

Explanation of the CogAT

The CogAT is designed to be a measure of the student's reasoning abilities. The CogAT has three subtests: verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal (spatial). Each subtest is described below.

The Verbal Subtest measures inductive, deductive, general verbal reasoning abilities as well as the vocabulary knowledge. It includes three types of questions: Verbal Classification, Sentence Completion and Verbal Analogies.

Verbal Classification-Students have to discover the conceptual link tying the words together and then select the word that belongs with the original set of words.

Sentence Completion-Each question of this type presents a sentence with one word omitted. Students select the word that correctly completes the meaning conveyed in the sentence.

Verbal Analogies-Students select from among five answer choices the one that correctly completes the analogy. Scores on Verbal Battery have positive correlations with reading, mathematics, and language achievement.

The Quantitative Subtest includes three types of questions: Quantitative Relations, Number Series and Equation Building

Quantitative Relations-Students are presented a pair of quantities. They must determine whether the first quantity is greater than, less than, or equal to the secondary quantity.

Number Series-Students are presented a series of numbers. Students must determine the rule underlying the progression in the series and then select the next number in the series.

Equation Building-Students are presented numbers and one or more mathematical symbols. Students are to combine the numbers and symbols to make an equation that can be solved using one of the five answer choices. Scores on the battery have high positive correlation with reading, language, and mathematics achievement and the correlations are higher for mathematics achievement.

The Nonverbal Subtest includes three types of questions: Figure Classification, Figure Analogies and Figure Analysis. All the questions on the battery use the figures, designs, or geometric shapes stimuli.

Figure Classification-Students have to discover the conceptual link or underlying characteristic that ties the figures presented together and select the figure that belongs with them in a similar fashion to the Verbal Classifications.

Figure Analogies- Student select from among five answer choices the one that correctly completes the figural analogy in a similar fashion to the Verbal Analogies.

Figure Analysis-Students are presented with a series of diagrams showing a square piece of paper being folded and holes being punched in the paper. Students have to select the figure that shows what the paper will look like when it is unfolded.

<http://www.isd623.org/edc/documents/ExplanationofCogAt.pdf>