

Mathematics

Number recognition

shape recognition

simple mathematical problems

some logic

general knowledge (inches in foot, feet in yard, roman numerals etc.)

time-telling

Description

the mathematics subtest consists of 84 multiple choice items, each with four options, which range from testing such early skills as matching, discriminating, and recognizing numerals; to measuring advanced concepts in geometry and trigonometry.

Reading Recognition

letter recognition

say a word then (point to visual rep of word or point to letter rep of word)

read words aloud

Description

this subtest also contains 84 items which range in difficulty from preschool through high school. An arbitrary distinction had to be made between the early, readiness-type items for the Reading Recognition subtest versus the Spelling subtest. In the judgement of the authors, the same prerequisites are needed for both word naming and recognizing the correctness of the spelling of printed words. Therefore those items that measured the ability to find a match for a letter of the alphabet from among four alternatives was arbitrarily placed in the reading subtest, while the task of indicating a letter of the alphabet as different from three other similar visual stimuli was arbitrarily assigned to the early spelling items. Thus, Items 1 through 9 on the Reading Recognition subtest involve matching one or more letters of the alphabet with identical stimuli that must be discriminated out from other increasingly similar ones in a multiple-choice format. Similarly, recognizing the names of letters of the alphabet was reserved for the reading subtest, while sounds of the letters are given as cues, along with the names of the letters, in spelling. Thus, Items 10 through 18 in Reading Recognition present individual letters to be named by the subject. The remaining items-- from 19 through 84-- are individual words which the subject reads aloud

Reading Comprehension

Read sentence then point to picture describing sentence

Description

As already indicated in Part I of this manual, this is the only subtest in the PIAT that does not have 84 items. It contains 66, 18 less than the other subtests. These 18 items would have measured beginning reading below the first half of the first grade. The reason they were eliminated was because the first 18 items on the Reading Recognition subtest were considered prerequisites to both reading measures. Therefore the 66 items in Reading Comprehension are numbered 19 through 84, with Item 19 corresponding in difficulty with Item 19 in Reading Recognition. Each of these 66 items on the Reading Comprehension subtest consists of two pages. The first page contains a sentence that the subject reads once silently. The second page, which is exposed to the subject after he has read the passage, has four alternate illustrations on it. The subject is asked to select the one which best represents the meaning of the sentence he has just read.

General Information

common knowledge questions are asked

examples:

what is used to sweep the floor?

answer: broom

what do we wear on our feet?

answer: shoes

what body part pumps the blood through your body?

answer: heart

which branch of government settles legal disputes?

answer: judicial

Description

the General Information subtest consists of 85 items which take the form of questions which are read aloud to the subject by the examiner, to which the subject answers orally. The subtest measures general encyclopedia knowledge, ranging across science, social studies, the fine arts and sports. An attempt was made to use questions that would be appropriate in both United States and Canada and hopefully in other English-speaking countries. The subtest includes neither items heavily loaded with the history, geography and government of the US, nor those emphasizing memory of the names of historical figures, dates, and so forth.

Spelling

letter recognition

4 words listed, pick one that is spelled correctly

Description

The spelling subtest consists of 84 multiple choice items, covering the full range of the PIAT from kindergarten through the high school. Items 1 through 10 require the pointing out of a printed letter of the alphabet as different from three other illustrations that are similar pictures of either objects, numerals or mathematical signs. Items 11 through 14 require the identification of the printed letter of the alphabet that represents a speech sound and/or named letter of the alphabet. From item 15 through 84, individual words are pronounced and used in sentences by the examiner, and the subject is instructed to point out the correct spelling for each word from among four choices. In short, the task is to recognize correct spelling, involving no writing on the part of the subject. The arbitrary nature of the assignment of the first 14 items to the Spelling rather than the Reading Recognition subtest has been discussed in the section of Part II headed Reading Recognition subtest.

General information correlated (0.68) with PPVT IQ

Total Score correlated (0.57) with PPVT IQ

Title

Peabody Individual Achievement Test. Manual

Author 1

Dunn, Lloyd M

Author 2

Markwardt, Frederick C

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