

**MIDUS 2 Project 3:
Brief Test of Adult Cognition by Telephone (BTACT)**

Cognitive Test Battery

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DO NOT PUBLISH OR POST ANY SUBTESTS OR ITEMS

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.

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?

List of items not included

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).

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) [Psychological Corporation]

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).

Items not included

Good, now let’s go on.

CATEGORY FLUENCY (1.5 minutes)

Drachman & Leavitt (1972)

Now I am going to name 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 of, 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 not included here.

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.)

Good, now let's go on.

STOP AND GO SWITCH TASK (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.) Latency scores are also computed.

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.)

Trials not included here

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...?*).

Items not included here

Good, let’s move on.

30 SECONDS AND COUNTING TASK- BACKWARD COUNTING (45 seconds)

Next, I would like to see how fast you can count. You will have half a minute. Do you have any questions? I will let you know when the time is up.

Specific instructions not included

Begin *(Time for 30 seconds)*

Record final number reached, and number of errors.

Good, now one more question.

SHORT-DELAY WORD LIST 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?”*

List of items not included here

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.”