |
| 15 | 33 |
| 16 | 443 |
| 17 | 4 |
| 18 | 19.8 |
| 19 | 350 |
| 20 | $179,500 |

**Supplementary Calibration Test: Range 2 KEY**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| # | Answer |
| 1 | 853 |
| 2 | 41% |
| 3 | 7.1 |
| 4 | 1822 |
| 5 | 3,300 |
| 6 | 12,980 |
| 7 | 50 |
| 8 | 2258 |
| 9 | 60 |
| 10 | 1939 |
| 11 | 2,756 |
| 12 | 24 |
| 13 | 1928 |
| 14 | 7 |
| 15 | 37 |
| 16 | 29 |
| 17 | 1756 |
| 18 | 5th |
| 19 | 2.7 |
| 20 | 1931 |

**Supplementary Calibration Test: Binary 1 KEY**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Answer |
| 1 | FALSE |
| 2 | TRUE |
| 3 | FALSE |
| 4 | TRUE |
| 5 | FALSE |
| 6 | TRUE |
| 7 | FALSE |
| 8 | FALSE |
| 9 | TRUE |
| 10 | TRUE |
| 11 | FALSE |
| 12 | FALSE |
| 13 | FALSE |
| 14 | TRUE |
| 15 | FALSE |
| 16 | TRUE |
| 17 | FALSE |
| 18 | TRUE |
| 19 | TRUE |
| 20 | FALSE |

**Supplementary Calibration Test: Binary 2 KEY**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Answer |
| 1 | FALSE |
| 2 | TRUE |
| 3 | FALSE |
| 4 | FALSE |
| 5 | FALSE |
| 6 | TRUE |
| 7 | TRUE |
| 8 | TRUE |
| 9 | FALSE |
| 10 | FALSE |
| 11 | FALSE |
| 12 | FALSE |
| 13 | TRUE |
| 14 | FALSE |
| 15 | TRUE |
| 16 | TRUE |
| 17 | FALSE |
| 18 | TRUE |
| 19 | TRUE |
| 20 | FALSE |