

**VALIDITY**

**R:** Validity of Record, number of responses. Norm 17-27, mean = 22.32, SD 4.40.\*

HIGH	LOW
<p>&gt;33 – suggests introversive character, above-average intelligence with relatively high level of academic achievement, and high degree of creativity. Can also suggest good ego functioning, including ability to plan ahead, adequate impulse control and ability to tolerate stress. Among persons w/ psychopathology, high R is found among manics &amp; obsessive-compulsives. They are eager to please. Signals difficulty in limiting responses.</p> <p>High R is likely to alter meaning of specific formulas or render them useless. Higher proportion of D and Dd responses can be expected because # of W responses is usually exhausted sooner. Pure F responses will tend to increase, # of P will increase, &amp; usually more R for cards VIII &amp; X, thus elevating the Affective Ratio. (Treat interpretation of protocols with High R w/ caution.)</p>	<p>&lt;13 – likely not valid protocol, usefulness of most of the ratios and percentages is questionable. Less than 14 should be readministered, however, there may be some useful data in a short protocol, particularly if it contains extreme data.</p> <p>Adult &lt;17, children &lt;15 – suggests defensiveness, constriction organicity, depression, intellectual limitation, defensive intent to avoid the task, or attempted malingering. Signals resistance &amp; distancing. Person may be suspicious, distrustful, paranoid, oppositional, or guarded. Eating disorders produce fewer responses due to restrictive and controlled approach.</p>

**L:** Lambda = Sum F/Sum R-F. Norm < 1.0, mean = 0.60, SD = 0.31. The amount of energy put into responses. Lambda is a crude index of responsiveness to stimuli and psychological willingness to become involved with ambiguous stimuli. **Caution** – adolescents have higher proportion of pure F.

HIGH	LOW
<p>L&gt;.99 – persons are likely to be conservative, insecure and fearful of involvement. Are so over-controlled, may come across as brittle. Also described as defensive, constricted, unimaginative and anxious. High F also associated w/ depression, guilt and increased potential for suicide. High L with Low R may reflect a defensive intent to avoid the task.</p> <p>≥1.20 – either a basic avoidant response style or a form of situational defensiveness while taking test. Signals simplistic response to stimuli that ignores complexity of inkblots, and ignores color and shading. Excessive degree of affective attachment, often screen out relative information, avoid complexities of stimulus and often develop “tunnel vision” relating to certain ideas or perceptions. May lack problem-solving resources. Approach environment in overly simplistic or overly economical manner. AKA “Spock” from Star Trek. As a result, they often find themselves in confrontational situations.</p>	<p>L &lt;.32 – Affective stimulation is “resonating” for these subjects. They are over-involved with stimuli to the extent that affect disrupts cognitive function. Also can be described as having inadequate control over emotions, frequent impulsive acting-out results in difficulty maintaining satisfactory interpersonal relationships. Impaired ability to attend to environment and are often victims of their own needs and conflicts. As a result they do not use their resources effectively. Preoccupations interfere with logical reasoning. Low L with a Zd greater than +3.0 indicates that the subject tends to invest more effort in organizing the stimulus field than is necessary.</p> <p>However, low L might also be associated w/ persons who are achievement oriented &amp; who deal effectively w/ their environment. These characteristics are often suggested by other indicators in protocols reflecting control and flexibility (average X+%, average # of P, good Organizational Activity, above-average W).</p>

\*All descriptive statistics presented in this handout are for an adult nonpatient population (Table 1).

**SUICIDE CONSTELLATION – S-CON**

If the subject is 15 or older, the S-CON should always be the first variable reviewed by the interpreter. It was empirically derived by analyzing Rorschach scores of patients who committed suicide within 60 days after taking Rorschach. A study of protocols of 15- and 16-year-olds that committed suicide showed that two thirds were identified by their S-CON. The S-CON consists of 12 variables and is considered positive when 8 are present in a record. When the S-CON value is 8 or greater, it should be regarded as a "red flag," signifying that the person has many of the features common among individuals who have committed suicide within a relatively short period of time after having taken the Rorschach. It should be taken as a warning, and further exploration of the possibility of a preoccupation with self-destruction should be pursued.

Variables:

FV + VF + V + FD > 2	3r + (2)R < .31 or > .44	MOR > 3	CF + C > FC	Pure H < 2	S > 3
Color-Shading Blends > 0	Zd > +3.5 or Zd < -3.5	es > EA	X+% < .70	P < 3 or P > 8	R < 17

If subject does not meet S-CON criteria, do not assume that subject is not suicidal, but that it is not backed up actuarially. S-CON values of less than 8 should not be interpreted to mean that no self-destructive preoccupation exists. Some interpreters are inclined to worry over protocols that have S-CON values of 7. Certainly, it should prompt a careful review of the response codings. Even if they are correct, the question of whether the possibility of a death preoccupation should be explored more fully may be worth considering in light of all the available data concerning the individual.

<i>Vista</i>	Found in people who are introspective and such people may be inclined to focus on their negative features.
<i>Color Shading Blends</i>	Found among people who have a mix of painful feelings. They may feel two or more ways about a person or an event, both of which are painful. Ambivalent, approach-avoidant, or conflicted are other ways to describe these individuals.
<i>Egocentricity &lt;.31</i>	Found in individuals who struggle with issues of self-worth.
<i>Morbids</i>	Obtained from percepts that are dead, damaged, or destroyed. The inkblots themselves do not call out morbid responses in the typical subject, & the percept of something morbid is therefore a projection. These are empirically more common in depressed individuals or those with a highly pessimistic worldview. The Morbid score is also empirically associated with an impaired sense of self, that is, the "self" feels dead, damaged, destroyed.
<i>Zd greater than 3.5</i>	Found in individuals who make painstaking efforts to organize their worlds. They are called "overincorporators," and they may be obsessive or perfectionistic or make extraordinary efforts to make disparate perceptions "fit together," often at the expense of good reality testing.
<i>es greater than EA</i>	Found in individuals whose present experience of distress outweighs their capacity for coping.
<i>X+% less than .70</i>	Found in those whose reality testing is impaired. Typically this is because too much "projection" is occurring in the process of Rorschach responding and this projection is decreasing perceptual accuracy. In real life situations, these individuals are susceptible to distorting reality. Misperception leads to behavior that is often quite inappropriate. Such a person might completely misperceive an interaction with another person, experiencing profound rejection or threat where there is none.
<i>CF + C greater than FC and S greater than 3</i>	These have to do with affect. At this level, they suggest a person who experiences intense emotions, including anger, and these emotions may not be modulated by thought or other typical forms of emotional modulation.

### **KEY VARIABLES FOR SEARCH STRATEGY**

The order by which clusters are addressed is not always the same. 12 Key Variables have been identified which, when set in an order of dominance or priority, appear to define the best order of cluster review. The presence of a Key Variable predicts which combination of two or three clusters of data will yield the data sources that will contribute the most substantial information about the core psychological features of the person. Generally, these are features that will be given considerable emphasis in forming any description of an individual. They are dominant elements of personality structure and have a major impact of the psychological organization. They exert a significant influence on the way in which other features are organized and usually afford considerable direction to the psychological organization. They exert a significant influence on the way in which other features are organized and usually afford considerable direction to the psychological functioning of the person. Thus, the decision about which cluster of data to use as the starting point is important because the yield should form a centerpiece in the network of descriptive statements that ultimately will be generated.

The 12 Key Variables and the recommended interpretive search strategies that should be employed are shown in Table 1. They are listed in an order of priority. The first Key Variable that is positive defines the interpretive routine for the record.

An examination of the 12 Key Variables indicates that they reflect two sorts of features. Although six of the variables (PTI > 3, DEPI > 5 and CDI > 3, DEPI > 5, D Score < Adj D Score, CDI > 3, Adj D Score < 0) deal with personality structure, they also focus more on the presence of psychopathology or the potential for disorganization. The remaining six variables involve more basic personality styles, any of which can form the cornerstone of organization and functioning. It is important to note that the 12 search strategies are not markedly discrete. Three of the clusters concerning cognitive activity, processing, mediation and ideation are always interpreted in tandem, although not necessarily in the same order, because they are interrelated. Likewise, the clusters pertaining to self-perception and interpersonal perception also are always interpreted in tandem because of their interrelationship.

**TABLE 1. INTERPRETIVE SEARCH STRATEGIES BASED ON KEY VARIABLES**

<b>POSITIVE VARIABLE</b>	<b>TYPICAL CLUSTER SEARCH ROUTINE</b>
PTI > 3	Processing > Mediation > Ideation > Controls > Affect > Self Perception > Interpersonal Perception
DEPI > 5 and CDI > 3	Interpersonal Perception > Self Perception > Controls > Affect > Processing > Mediation > Ideation
DEPI > 5	Affect > Controls > Self Perception > Interpersonal > Processing > Mediation > Ideation
D < ADJ D	Controls > Situation Stress > (The remaining search routine should be that identified for the next positive key variable or the list of tertiary variables)
CDI > 3	Controls > Interpersonal Perception > Self Perception > Affect > Processing > Mediation > Ideation
ADJ D is Minus	Controls > (The remaining search routine should be that identified for the next positive key variable or the list of tertiary variables)
Lambda > 0.99	Processing > Mediation > Ideation > Controls > Affect > Self Perception > Interpersonal Perception
FR+RF > 0	Self Perception > Interpersonal Perception > Controls (The remaining search routine should be selected from that identified for the next positive key variable or the list of tertiary variables)
EB is Introversive	Ideation > Processing > Mediation > Controls > Affect > Self Perception > Interpersonal Perception
EB is Extratensive	Affect > Self Perception > Interpersonal Perception > Controls > Processing > Mediation > Ideation
p > a+1	Ideation > Processing > Mediation > Controls > Self Perception > Interpersonal Perception > Affect
HVI Positive	Ideation > Processing > Mediation > Controls > Self Perception > Interpersonal Perception > Affect

Some protocols may not contain any positive Key Variables. When this occurs the starting point can be selected from positive findings among numerous Tertiary Variables. Table 2 provides a list of the Tertiary Variables that are used most frequently to determine the initial interpretive search pattern where none of the Key Variables is positive.

**TABLE 2. SEARCH STRATEGIES BASED ON TERTIARY VARIABLES**

<b>POSITIVE VARIABLE</b>	<b>TYPICAL CLUSTER SEARCH ROUTINE</b>
OBS Positive	Processing > Mediation > Ideation > Controls > Affect > Self Perception > Interpersonal Perception
DEPI = 5	Affect > Controls > Self Perception > Interpersonal Perception > Processing > Mediation > Ideation
EA > 12	Controls > Ideation > Processing > Mediation > Affect > Self Perception > Interpersonal Perception
M- > O or Mp > Ma or Sum6 Sp Sc > 5	Ideation > Mediation > Processing > Controls > Affect > Self Perception > Interpersonal Perception
X-% > 20% or Zd > +3.0 or < -3.0	Processing > Mediation > Ideation > Controls > Affect > Self Perception > Interpersonal Perception
3r+(2)/R < .33	Self Perception > Interpersonal Perception > Affect > Controls > Processing > Mediation > Ideation
MOR > 2 or AG > 2	Self Perception > Interpersonal Perception > Controls > Ideation > Processing > Mediation > Affect
T = 0 or > 1	Self Perception > Interpersonal Perception > Affect > Controls > Processing > Mediation > Ideation

Unlike Key Variables, Tertiary Variables do not have much predictive power. They do tend to highlight which cluster will yield the most significant information about a person but do not predict which subsequent clusters will contain the most relevant supplemental information. The search routines shown in Table 2 should be considered as general guidelines for beginning the interpretations. They should not be regarded as inviolate. The recommended search pattern can be altered by the interpreter whenever some unusual circumstances exist that seem to warrant a different routine.

**FOURSQUARE**

The core section provides information on the person’s dominant personality style, particularly focusing on the level of stress the person is experiencing and how effectively the style.

**EB:** Experience Balance (Erlebnistypus) is the relationship between human movement responses and the weighted sum of the chromatic color responses. The ratio is expressed as Sum M:The Weighted Sum Color (WsumC). All human movement responses are included in the formula, regardless of whether they are the major determinant of the response. Color naming responses are not included. EB describes problem-solving style - underlying preferred response style. Researchers view the EB ratio as the extent to which a person is internally oriented as opposed to being more externally directed and behaviorally responsive to outside stimuli. An introversive style is indicated when the value is higher on the left side of the EB, whereas a higher right side value signals that the person is extratensive. It should be emphasized that, in their moderate forms, neither is any more or any less effective than the other, nor is either more prone to psychopathology. Both of these styles are commonplace among adults and older adolescents and there is no reason to suspect that one is preferable to the other. They are simply very different psychological approaches used to cope with the demands of everyday living and either can be used quite effectively. When neither value is markedly different than the other, no distinctive style is indicated and the person is referred to as an ambitent. EB also reflects coping ability, since it is a measure of ideation and is related to intelligence and creativity. Although the EB ratio is usually relatively stable, it can temporarily change during times of stress or become more permanently altered during the course of successful psychotherapy. Although the EB ratio is usually stable for adults, there is considerable variability in children until midadolescence.

<b>HIGH:LOW</b> <b>Sum M&gt;WsumC by 4 or more pts</b>	<b>LOW:HIGH</b> <b>Sum M&lt;WsumC by 4 or more pts</b>	<b>EQUAL</b>
<p>Introversives = More oriented toward using their inner fantasy life. Are directed inward and use their inner experience to satisfy most of their basic needs. On a more superficial level, even appear to be extraverted. Researchers have found them to be cautious, deliberate, submissive, and less physically active than persons scoring relatively higher on the C side of the ratio. Approach problem-solving tasks by internalizing the situation and mentally reviewing possible alternatives, and engage in relatively few behaviors prior to reaching a solution. Attempts to exert greater control over feelings during thinking. Thinks more than acts. Relies more on ideation or fantasy for discharge of affect, which leads to ability to delay gratification.</p> <p>Pathology – Obsessive-Compulsive, Depression, Dependent, Schizotypal.</p>	<p>Extratensives = tend to use external interactions as the most important means of satisfying their needs. Are more intuitive and are prone to use their feelings more directly in decision making by merging them with their thinking. Characteristically direct their energy toward the outside world. Usually spontaneous and assertive, but also have difficulty delaying their responses. Acts more than thinks. (The better the form quality, the better the judgment in actions.) Likely to approach problem-solving situations by experimenting with different behaviors (external trial and error) prior to achieving solutions. In children, higher C scores may represent a lack of self-assurance.</p> <p>Pathology – Histrionic, Manic, Chronic/Deteriorated, Schizophrenia.</p>	<p>Ambitents = More likely to be flexible during interpersonal relationships, but appears to be much more vulnerable to intra- or interpersonal problems. Are also less sure of themselves during problem solving and tend to vacillate. Behavior is unpredictable. Usually need to verify every sequence in the solution of a problem at hand, and do not profit as much from mistakes as either the introversive or the extratensive does. The latter types are more sure of which response style to employ in approaching an ambiguous situation, ambitents have a liability when flexibility is required. Tend to be less consistent and efficient than either introversives or extratensives but this does not necessarily mean that they have a predisposition to maladjustment.</p> <p>Pathology – Unusually high scores on both M and C suggest a manic condition.</p>

**EA:** Experience Actual – Sum of Human Movement + Weighted Sum Color (Sum M + WSumC). Mean = 8.66, SD = 2.38, Normals range 6-10. EA is reviewed to evaluate the credibility of the Adj D Score. Whereas the EB ratio emphasizes the assessment of a person's type, EA indicates the "volume of organized activity." The sum total of ego-dominated, deliberate experience – coping storehouse based on experience. The M side of the formula shows the extent to which persons are able to organize their inner lives, and the C side indicates the extent to which emotions are available. The emphasis here is that both the M and the C represent deliberate, organized activity, which is contrasted with the disorganization associated with nonhuman movement (FM, m) and the responses related to the gray-black features of the blot (T, V, Y).

For the most part, the adult ratio between M and C is remarkably stable, yet the sum of M and C can sometimes fluctuate on a daily basis, which theoretically parallels the effects of changes in mood. After successful psychotherapy, M and C typically both increase, indicating a greater increase in the degree of organization of the person's inner life and an availability of more emotions. EA increases significantly more for patients who improved in therapy than for those who showed little or no improvement. Persons who underwent long-term insight-oriented treatment showed much more of an increase in EA than those in a treatment that emphasized a combination of support and environmental manipulation. The mean changes for children show a gradual increase (rarely more than 0.5) with each year from the ages of 5 to 13. Although brief retesting for children has shown good stability, long-term retesting (9 months or more) has resulted in wide fluctuations.

<b>HIGH</b>	<b>LOW</b>
<p>The more EA subjects have in their record, the more adaptive capacity they have at their disposal and the more competence they are likely to display in pursuing their aims and objectives. Dilation – may indicate obsessive thought, affective lability, or both. Common in disorders involving overideation.</p> <p>Pathology – Obsessive-Compulsive, Chronic/Acute Schizophrenia, Histrionic (Sometimes)</p>	<p>Coarction – This suggests limited resources and may mean subject is very disturbed or rigid. Also not uncommon with young children. May occur in someone who is depressed or inhibited. Can also indicate a very “guarded” posture. Subject may be intellectually limited or very constricted – could be described as having limited coping resources to meet life’s demands.</p> <p>Pathology – Preschizophrenia</p>

**EBPer:** EB Pervasive is a ratio that is calculated when there is a marked style indicated in EB. It is the proportion of the sum of human movement to the sum of weighted color response or the sum of weighted color response to the sum of human movement. The final score can be either the first equation or the second equation. The rule for EBPer is that the examiner must divide the larger number by the smaller number. This is done only when a marked difference (style) is evident in the EB ratio. “If the value of EA is 10.0 or less, one side of the EB must be at least two points greater than the other side, or if the value of EA is more than 10.0, one side of the EB must be at least 2.5 points greater than the other.”

EBPer is a measure of preferred problem-solving style. Because EB is a somewhat crude indicator of how pervasive or dominant the introversive or extratensive style is, EBPer was designed as a more refined means of indicating how dominant one of the two styles is. Thus, it is an extension of the interpretations described in EB. It is only calculated when a clear style is indicated, and it only takes on interpretive significance when the value of one style over the other is 2.5 or greater. When this occurs, it clearly indicates that one of the styles is quite pervasive, perhaps to the point of suggesting rigidity in problem-solving style.

**eb:** The Experience Base ratio compares all nonhuman movement determinants (FM + m) with the sum of all the shading and achromatic color determinants. Sum FM + m : Sum All C' + All T + All Y + All V.

The nonhuman movement side of the ratio reflects tendencies to respond in ways that are not completely acceptable to the ego. These tendencies appear out of control, impinge on the individual, and are disorganized. Although the tendencies and feelings may have originally been produced by outside sources, the resulting internal activity is not within the person's control. If these scores are elevated above average, deliberate and focused ideational activity will be interrupted, impairing attention and concentration. The opposite side of the ratio, which is a sum of the responses relating to the gray-black features of the blot, is a reflection of the pain and disharmony the person is feeling as a result of unresolved stress. The eb ratio indicates which of these two areas of functioning is more predominant. If the eb is small on both sides, it suggests that the person is not experiencing very much pain and that his or her needs are well organized. Usually, the values on either side of the ratio will range between one and three for nonpatients. If either side becomes greater than five, its interpretive meaning becomes more clear. If the ratio is small on both sides, suggest that person is not experiencing very much pain and that needs are well organized.

HIGH:LOW	LOW:HIGH
May be a lot of intrapsychic experience working on the person but not consciously feeling much pain. May be withdrawal. FM and m are experiences like worry: they are ideational experiences that don't require much imagination.	T+Y+VC' are affective experiences that act upon a person. They aren't willed nor desired. There is much pain but subject is not sure where it's coming from. (Treatment could reduce pain.) This is painful affective experience that is not controlled by higher cognitive functions. There may be difficulties in concentration related to excessive delay and/or unpleasant fantasies which are creating a sense of pain.

**es:** Experienced Stimulation – this calculation merely requires adding together the two sides of the Experience Base ratio:  $\text{Sum (FM + m) + Sum (C' + T + Y + V)}$ . Normals = 5 to 11, mean = 8.34, SD = 2.99. Normals have higher EA than es, while psychiatrics have higher es than EA. es is the sum of the nonhuman movement responses and all responses relating to the gray-black features of the inkblot. These are all responses reflecting that the person's functioning is disorganized and that forces are acting on the person and he or she feels they are beyond control – the index of forces & needs that aren't organized (sex, drive, libido). Thus, the es sum is an index of a person's degree of disorganization and helplessness. Persons scoring high on es have a low frustration tolerance, and it is difficult for them to be persistent, even in meaningful tasks.

Important information can be obtained by comparing the amount of organization the person has (as represented by EA) with how much chaos and helplessness he or she experiences (as represented by es). The ratio between EA and es can provide an index of the degree to which a person can tolerate frustration. Difficulty in dealing with frustration would be primarily due to high-scoring es persons' having a limited ability to process and mediate cognitive information. As would be expected, a correlate of successful psychotherapy is that there is a decrease in es and a corresponding increase in EA, which suggests that at least some of the patient's activity has become more organized.

HIGH	LOW
<p>A high es indicates that greater controls are developed to contend with the forces that act on the individual, either neutralizing them to a reasonable extent, or reorganizing them in such a manner that they act for the individual. Suggests low frustration tolerance, difficult to be persistent, even in meaningful tasks, disorganization, distractibility, and a sense of helplessness. However, when <math>es &gt; EA</math>, the individual will have difficulty handling a crisis. Adolescents normally have higher es scores. es represents the impingement of all painful experiences totaled – it is a Pandora's Box, so to speak. The greater <math>C'+T+Y+V</math>, the greater the likelihood that depression is playing a major role.</p>	<p>es represents preconscious drives. A low es suggests response features illustrating needs and affects that act on the individual rather than being more controlled by psychological activities. They have a sense of being out of control, feel like forces are acting upon them. When <math>es &gt; EA</math>, there is a lack of organized resources. This may be adaptive or may represent defensive failure. When es is low, the subject is not ego-dominated, but experiencing a sense of being out-of-control.</p>

**Adj es:** Adjusted es. Subtract all but 1 m and 1 Y (include YF and FY) from the es. Because es includes measures of current stimuli impinging on the person (m and Y), a different, adjusted es that excluded m and Y was developed. This adjusted es represents the more chronic (rather than fluctuating) condition of the person. Thus, persons scoring high are likely to feel chronically overstimulated (i.e., racing thoughts, insomnia) and have difficulties organizing their thoughts. However, the main purpose of calculating Adj es is to enable the calculation of the Adjusted D Score.

**CAPACITY FOR CONTROL AND STRESS**

When using the Rorschach to describe a person’s capacity for control, the interpreter must exercise very good judgment and not attempt to form a hypothesis or draw conclusions from single data points. Each of the major elements in the cluster do provide important information, however, the substance of an interpretive postulate drawn from any one is contingent on the findings from most, or even all of the others.

**D Score:** (D; EA-es). D=0 is the normal range, mean = -0.03, SD = 0.97. The D Score is a further measure of the ability to tolerate stress. It represents one’s ability to perceive and react to obvious qualities of environment. It is essentially a means of evaluating the degree of available resources the person has (EA) versus the amount of disorganized events that are occurring beyond the person's control (es). For example, veterans diagnosed with PTSD have been found to have low D Scores. A person with a normal score of D=0 is described as free from overt anxiety, tension, nervousness, and irritability. They have average capacities to tolerate frustration and to persevere in stressful situations.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HIGH (+0 or higher)</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LOW (-1 or lower)</b></p>
<p>Can adequately deal with the current level of stress. Even if experiencing stress (high es) the relatively higher D Score indicates that he or she has adequate resources to cope effectively with this stress. An overemphasis on D may reflect over-concern with practical, concrete interests, often at the expense of subject’s full intellectual capacities. Subject may be preoccupied with the obvious and reluctant to test out his full resources. Other possibilities: Overemphasis on being economical, tendency to back away from effort. However, if at least 50% of the elevated D responses are DQ+, this conservative approach may not be to economize, and likely relates to a concern about preciseness – reflecting a perfectionistic orientation. High D with low DQ suggests severe disturbance.</p>	<p>A low D Score indicates that es characteristics have relatively more weight than EA. The person is likely to feel overwhelmed and unable to deal with complex or ambiguous situations. His or her thoughts, affects, and behaviors might be impulsive and poorly focused. These individuals likely feel tense and irritable, have a limited tolerance for frustration, and a tendency to be impulsive. The potential for disorganization is substantial. As the D Score becomes progressively lower, this trend is likely to become increasingly stronger. A sense of being overloaded, easily distracted, and limited psychological resources to deal with stress are characteristic. Low D could suggest chronic or deteriorated schizophrenia, esp. with Wv or W-. 46% = inpatient nonschizophrenics, 47% = inpatient schizophrenics.</p>

**Adj D:** Adjusted D Score. This is simply calculated by subtracting Adj es from EA ( $EA - Adj\ es$ ). Mean = 0.15, SD = 0.82. This produces a raw score that is converted to a standard score by using the same conversion table used in calculating the standard score for D score. Adj D is derived after adjusting for current stress. It reflects how the examinee might be if current stressors were “subtracted” from the record.

Because the D Score includes measures of the current capacity to deal with stress, it may not provide a measure of the person's usual ability to modulate and control his or her behavior. This issue is particularly likely to be present for clients referred for evaluation, because the events surrounding a referral usually involve psychosocial difficulties. These situational uncontrollable stressful events are expressed on the Rorschach (and in the D Score) by the presence of m and Y responses. Adj es has had m and Y subtracted from it, so it theoretically removes the influence of current environmental stressors. What remains in the Adjusted D score is a measure of the person's typical or usual capacity to tolerate stress and to control behaviors. An Adj Score of 0 suggests adequate tolerance for stresses of everyday life. These individuals only falter under intense, prolonged and for unexpected stress.

<b>HIGH (+1 or higher)</b>	<b>LOW (-1 or lower)</b>
Signifies greater capacity for control and greater tolerance for stress because the resources available for use are well in excess of the demands for responses. High scores on Adj D indicate a good ability to deal with stressful situations but not necessarily a well-adjusted person. For example, antisocial or paranoid personalities might have intricate systems of dealing with stress that are quite effective at reducing their anxiety levels; yet, they are clearly not well-adjusted persons. In addition, treatment might present difficulties. They may use their somewhat limited resources to distance themselves from the types of experiences that might potentially stimulate increased growth and awareness. In contrast, a certain amount of distress can be useful in motivating the client to change.	<p>These persons have fewer than average resources to adequately cope with stressful situations. They will function best in routine and predictable situations. Adapting to new situations will present difficulties in that they are prone to become distracted, disorganized, and impulsive. The above trends will be strengthened with progressively decreasing scores on Adj D.</p> <p>A score of -1 suggests trouble with new situations, do better in routine and predictable environments.</p> <p>A score of -2, or -3 suggests an almost continuous state of overload.</p>

**Foursquare – EB, EA, es, eb:** see previous info.

**CDI:** Coping Deficit Index. A CDI greater than 4 is required and signifies a deficit in coping abilities. An elevated CDI with low EA identifies a deficit in adaptive skills, whereas an elevated CDI with higher EA indicates pockets of deficit, most likely surrounding interpersonal relationships. Individuals with scores above 4 or 5 on the CDI are likely to have unsatisfying and somewhat meaningless interpersonal relationships, largely because they will find it difficult to effectively deal with everyday requirements. Their histories typically include social ineptness, poor success in interpersonal relationships, and times when they have felt overwhelmed by interpersonal demands. Effective moderate to long-term psychotherapy was found to result in decreases in CDI.

### **SITUATIONALLY RELATED STRESS**

The majority of people who are administered the Rorschach, especially those tested in mental health settings, are likely to be under some stress. Typically, this stress has persisted over time and the products of it become evident as the various clusters of data are studied. In some cases, however, stress may have evolved from more recent, specific events. These are situational stresses.

Situationally created stresses can evolve from any of a variety of personal trauma, such as failures, disappointments, emotional loss, conflicts about decisions, etc. Usually, they create considerable psychological discomfort for even the most well adjusted person. If the situational stress experience overlays a chronic stress condition the new experience will amplify the pre-existing discomfort and sometimes can wreak psychological havoc on a person. Regardless of pre-existing circumstances, situationally related stress experiences almost always impact on some aspects of psychological functioning.

In most instances, a well-taken history will detect the presence of situationally related stress and provide a basis from which Rorschach findings can be easily cast in an appropriate perspective. In some cases however, the history may be vague, incomplete, or unavailable, thereby making the task of the interpreter somewhat more difficult. Regardless of the history, the responsibility of the interpreter is to determine if the Rorschach data include any findings that might be readily attributable to situational factors.

**D and Adj D:** The difference between the D Score and the Adjusted D Score should be reviewed to establish a preliminary estimate regarding the magnitude of the stress.

Ordinarily, the resulting value will be a one-point difference, suggesting that the impact of the situational stress will probably range from mild to moderate. Although a one point difference between D Scores signals the presence of some psychological disruption, it is not necessarily disorganizing.

If the value of the D Score is more than one point less than the Adj D, it usually indicates that the experience of the stress is substantial. The impact of the stress typically creates considerable interference in some of the customary patterns of thinking and/or behavior.

### **T, m, and Y:**

**T:** Mean = 0.95, SD = 0.61. The value for T is expected to be one for most people. The presence of a single T response suggests that the person probably acknowledges and expresses needs for closeness in ways similar to most people. Texture responses represent painful emotional experiences combined with needs for supportive interpersonal relationships. Usually, the texture variable is considered to be related to stable, trait-like phenomena. In some instances, however the value for SumT may reflect a situational or state-like phenomenon. Therefore, it is necessary to review the SumT values to determine if it is higher than expected and if so, to review the history to ascertain if the higher score may be related to situational circumstances. High T reflects a cautious sensitivity, related to a willingness to be more open with the environment. Elevations of 2 or more show greater needs for closeness, appear to feel lonely, stronger needs to be dependent on others. Elevations can sometimes reflect the emotional impact of a recent loss (confirm through history), should be factored into hypotheses regarding current versus chronic capacities for control. No T in record – more guarded and/or distant in interpersonal contacts. More concerned with issues of personal space.

HIGH T OR TF	LOW T
<p>High scorers for T or TF are characterized as having intense needs for affection and dependency. Over-sensitivity in personal relationships may result, to the extent that they may have a difficult time in reconciling the intensity of these needs with what they can realistically expect from their relationships. The individual usually harbors an irritating sense of longing or loneliness. Typically, people who experience this sort of irritation want close emotional relations with others but are at a loss about how best to achieve them. Sometimes, the intensity of their needs clouds their judgment and they become vulnerable to the manipulations of others. This is especially true for those who are either passive or dependent. They are open to their environment, but they approach it with a cautious sensitivity. If the value for T is greater than one, it indicates the presence of very strong unfulfilled needs for closeness. In most cases, the increased intensity of these natural yearnings will be reactive, having been provoked by a recent emotional loss. Examinees with more T were hypothesized to be more needy and therefore more likely to stay in treatment as a way of meeting their needs for affective closeness.</p> <p>T and TF are associated with panic disorders.</p>	<p>The absence of any T responses may suggest an emotional "impoverishment" in which the person has ceased to look for meaningful emotional relationships. When the value for T is zero, it usually suggests that the person tends to acknowledge and/or express his or her needs for closeness in ways that are dissimilar to those of most people. It does not mean that the person fails to have such needs. Instead, it indicates that the individual is more conservative than might be anticipated in close interpersonal situations, especially those involving tactile exchange. People who are T-less tend to be overly concerned with personal space and much more cautious about creating or maintaining close emotional ties with others.</p> <p>No T could suggest Schizoid personality or withdrawn person.</p>

**m:** Mean = 1.28, SD = 0.99 – Elevations correlate with severe distress experiences, not with severity of psychopathology. Patients in long-term psychotherapy average nearly two m and about one Y at beginning of treatment. The number of inanimate movement responses provides an index of the extent to which persons are experiencing drives or life events that are beyond their ability to control. The drives reflected by m threaten people's adjustment in that they are helpless to effectively deal with them. This helplessness is usually related to interpersonal activities. The m variable relates to forms of intrusive ideation not in the person's focus of attention. When such thinking increases it tends to interfere with attention and concentration and can cloud judgment.

HIGH	LOW
<p>Greater than 2 indicates: Tension, Stress, Inhibition of impulses, Sense of impotence/helplessness. <math>m &gt; FM + M</math> indicates suicide potential. m tends to increase as a function of stressors in the environment. m is not related to ego-functioning but rather, to disorganization and a sense of being overwhelmed. The presence of m should serve as a warning sign to indicate a marked presence of conflict and tension. Individual probably see his or herself as surrounded by threatening persons and are unable to reconcile his or herself with his or her environment.</p> <p>High m seen in: depressives, and aggressive, hostile subjects.</p>	<p>Absence of m is a good sign. m is associated with the experience of frustration, especially with regard to interpersonal activities. In stress, m reflects forces acting on the subject as irritant, thus creating disequilibrium – leading to the desire for prompt gratification of needs. "Take care of me now!" m and Y are the most instable of all determinants; m and Y always suggest situational elements.</p>

**Y:** Mean = 0.61, SD = 0.96 – Indicative of inability to respond, “absence of action,” anxiety/passivity. Represents form of anxiety of a magnitude that supersedes other need states in directing behavior. Elevations in m and Y convey some sense of stress-related helplessness, or situational stress. The SumY variable is associated with feelings that are prompted by a sense of helplessness or an inability to make a response. When these feelings intensify, they usually manifest as apprehension, anxiety, or sadness and can be very disruptive. If the situational stress does impact more on thinking than emotion, or vice versa, the finding not only has importance in understanding the consequences of the stress but also can be very important when planning intervention strategies to deal with it. Because m and Y assess similar constructs, they should be considered together.

<b>HIGH</b>	<b>LOW</b>
<p>A high number of Y is associated with anxiety and a constrained expression of emotions, even though the experience of these emotions may be direct. It is more frequent in the protocols of depressed patients and outpatients. Suggests some form of withdrawal, a psychological helplessness. High Y hints at paralysis or resignation to stress. It is a painful affective experience. YF and Y indicate a greater tendency for direct expression of painful affect – a greater tendency to feel overwhelmed. Associated with depression, loss of control. A manifestation of anxiety. High Y is also associated with a sense of resignation to life events and an attempt to create distance between oneself and the environment. Y is higher in alcoholics and increases during stress, such as prior to examinations, surgery, uncontrollable laboratory-induced stress, and situational crises.</p>	<p>Ambiguity is purposefully built into the test situation. Some Y, usually FY, can therefore be expected to occur in any protocol. Exner's normative group of adult nonpatients had an average of 0.57 Y responses (SD = 1.00), compared with 2.12 for schizophrenics (SD = 2.62), and 1.81 for depressives (SD = 1.40). The total absence of Y suggests an extremely indifferent attitude toward ambiguity. m and Y are the most unstable of all determinants; m and Y always suggest situational elements. Absence of Y may indicate a lackadaisical attitude, obliviousness, or retardation.</p>

**V in relation to Egocentricity Index and History:**

**V:** Norm = 0-1, mean = 0.28, SD= 0.61. Within normal populations, V responses occur, on average, 0.26 per record. Depressed inpatients average 1.09, and schizophrenics and character disordered persons average 0.60 and 0.24, respectively. It is extremely rare for V to appear in the protocols of children, but it occurs at about the same rate among adolescents as it does for adults. Usually, the vista variable is considered to be related to stable, trait-like phenomena. In some instances, however, the value for SumV may reflect a situational or state-like phenomenon. Therefore, it is necessary to review the SumV value to determine if it is higher than expected and if so, to review the history to ascertain if the higher score may be related to situational circumstances.

Vista responses relate to introspective behavior – a propensity for self-inspection, but the process causes very negative emotions to occur. This introspection usually involves depression and a sense of interiority. However, if the V responses are dominated by form, introspection is still suggested but the process is unlikely to be emotionally painful. This is in contrast to the negative type of self examination associated with pure V. Even a single pure V response in a Rorschach protocol can be an important indicator. Vista responses can be associated with situationally related guilt or remorse but, more commonly, they related to a chronic preoccupation with negative features of the self. In either instance Vista answers signal a preoccupation with features of the self about which the person ruminates, and a byproduct of this is irritating and often painful feelings.

HIGH	LOW
<p>Pure V responses created by depressed patients indicate a deep level of self-critical introspection. V responses have also been suggested as an index of suicidal risk and are an important part of Exner's S-CON. Although shading (and combined color and shading) responses in themselves are probably ineffective in discriminating successful from non-successful attempters, these responses may suggest a more stable suicidal trait. There is concern when <math>FV &gt; 1</math>, or when VF or V appear. VF and V are rare, occurring in only 1% of all protocols. Reflects feelings of inferiority, depressed affect, a painful self-appraisal. Vista is extremely important in the evaluation of suicide potential. When V appears with FM + m, and FC + CF + C and FQ is poor, the potential for suicide is high.</p>	<p>The absence of V is usually a positive sign, and the presence of a single form dominated V merely represents the ability to introspect. Although a certain degree of pain may be involved with the introspection, the more important fact is that the resulting information can be integrated and eventually used productively.</p>

**EI – Egocentricity Index:** Norm = 28-50%. This equation examines the total number of reflection and pair determinant responses to the total number of responses given during administration. The Egocentricity Index provides an estimate of self-concern and possibly self-esteem. It is a crude measure of self-attending behavior. If it falls above the average range, it indicates an excessive involvement with the self but does not necessarily equate with positive self-esteem unless the reflection response is also positive. On the other hand, if it falls below the average range, it indicates that self-esteem is lower than should be the case; that is, when comparative judgments are made between the self and others, the result tends to be negative. The expected or average range of the Index for adults is .33 to .45 but the lower and upper parameters of the range increase for younger subjects depending on their age. When the value for the EI falls in the average range of .33 to .45 for an adult (or in the average range for a younger subject), it suggests that the individual is no more or less self-involved than most others.

HIGH	LOW
<p>&gt; .49 – A certain level (index level of .40 to .45) of self-focusing and self-concern is associated with positive self-esteem. However, index scores above .49 suggest that the person has an over-inflated sense of self-worth, which reflects underlying dissatisfaction. This may be expressed in part by neglect of aspects of the external world. Excessive self-concern. Unusual focus on self that may be detrimental in interpersonal arena. May contribute to reality distortion especially in interpersonal sphere.</p> <p>Correlates highly with Narcissistic Personality Disorders and Acute Schizophrenia.</p>	<p>&lt; .32 – In contrast to high EI, scores below .32 indicate that the person's self-worth is quite negative and he or she feels conflicted regarding a self-image. Such individuals regard themselves less favorably when compared to others. This may lead to mood fluctuations along with dysfunctional behaviors. Lack of sufficient self-concern. Low self evaluation is created by excessive concern for others and values of the external world. Possible self-contempt. There may be some self-destructive or self-abusive behavior, but this is usually not associated with suicide risk. This characteristic is often a precursor to depression.</p> <p>Low Index often seen with: Depressives, Dependent Personalities. Sometimes occurs in Obsessives or psychosomatics.</p>

**Blends:** Mean = 5.15, SD = 2.08. Approximately 20% of all Rorschach responses involve blends. To create a blend response, the person must appreciate the complexity of the inkblot, which requires both analysis and synthesis. All people are complex to some extent, and some are more complex than others, but the level of complexity in any person is not static. Instead, it tends to increase or decrease around some level that is idiosyncratically typical for the specific individual. For instance, people who are very intelligent usually are more psychologically complex than those whose intellectual levels are average or below average. However, at any given time, that situation could reverse depending on the experiences of stress, unfulfilled needs, unresolved conflicts, etc. that might exist within a person. As stresses, needs, and conflicts become modest or even minimal, complexity will decrease to some extent but as the experience of stresses, needs, conflicts, etc. increases, so too does the level of complexity. Usually, there will be one or more blends in a person's protocol. A complete absence of blends suggests narrowness and constriction. This is consistent with the finding that blends are less frequent in the protocols of depressives and persons with below-average intelligence. In contrast, an extremely high number of blends (eight or more) suggests an unusual amount of complexity, to the extent that the person may be overly burdened.

If more than two blends contain T, m, Y: Index of psychological complexity caused by stress. Subtract all but one m and y from total blends: If blends fall below average, then current stress is contributing to disorganization.

HIGH	LOW
Individuals of higher intelligence usually obtain at least 25% blends. Could suggest overly complicated psychological operations that might provoke disorganization (sensory overload). Schizophrenics offer greatest number of blends. Runaway thinking associated with mania. Over 20% blends may indicate the kind of cognitive disorganization that often occurs prior to a psychotic break.	If less than 2 blends in an average protocol, this is an indication of repressive processes. Subject may be overly constricted. A dependent neurotic often gives no blends. Shading Blends signal depression.

**Color-Shading Blends:** Mean = 0.45, SD = 0.68. A Color Shading blend is defined as any response for which the coding includes both a chromatic color determinant (FC, CF, C) and an achromatic color (FC', C'F, C') or shading determinant (diffuse shading, texture, or vista). They usually indicate the presence of uncertainty, confusion, or even ambivalence about feelings. A blend that includes color-dominated determinants implies that the person might be easily overwhelmed by affect, whereas the opposite would be true if the blend were form-dominated. The color-shading blend (combining color with C', T, T, FV) implies concern with painful, irritating, confusing emotional experiences, and it is associated with the protocols of depressives. Some research found a moderate correlation with attempted suicide. Accordingly, this blend was included as one of several variables in Exner's S-CON. However, the presence of color-shading blends does not seem to be a sufficiently accurate predictor of suicide when used as a single sign. When situational stress exists, it is important to ascertain if the experience of the stress may have created or increased a sense of confusion about feelings. Color-Shading blends created exclusively by the combination of a chromatic color determinant and a texture, vista, or achromatic color determinant, such as CF.C'F, FM<sup>a</sup>.FCFI; FC.FV, etc. – Color-Shading Blends of this type indicate the probability of a pre-existing confusion or ambivalence about feelings. Color-Shading blends created exclusively by the combination of a chromatic color determinant plus a Y determinant, such as M<sup>p</sup>.FC.FY, m<sup>a</sup>.CF.YF, FC.YF, etc. – Color-Shading blends of this type suggest the possibility of situational confusion about feelings.

TYPE OF BLEND	MEANING
Movement & Color	This reflects ambivalence toward an appropriate response in a given situation. M and FC suggest the person is weighing both responses in an effort to determine whether to externalize or internalize the affect. If M and Cf occur together, the impulse side is stronger and probably dominant.
Animal Movement & Color	This blend is a bad sign and is seen in acting-out individuals. It probably relates to overt acting-out, however, it can sometimes show defense against the affect that emerges nonetheless. Active movement tends to reflect acting-out more than passive movement.
Inanimate Movement & Color	This suggests tension about the release of affect.
Movement & Shading	This blend reflects a painful affective state that goes along with affective experience.
Human Movement & Form Vista	This suggests painful introspection that is being held in. The individual is conscious of the affect but is not going to share it.
Animal Movement & Form Vista	This suggests a feeling of pain while trying to use a defense against it or an alternate hypothesis is that this pain is unconscious.
Animal Movement & Vista Form/Inanimate Movement & Vista Form	This suggests a very painful internal state from which the subject is trying to withdraw and is acting inward. It is indicative of suicide potential.
Achromatic Color & Movement	This reflects a very strong repressive process.
Diffuse Shading & Movement	This suggests a lot of anxiety and is sometimes associated with suicide potential.

**AFFECT**

Although there are numerous Rorschach variables that relate to emotion, they tend to be more indirect than might be desired in a test designed to study the psychology of a person. Thus, the inferential hypotheses drawn from the data must be integrated with care. The interpretive objective is to determine, to the extent possible, the role of emotion in the psychological organization and functioning of the subject. That role varies considerably from person to person and numerous issues must be addressed when attempting to weave together a meaningful description of this very complex psychological feature.

The Affect Section provides information on how the person modulates and expresses affect. Because affect is most directly expressed on the Rorschach through color, the different frequencies and formulas are concerned with the various combinations of color with other types of Rorschach responses.

**FC:(CF + C) – Form-Color Ratio:** This ratio indicates the total number of form-dominated chromatic color responses, as compared with the absolute number of color-dominant chromatic responses. To calculate this formula, each of the chromatic color determinants is weighted equally as 1. Cn determinants are also included on the left side of the ratio because they are considered color-dominant responses.

The ratio of form-dominated color responses to color-dominant responses provides a measure of the degree of control a person has over his or her impulses (also check D Score for a tendency to become overwhelmed by stress). If form is predominant (1.5 to 2.5 times greater), it suggests the person has good control over his or her impulses and experiences satisfying interpersonal relationships. However, if no or very few color-dominant responses (no CF + C) are present, the person will be overly constricted and will have little contact with his or her emotions. This is consistent with the finding that most psychosomatic patients, who are typically constricted, had ratios of 4:1 or greater. If the CF + C side of the ratio is relatively high (1:1), it suggests a weak control over one's impulses, which may be accompanied by impulsiveness or aggressive acting out, perhaps consistent with a narcissistic personality. The perception of both internal and external events will typically be distorted and inaccurate, as will the responses to these events. The number of Pure C responses increases with pathological groups, as indicated by only 7% of nonpatients giving Pure C responses in contrast to 45% of depressives, 32% of schizophrenics, and 27% of character-disordered patients.

HIGH-LOW	LOW-HIGH
<p>When CF and C are absent, there may be over-control of emotions.</p> <p>A ratio greater than 3:1 indicates that the subject exerts considerably more effort at modulating affective discharge than is typical.</p> <p>Low color may suggest depression.</p> <p>NO COLOR: Rigid, cold, Internalizes affect, vegetative depression, weak interpersonal relationships, Avoids making "waves."</p> <p>Sum C: If the total Sum C is only one FC (or total lack of color), this suggests a weakness in object relations. A Sum C between 0 and .5 is often seen in dependents or individuals prone to suicidal behavior.</p> <p>Color Projection: This is rare and is associated with denial as a defense.</p>	<p>CF + C responses correlate with impulsive or aggressive behaviors. Subject is less willing to modulate affect. Color dominated protocols indicate a looseness or excessively relaxed cognitive control. The mental activity of the subject is overwhelmed by affect.</p> <p>FC: Affective adaptability.</p> <p>CF: More impaired impulse control – poorly controlled impulses but some delay in discharge possible.</p> <p>C: Very impulsive – Could be violent with provocation. There should be no Pure C in an adult record. It indicates the subject is capable of acting out in a completely unmodulated, unrestricted way.</p> <p>C-: Suggests impulsive, labile discharge without concern for adaptability.</p> <p>Sum C: If the total Sum C is greater than 3, this suggests an individual with poor control, i.e., found with hysterics, psychosomatics, and acute schizophrenics, especially agitated types.</p>

**Pure C:** Mean = 0.12, SD = 0.37. The manner in which color is handled reflects the style in which a subject deals with his or her emotions. If color dominates (C, CF, Cn), then affect is likely to be poorly controlled and disorganized. In such cases, affect is disruptive and the person could be expected to be emotional, labile, and overreactive. It has been demonstrated that subjects who could effectively delay their responses in a problem-solving task had a higher number of FC responses in their protocols, whereas those who had difficulty delaying their responses had more CF and C responses. Pure C responses are predominant in the protocols of very young children, as is color naming. There should be no Pure C in an adult record. It indicates the subject is capable of acting out in a completely unmodulated, unrestrained way. Pure C responses stand out because of their more primitive quality such as blood splattered, fire, muscle or organ tissue, etc. When the Pure C answers are more intellectual, it suggests that the modulation failures will be more subtle and probably more transient. More primitive Pure C responses often reflect a casual disregard for control and are more common among those who have frequent modulation failures that give rise to maladaptive behaviors.

High C and Cn – Individuals with a high proportion of color-dominated responses typically have little regard for the adaptiveness of their expressions, and they discharge their emotions in an impulsive manner. This suggests that higher cognitive abilities have been suspended or possibly overwhelmed by affective impulses. In general, a high number of color-dominant responses suggests that the person is more labile, suggestible, sensitive, and irritable, and has difficulty delaying his or her responses during problem-solving tasks.

**Sum C': Wsum C – Constriction Ratio:** This ratio concerns the suppression or constraint of emotion. Chromatic color responses (FC, CF, C) have some relationship to the release or discharge of emotion and the extent to which the release is controlled or modulated. As noted earlier, the three forms of achromatic color answers (FC, C'F, C') relate to irritating feelings that are caused by the inhibition or internalization of emotion. All people do this now and then in various situations, but some people do it more frequently and sometimes to excess. The reasons for excessive inhibition vary.

Some people tend to inhibit feelings because they do not trust their ability to control them. Others do so because they are confused by some emotions and prefer to avoid dealing directly with them. At times, some individuals feel awkward or even guilty about their feelings and are insecure about sharing them with others or displaying them openly.

Regardless of the cause, when emotions are inhibited from expression excessively the consequence is a painful and sometimes disorganizing burden for the individual. When this becomes a trait-like feature, the resulting internalization of affect can easily create a predisposition to any of a variety of somatic difficulties such as headache, stomach or intestinal problems, blood pressure irregularities, etc., and of course, can contribute significantly to the onset of affective disruptions such as tension, anxiety and depression.

The W Sum C is expected to be higher than, or at least equal to, the value for Sum C' regardless of whether a person is introversive, extratensive or ambitent, or whether an avoidant style is present. When this occurs, no interpretive hypothesis can be formed. If, however, the value for Sum C' is greater than that for W Sum C it should be postulated that the individual is inhibiting the release of emotions much more frequently than do most people and, as a result, is burdened by more irritating feelings than should normally be the case.

**Afr – Affective Ratio:** Mean = 0.67, SD = 0.16, Normals between 0.63 and 0.75. This ratio is comprised of the total number of responses to the last three cards, compared with those given to the first seven cards.  $\text{Sum R(VIII + IX + X)/Sum R(I-VIII)}$ . This variable relates to one's interest in experiencing or being around emotional stimuli. As might be suspected, the average range of values for the Afr differs among introversives, extratensives, ambitents, and those with a high Lambda avoidant style. Because the last three cards are chromatic and the first seven are primarily achromatic, the Afr indicates the extent to which affect (color) makes an impact on the person. Nonpatient adults usually show a mean Afr of .69 (SD = 0.16). However, it is relevant to consider Afr within the context of EB. Introversives (higher M side of EB), who primarily direct their experience inward, have Afr ranges between .50 and .80. In contrast, Extratensives (higher C side of EB) have Afr ranging between .60 and .95. This means that it is useful to take EB scores into account when judging whether an Afr is high or low. Although the mean Afr for patient groups was not very different from that for nonpatients, the range was much higher for patients and the distribution was bimodal. This higher range among patient groups is consistent with the view that they are more likely to have difficulties with either under-controlling or over-controlling affect.

HIGH	LOW
<p>Afr &gt; .75 – Very attracted to and receptive to emotional inputs, more likely to respond immediately than to delay behavior. Correlated with EB, extratensives have high Afr, mean is .79. Important to evaluate degree of control person has over emotions by looking at FC/CF+C. If High Afr with Low L – responds to everything emotionally. Often this person attempts to control affect in obsessive/compulsive ways. High Afr with High L suggests a provocative individual who “seeks” affective stimulation but then does not respond to it.</p> <p>Greater than 75% is found with histrionics, impulsive individuals, delinquents and manics.</p>	<p>Afr &lt; .55 – Tends to withdraw from emotions. May miss interpersonal cues in avoidance. If unusually low Afr, may attempt to exert extreme amount of control over affective responses. Correlated with EB, introversives have low Afr, mean is .62. May suggest defenses of repression or denial. Subject may fear losing control as found in anxiety disorders and panic disorders. If Low Afr with Low L, person responds affectively, but tries to cover it up. Subject is aware of weak boundaries and tries to back away from affect. Low Afr with Low L is like a “dam with holes in it.” The person is not able to maintain their separation from others. Low Afr with High L indicates a very guarded person, i.e., sociopath.</p>

**S – White Space:** Mean = 1.57, SD = 1.28, Norm 0-3 – May be a healthy self-assertion. Most people give at least one S response, usually to Cards I or II, and two S answers is not uncommon. If all S responses occur in first two blots, person was probably not well prepared to take the test and responded negatively to demands of testing situation. Generally, the reversal of figure and ground, or the integration of figure and ground, can be thought of representing a sense of individuality. However, if the number of S responses is excessive, issues of negativism, oppositionality, or even anger must be considered. The sequencing of S responses is important if more than two S responses are given. This is because some people approach the test with a very negative set. Thus, it becomes important to differentiate positive findings that are more situational as contrasted with those signifying a trait-like feature.

HIGH	LOW
<p>High S plus poor FQ, High S plus FM or m, or High S plus CF, TF &amp; poor FQ – consider anger affect. There are more S responses with adolescents and hostile people. Can represent negativism. In initial blots, may suggest resistance to taking the test. Oppositional, negative tendencies. Possibly destructive – acting out. Not uncommon with paranoids whose unconscious dynamic is rebelliousness. When paired with movement/poor form quality, suggests that hostility and aggression are not being expressed.</p>	<p>None is OK. When S occurs with W or P (same response), this can suggest a tension state: Resistance vs. Conformity.</p>

**Blends/R – Complexity Index:** Mean = 0.24, SD = 0.10. This compares the total number of blend responses (entered on the left side of the ratio) with the total number of responses (R). Normals have 1 or more blends. To create blend, a person must appreciate the complexity of the inkblot, using both analysis and synthesis. Pure F response is exact opposite to blend in that pure F requires attention to only the most simple, straightforward aspect of the stimulus.

HIGH	LOW
Individuals of higher intelligence usually obtain at least 25% blends. Could suggest overly complicated psychological operations that might provoke disorganization (sensory overload). Schizophrenics offer greatest number of blends. Runaway thinking associated with mania. Over 20% blends may indicate the kind of cognitive disorganization that often occurs prior to a psychotic break.	If less than two blends in an average protocol, this is an indication of repressive processes. Subject may be overly constricted. A dependent neurotic often gives no blends. Shading Blends signal depression. A Color-Shading blend correlates with suicide and depression – part of S-CON

**CP – Color Projection:** Mean = 0.01, SD = 0.09; very unusual. Coded only when person identifies the presence of chromatic coloring in the achromatic blot area. Tend to use shading features of the blot, so code as diffuse shading (FY, YF, Y). Since no chromatic coloring in blot, do not score FC, CF, C. This unusual response indicates persons who deny unpleasant emotions by creating false or substitute emotions instead. Thus, they have difficulty dealing with negative feelings and modulating their emotions, and they bend or even distort reality as a means of adapting. This scoring category should only be interpreted within the context of other indicators for processing and expressing affect.

When the value for CP is greater than zero, it signifies that the individual often denies the presence of irritating or unpleasant emotion or emotional stimulation by substituting an inappropriately positive emotion or emotional value to the situation. This is a hysteroid-like process that disregards or violates reality. Typically, people who use this form of defense feel very uncomfortable about their ability to deal adequately with negative feelings and often have problems in modulating their own affective displays. Consequently, they are prone to bend reality to avoid dealing with perceived or anticipated harshness in the environment. This form of defensiveness is often quite transparent and people who use it frequently tend to find themselves being judged by others as being emotionally superficial.

## **INTERPERSONAL**

Although this cluster may seem extensive, it is not for many cases. It includes several “negative” variables; that is, when any are positive they identify the presence of features that may impact negatively on interpersonal perception or behavior. When they are not positive, they offer little information about how an individual perceives others or interacts with them. Sometimes the interpreter is challenged to develop a picture that affords adequate weight to the positive interpersonal features of a person.

Even though the Rorschach does not obtain information regarding a person’s actual environment or the other persons within that environment, it does provide information related to needs, attitudes, behavioral response sets, and coping styles, all of which are relevant to interpersonal relationships.

**COP & AG:** It is useful to consider COP (Cooperative Movement – Mean = 2.00, SD = 1.38 – Movement response with a clearly positive or cooperative interaction) and AG (Aggression – Mean = 1.11, SD = 1.15 – Movement response with current aggression [no past tense]) together. They both include projected elements that are added by the person giving the answer. As self-representations, they sometimes provide useful information about internal sets that a person may have concerning interactions among people. If there is an absence of scores on either category, it suggests that the individual will be aloof, somewhat uncomfortable in social situations, and on the periphery of group situations. In contrast, if COP is high (2 or more) and AG is low (0 or 1), the person is likely to be perceived by others as trustworthy, cooperative, and easy to be around. It is also a favorable prognosis for psychotherapy. If COP is low (less than 3 or especially 0) and AG is high (greater than 2), the person’s interactions are likely to be forceful or even aggressive and hostile. Given the above interpretations, it might be speculated that high scores on both COP and AG would suggest some conflict regarding the appropriate and preferred mode of responding and would result in inconsistent interpersonal behaviors (i.e., passive aggressive interactions).

**Food:** Mean = 0.21, SD = 0.47. Food (Fd) responses typically signal the presence of a dependency orientation that can affect interpersonal relations. The value for Fd is expected to be zero except in the records of children, where the presence of one food answer is not uncommon.

When the value for Fd is greater than zero in the record of an adolescent or adult, or greater than one in the record of a child, it suggests that the person can be expected to manifest more dependency behaviors than usually is expected. People such as this are inclined to rely on others for direction and support and tend to be rather naïve in their expectations concerning interpersonal relations. They usually expect others to be more tolerant of their needs and demands and more willing to act in accord with those needs and demands. When this finding is positive for an individual who also has a passive style, it is reasonable to conclude that a passive-dependent feature is an important core component in the personality structure of the person.

**Isolate/R – Isolation Index:** Mean = 0.19, SD = 0.09. Calculation of this index requires noting the total number of content responses for Botany (Bt), Clouds (Cl), Geography (Ge), Landscape (Ls), and Nature (Na). Contents for Clouds (Cl) and Nature (Na) are then multiplied by 2 and added to the number of responses for the rest of the contents. This sum is then divided by the total number of responses.

Exner points out that the five contents used to develop the Isolation Index are all “nonhuman, nonsocial, inanimate, and usually static objects.” If a high proportion of these contents (index score of .25 or greater) occurs in a person’s protocol, it suggests the person may be withdrawn or alienated, or may at least have some difficulties related to social isolation. This seems to be true for children, adolescents, and adults. However, the above interpretations should not necessarily take on a pathological bias. A high score might merely represent less interest in people rather than a negative rejection and alienation from them. Use as indicator for further exploration rather than as diagnosis in itself.

**H:(H) + Hd + (Hd) – Interpersonal Interest:** This ratio compares the amount of Pure Human responses with mythical/fictional and part human responses. Two of the human categories on the right side of the ratio relate to fictional/mythical descriptions. As such, they can be considered to represent the extent to which the individual bases his or her perceptions on real versus imaginary aspects of people. Adult and adolescent nonpatients usually give more Pure Human responses than (H) + Hd + (Hd) at a rate of approximately 3:2. However, the means for the ratio are different for introverts (3:1) than for either extroverts or ambiverts (1.3:1). In contrast, schizophrenics see a much higher proportion of fictional/mythical and part human responses (1.5:2). This low a level of Pure Human responses suggests that they are working from an unrealistic perception of themselves and others. In general, if this ratio is weighted to the right side, the examinee tends to have unrealistic or fantasied expectations of human interactions. If the ratio is weighted to the left side, perceptions of self and others tend to be realistic and others are experienced as whole beings rather than as fragmented parts.

**(H) + (Hd):(A) + (Ad):** This summarizes the frequencies of parenthesized (fictional/mythological) human and human detail responses and compares them with the total number of parenthesized animal and animal detail responses. This is an index of possible detachment from reality. Information about the extent to which conceptions of others may be based more on imagination than on real experience. The left side of the ratio is frequently higher than the right (1:0 or 2:1), but a higher right side or high combined total score (greater than three) can indicate significant misinterpretation and detachment from social interaction.

**H + A:Hd + AD:** This summarizes and compares the total number of whole human and animal contents with the total number of human detail and animal detail contents. Parenthesized human and animal contents are also included. This is important because a high number of either human detail or animal detail responses is unusual. Nonpatient adults will typically have a ratio of 4:1, whereas patients with clear paranoid features will have 50% or more of their responses on the right side. Although a high proportion of contents on the right side does not necessarily indicate paranoia, it does suggest that the person perceives his or her interactions with others in an unusual manner.

HIGH:LOW	LOW:HIGH
Lackadaisical toward detail if 6:1. If more Hd than H, subject may not be able to relate to people as whole objects. The more you see Hd, (Hd) and (H), the more likely that subject is misinterpreting interpersonal environment.	Excessive concern for detail. Possible critical, constricted style. Unusual preoccupation with details even to the point of some undue suspiciousness. If 1:2, 1:3 or smaller, this is an indicator of paranoia.

## **SELF-PERCEPTION**

The notion of self has varied considerably in psychology. Therefore it seems important to clarify the use of the term as applied to this cluster of variables. Self-perception pertains to two features, self-image and self-involvement. Self-image constitutes the impressions that one has regarding his or her own characteristics. It is an internal lexicon of concepts related to the characteristics of oneself. Many of these impressions are readily accessible to one's conscious thinking, but some may be only partially or completely inaccessible to conscious awareness. This is because they are unwanted or conflicting and thus tend to be suppressed or even repressed.

The Rorschach data related to self-perception are varied and interpretation relies considerably on one's skill in detecting and using projected material. It is very important for the interpreter to seek out positive as well as negative features that mark self-image. Usually, negative features are easily detected but positive findings are often neglected. In some instances that neglect may be created by the fact that positive features are a bit more difficult to identify but, more likely, it is created from the sets that are generated by the assessment questions that are posed for the interpreter. Typically, these questions involve negative features or issues and, in their quest to address them, interpreters may overlook or underestimate positive elements.

**EI – Egocentricity Index:** Norm = 28-50%. This equation examines the total number of reflection and pair determinant responses to the total number of responses given during administration. The Egocentricity Index provides an estimate of self-concern and possibly self-esteem. It is a crude measure of self-attending behavior. If it falls above the average range, it indicates an excessive involvement with the self but does not necessarily equate with positive self-esteem unless the reflection response is also positive. On the other hand, if it falls below the average range, it indicates that self-esteem is lower than should be the case; that is, when comparative judgments are made between the self and others, the result tends to be negative. The expected or average range of the Index for adults is .33 to .45 but the lower and upper parameters of the range increase for younger subjects depending on their age. When the value for the EI falls in the average range of .33 to .45 for an adult (or in the average range for a younger subject), it suggests that the individual is no more or less self-involved than most others.

<b>HIGH</b>	<b>LOW</b>
<p>&gt; .49 – A certain level (index level of .40 to .45) of self-focusing and self-concern is associated with positive self-esteem. However, index scores above .49 suggest that the person has an over-inflated sense of self-worth, which reflects underlying dissatisfaction. This may be expressed in part by neglect of aspects of the external world. Excessive self-concern. Unusual focus on self that may be detrimental in interpersonal arena. May contribute to reality distortion especially in interpersonal sphere.</p> <p>Correlates highly with Narcissistic Personality Disorders and Acute Schizophrenia.</p>	<p>&lt; .32 – In contrast to high EI, scores below .32 indicate that the person's self-worth is quite negative and he or she feels conflicted regarding a self-image. Such individuals regard themselves less favorably when compared to others. This may lead to mood fluctuations along with dysfunctional behaviors. Lack of sufficient self-concern. Low self evaluation is created by excessive concern for others and values of the external world. Possible self-contempt. There may be some self-destructive or self-abusive behavior, but this is usually not associated with suicide risk. This characteristic is often a precursor to depression.</p> <p>Low Index often seen with: Depressives, Dependent Personalities. Sometimes occurs in Obsessives or psychosomatics.</p>

**Fr + rF:** Reflections are rare – 1 occurs in 20% of all protocols. Reflection answers relate to a narcissistic-like feature of personality. It is a nuclear element of the self and includes a marked tendency to value oneself very highly. This characteristic is natural among younger children but usually disappears or becomes moderated during adolescence as formal cognitive operations become more widespread and social relationships take on a new importance. The presence of an exaggerated sense of self worth does not automatically lead to some sort of pathology. Many people who hold themselves in high regard are very successful in life, but there is always the risk that their self-centeredness can impair the development of a mature balance between a healthy concern for one's own integrity and the integrity of others.

The probability that this inflated sense of self worth will lead to adjustment problems is largely contingent on the extent to which the individual is able to achieve reassurance. This is because the tendency to value oneself highly often contributes significantly to the development of motives for status. If that recognition is achieved, it reduces the likelihood that pathology or maladjustment will occur. On the other hand, failures to obtain reaffirmation of the high self value usually lead to frustration and negativism. This usually leads to the development of elaborate systems of personal defense through which the integrity of the belief concerning the extraordinary personal worth can be protected. This creates a predisposition to pathology and/or maladjustment. Rationalization, externalization and denial typically form the core of these defenses.

If the value for Fr+rF is greater than zero it indicates an exaggerated self-involvement and an inflated sense of personal worth that tends to dominate the individual's perceptions of the world. This characteristic is a basic personality feature that is highly influential in decisions and behaviors because of the need for frequent reaffirmation or reinforcement of the exaggerated sense of personal pride. Adolescents and adults with this feature often find it difficult to establish and maintain deep and meaningful interpersonal relations. In some instances, this provokes self-examining and, if that occurs, internal conflict can arise, creating a conflict between the high value attributed to the self and some awareness that it may not be valid. If the environment has been especially unresponsive of reassurance, asocial and/or antisocial sets can evolve rather easily.

**FD:** Mean = 1.18, SD = 0.94, Norm 0-2. FD represents responses using three-dimensionality (3-D) based only on the form. Using elements of size and/or the shape of the outline in contrast to other areas of the inkblot; an object appearing in perspective or in relation to another object, such as a dog in front of or behind a tree No use of shading is involved. FD responses relate to introspective behavior. Self-examination usually is regarded as a positive feature through which individuals become more aware of themselves. Optimally, introspection entails the viewing of oneself as objectively as possible, putting aside biases, sets, and emotions, and studying one's characteristics from a realistic perspective. Usually, self-inspection promotes a higher level of awareness, and most people engage in some form of self-examining from time to time to gauge their assets and liabilities more fully. Introspection also involves some risks, as it sometimes represents a deliberate challenge to one's own integrity. If carried to an extreme, it becomes a form of rumination and can breed very discomforting emotions. FD answers are related to a proclivity for introspection. Studies of patients in psychotherapy found an increase in FD. Generally, when they appear in a protocol, they are positive signs, unless they occur with a substantial frequency.

HIGH	LOW
The presence of 1 or 2 in an average record probably indicates that the self-inspecting process, important for growth and/or change, is present. An elevation of FD can signal that the process is being abused. The S-CON includes; $FV + VF + V + FD > 2$ . May indicate an exaggerated involvement with self-examination.	Although no FD falls within one SD, the absence of FD in a record may suggest the avoidance of self-awareness and/or examination. This might not portend well for early phases of treatment. Presence of 1 or 2 in a record indicates that affective responses and impulses are pretty adaptively controlled.

**An + Xy:** Anatomy responses are not very common in most protocols and X-ray answers occur far less frequently. Thus, the value for An+Xy typically is expected to be zero, or one at most. It occurs more frequently for persons preparing to undergo elective surgery and among psychosomatic patients. Anatomy responses also occur with greater frequency with the onset of psychological difficulties related to pregnancy. As might be expected, An responses also occur more often in the protocols of biologists and persons with medical training. When the value exceeds one it usually signifies some unusual body concerns and, as the value increases, so too does the likelihood that a preoccupation exists. Anatomy content also can serve as an index of the degree of involvement persons have in their inner fantasy.

If the value for An+Xy is two, the interpreter should be alerted to the possibility that some body concern may be present. This finding should not necessarily be considered as a significant issue concerning the psychological organization of the individual unless the answers have a minus form quality or a MOR special score. If either or both are FQ minus or have a MOR special score the likelihood that they reflect an important body concern is increased.

When the value for An+Xy is three or more, it is almost certain that some unusual body concern or preoccupation is present, regardless of the form quality of the answers or whether any include the special score MOR. This finding is not uncommon among persons who have physical problems. If no health problems exist it suggests the likelihood of rumination about body and/or self image and may indicate a disconcerting sense of vulnerability.

**MOR:** Mean = 0.79, SD = 0.89. It is not unusual to find a single Morbid content answer in a protocol. They occur most frequently to Card VI in relation to the Popular animal skin response. When the frequency of MOR answers exceeds one it typically signifies that the self-image of the person includes impressions of negative or blemished features, which is not surprising given that this score is given for a percept of dead, damaged, diseased objects. The blots themselves do not call out morbid responses in the typical subject, and the percept of something morbid is therefore a projection. Many factors can cause people to develop negative impressions about themselves. Some result from a general accumulation of adversities or setbacks while others may stem more directly from specific failures or disappointments concerning educational, occupational, emotional, or social experiences, some of which could be recent. In that context, the history is often an important source from which to understand the origins of these negative attributions. Regardless of the cause, the impact of these attributions tends to persist, and as the magnitude increases so too does a pessimistic view of the self. Often, the frequency alone will alert the interpreter to the probability that the self-image includes significant impressions of unwanted or damaged characteristics. If three or more MOR responses are present, it is both a strong indicator of depression and one of several indicators for suicide risk. MOR content is likely to have unique meaning for the person and can often be interpreted symbolically and qualitatively.



**PROCESSING**

Processing involves scanning a stimulus field and creating images (icons) of the field or its parts in short term memory. Many elements such as motivation, issues of economy, achievement needs, defensiveness, pre-established sets or preconceived attitudes, etc. can influence processing strategies in a given situation. Nonetheless most people develop general processing habits that manifest when they input most new information. Thus, when confronted with ten blots that contain many ambiguous and semi-ambiguous features, the accumulated responses that are given by the person taking the test provide some information from which inferences can be drawn concerning the motivation, quality, and typical approach that characterizes the processing effort of that individual.

The Processing Section deals with input of information. Although all variables in the information processing section are interrelated, they consist of 2 subclusters:

1. Deals with processing effort and motivation: OBS, HVI, Zf, W:D:Dd, W:M.
2. Deals with quality and efficiency of processing: DQ, Zd, PSV, Location Sequencing.

**Zf – Organizational Activity:** Mean = 11.84, SD = 2.78. Normals range 9-14. The relative extent to which a person efficiently and effectively organizes the disparate aspects of the inkblots will be reflected in the scoring for Organizational Activity. The frequency of the number of responses to which a Z score has been assigned provides a rather crude estimate of processing effort. The estimate is crude because a Z score may be assigned for any of three types of answers. They include (1) W responses that specify form or have a form demand, (2) segments of the blot have been identified as separate objects and then meaningfully integrated in the response, and (3) white space areas that are integrated into the blot area used in the response.

Some W answers are formed more easily than D responses. Therefore, four or five Z's can be expected in almost every record because of simple W answers. The breaking apart of the blot into separate objects and reintegrating those objects in a meaningful way requires more scanning and probably the creation of a more precise image in short term memory. Similarly, the integrated use of white space in a response requires a more complex processing effort than is necessary to form the simple W answer. Thus, while average or expected ranges for Zf are easily established, the datum becomes much more meaningful as an indicator of effort when reviewed in relation to other processing variables.

<b>HIGH</b>	<b>LOW</b>
Zf > 13 – High scores indicate that the degree of effort expended to process information is more extensive than required or expected. Thus, these persons may have a high level of intellectual striving in which they carefully and precisely work with their perceptions. May reflect success level of achievement. High drive and initiative.	Zf <9 – With scores of less than 9, it would be expected that the client expends less effort than needed or required to adequately process information. Limited cognitive ability or feigning limited ability. Possible depression.

**Zd – Processing Efficiency:** Mean = 0.57, SD = 2.98, Normative range is -3 to +3, approximately 77% of nonpatient adolescents and adults. Although the frequency of Organizational Activity (Zf) along with the Economy Index (W:D) and the Aspirational Ratio (W:M) provide information on the motivation and effort that persons place into their perceptions, these indicators do not provide information related to quality or accuracy. In contrast, the Processing Efficiency (Zd) score provides an index not only of effort but also of ease and accuracy of processing. Individuals scoring high on Zd are considered to have an overincorporative style; they invest more effort and are more accurate in their perceptions and conclusions. This seems to be an enduring trait-like feature. In contrast, low scorers have an underincorporative style, which means that they process information in a more haphazard style, often neglecting relevant bits of information. This characteristic seems more amenable to change, as indicated by moves to a more overincorporative style following psychotherapy. A review of research on Zd indicates that, consistent with theory, overincorporators (high Zd) have more extensive eye scanning, make fewer errors on games, and are less likely to make guesses related to requests for factual information. In contrast, underincorporators (low Zd) make fewer eye movements while scanning, are more likely to make errors on games, and are more likely to make guesses related to factual information. Among children, low Zd scores occur among those diagnosed as hyperactive.

<b>HIGH</b>	<b>LOW</b>
(> +3). Overincorporator. High scorers on Zd are more likely to be obsessive or perfectionistic but can also efficiently and accurately process information. They are likely to take care with their perceptions and continually check for accuracy. They exert more effort in information processing and are more confident in their abilities. Obsessive with details, cannot see gestalt, does not give up easily, may use cognitive style as defense. Enduring trait-like characteristic – invests more energy and effort into scanning activities. Less efficient, but may be an asset in that it is cautious, thorough.	(< -3). Underincorporator. Persons scoring low on Zd are more likely to be haphazard and to make impulsive decisions without fully taking into account all relevant aspects of a situation. Compared to high Zd scorers, they do not invest as much effort into actively working with their perceptions. They typically are uneasy with their information-processing ability and may question their efficiency at perceiving, integrating, and responding to information. Impulsivity, hyperactivity.

**W:D:Dd – Economy Index:** Normals are 1:2 ratio (W:D), Dd < 4. This ratio offers a perspective about the processing effort in the context of strategies and economy. It seems important to emphasize that more effort does not necessarily yield better processing. It simply means that the person has used more effort to implement a processing strategy that seems to be most appropriate for the task at hand. For example, although it is true that W's can be formed very easily to a few blots (I, IV, V), W's to some other blots require more scanning and more effort (II, VI, VII, VIII) and, for at least three blots (III, IX, X), the creation of a W response requires considerable effort. Therefore, while giving a W answer on every blot may represent a commendable effort, it is not very economical and provides no assurance that the responses will be "better" than if some other strategy had been used. The opposite is true for D responses. D areas are reasonably easy to distinguish on every blot, except Card V. Thus, it is more economical to give D responses and, as the person taking the test feels pressed to give multiple answers, a natural tendency toward processing economy usually occurs.

Location distributions for almost every group of adults and children older than age nine will show more D responses than W answers. In addition to the fact that D responses usually require less processing effort than most W answers, there is another reason why the distributions show more D than W responses. It is that the potential number of W responses that are consistent with the form features of the field are fewer in all blots than are the potentials for D answers that are form appropriate. On the other hand, almost all Dd answers are formed only after considerable scanning has occurred. Usually, they require more processing effort. The only exceptions to this are those Dd responses that are created by a complete figure ground reversal and involve the exclusive use of white space. Thus, when the W:D:Dd ratio is studied, the expectation is that the D frequency will be between 1.3 and 1.6 times greater than the W frequency, and that the frequency for Dd will not exceed 3. This expectation is applicable regardless of EB style or Lambda values. The only exception is for children less than age 10. They typically give at least as many W's as D's and sometimes will give more W answers. Often, these are Wv responses that

occur because the child is casual about the task and unconcerned with the complexity of the field. Young children who are uncertain about or threatened by the test situation tend to give more Dd responses.

HIGH:LOW	LOW:HIGH
If weighted toward W, subject strives to organize to excessive degree. Subject is going to too much trouble to see the gestalt. There is an underemphasis on economy. Subject could be attempting to “show off” or highly obsessive and afraid of making mistakes.	When subject is faced with ambiguity, chooses easiest perceptual/cognitive way out. Too much emphasis on being economical. Might be stingy, withholding. Subject is putting forth less effort than is expected. Seen in: Depressives, Anxious subjects, Perfectionists, Withdrawn subjects.

**W:M – Aspirational Index:** Normals at 1.5:1 up to 2.5:1. In the normal range, there is a balance of striving and success outcome. The W:M ratio provides less direct information about processing effort than the Zf or W:D:Dd ratio in that it seems to relate more broadly to the achievement orientation of the individual. Nonetheless, if used logically, it can help evaluate the processing effort and sometimes provides interesting insights about very substantial efforts or those that seem overly conservative. The interpretive rationale is based on the premise that the processing effort should be consistent with the person's available resources.

This ratio has interpretive significance when the relationship between W and M is disproportionate, that is, a substantially larger or smaller number of W's occur in relation to the number of M responses that have been given. The decision about whether the W:M relation is disproportionate must be judged in the context of the EB. This is because introversives usually give significantly more M than most extratensives, and ambitents usually give more M than extratensives but significantly less M than introversives. At the same time, all three groups tend to give about the same number of W answers.

HIGH:LOW	LOW:HIGH
Equal to or higher than 3:1 indicates high aspirations but these aspirations but these aspirations likely exceed capabilities.	Either 1:1 or 0:1 indicates that aspirations are lower than functioning level or capabilities.

**DQ – Developmental Quality:** Developmental quality scores relate to a person's relative ability to analyze and synthesize information. It is a measure of “cognitive sophistication” or cognitive development . A high DQ+ (above 9 or 10) is consistent with more intelligent, complex, and sophisticated persons. However, this greater complexity does not necessarily mean that the person is well adjusted or even that his or her cognitions are accurate. A number of disorders are characterized by quite complex cognitive operations, yet they are not well adjusted. In contrast to DQ+, a higher proportion (three or more) of low Developmental Quality (DQv) responses indicates persons who are immature and less sophisticated (children, neuropsychologically impaired, intellectually disabled).

HIGH (+ and o)	LOW (v and v/+)
High DQ may suggest flexibility and higher maturation (if confirmed elsewhere in record). Tends to occur with brighter, better-adjusted subjects. If Zf is elevated and the frequency of DQ+ is high, the subject is not only working hard at the task, but also doing so with a complex and sophisticated cognitive effort. <b>Caution:</b> Many symptom patterns evolve from very elaborate cognitive operations, i.e., a systematized delusional system.	v occurs more often with children, disturbed, organically impaired or limited subjects. Low DQ may reflect concrete, rigid and immature cognitive processes. Catatonic/hebephrenic schizophrenics often have low DQ. DQv's are unusual for adults. More than 2 suggests a lack of commitment to the response they give. v almost always means a distancing from the task.

**MEDIATION**

This is the second cluster in the cognitive triad. Whereas the processing data focus on the input activities that lead to the formation of a mental image or icon, the data in this cluster relate to how that image is identified or translated. The process requires some reconciliation (mediation) between the image that has been stored and items available from the memory of the individual so as to accomplish the task of responding to the question "What might this be?"

The variables in the cluster relate to one broad issue. It is the extent to which the identifications (responses) given by the individual are commensurate with the stimulus features of the blots. It is an issue that concerns reality testing. The interpretation, however, does not simply focus on whether the response fits the area used. On the contrary, the interpretation seeks to flesh out more precise information about some of the characteristics of the mediational activity, especially the degree to which it is marked by common, uncommon, or inaccurate translations. It also focuses on the circumstances in which inaccurate translations manifest.

The accuracy of the interpretation will, to a considerable extent, depend on the interpreter's understanding of the response process. It is especially important to understand the relation between the response process and Form Quality coding as well as the relation of those codes to the other variables in the cluster.

**Populars:** Mean =6.58, SD = 1.39, Normative range = 6-8. Popular answers are those responses that occur in at least one out of every three protocols, but that criterion is very conservative. In reality, most Popular responses appear much more frequently. For instance, more than 90% of all subjects identify the D1 area of Card VIII as some sort of four legged animal because the contours of the area are highly congruent with those of a four legged animal and are much more precise than the contours of other Card VIII areas. Thus, most people give the "animal" response to that area even though the pink color of the area is incongruous with the coloring of most animals.

The Popular responses involve the use of the most distinct distal properties of the blots. The frequency by which they occur provides information concerning the likelihood that the person will make obvious customary or conventional responses in situations where the cues regarding expected or accepted behaviors are easily identified. Logically, it might be assumed that every person taking the test would take this easy route when contending with most or all of blots but that usually does not occur, probably because the relative distinctiveness of the critical distal features varies from blot to blot. Most people give six, seven, or eight Popular answers. Far fewer give nine and it is quite unusual for an individual to give 10 or more, even in lengthy protocols.

The number of popular responses reflects the subjects' degree of similarity to most people, the extent to which they conform to social standards, and the relative ease with which they can be influenced in interpersonal relationships. Persons who reject conventional modes of thinking give a significantly lower number of populars than those who are conforming and relatively conventional. Sociopaths can go either way, high or low Populars. If person fails a Popular, look at what happened on previous card.

Because Populars are extremely common for Cards I, III, V, and VI11, an absence of them from these cards is significant in that it more strongly suggests the trends just discussed. However, the assumption that low P responses alone confirm maladjustment should be approached with caution. Low P subjects who have good form quality (F + % and X + %) and whose organizational activity is also good are likely to be creative individuals who are avoiding common or ordinary perceptions and want to extend their imagination. If organization and form quality are poor, there is a high likelihood that the psychopathological dimensions are more predominant.

HIGH	LOW
<p>High P suggests that the subject is experiencing anxiety related to a fear of approval. Clings to common perceptions as way to achieve approval. These individuals can be described as conventional, over-conforming, guarded, and, frequently, depressed.</p>	<p>Inpatient schizophrenics give the lowest number of P responses, which is consistent with their poor contact with reality. They can be described as poorly adjusted, detached, aloof from their environment, and unable to see the world as others see it. It has been suggested that if neurotic subjects, especially obsessive/compulsives, have low P, then the possibility of latent schizophrenia should be investigated. Patients diagnosed as having character disorders also have low P, which reflects their rejection of conventionality and their lack of conformity. They appear to have an aloofness from the environment, and are unable to see world as others see it.</p>

**X+% – Conventional Form:** Mean = 0.77, SD = 0.09. X+% is the Form Quality for the entire record (pure Form and all other responses). This index is considered more reliable and meaningful than F+% because it is longer. The rare person has an X+% of 100. Normals have an X+% score of 80%. The X + % is essentially an indicator of the degree to which a person perceives things in a conventional, realistic manner. An extremely high percentage (greater than 90%) means that persons will perceive their world in an overly conventional manner, to the extent that they might sacrifice their individuality. They are likely to be hyper normal, inflexible, rigid, and overly conventional. This is further supported by, and is consistent with, an elevated number of Populars. In contrast, lowerings in X+% (less than 70%) suggest persons who perceive their world in an unusual manner. This might be simply because they are highly committed to their individuality or, particularly if X+% is unusually low, it might suggest serious psychopathology. For example, schizophrenics have a mean X+% of only 40%. Thus, it is a critical indicator of schizophrenia, and an X+% of less than 50% is one of the five indicators on Exner's Schizophrenia Index.

HIGH	LOW
<p>High respect for reality. There may be an undue emphasis on reality at the expense of subject's own creativity or uniqueness. (This is especially likely when F+% and X+% are near 100%.) There may be a cognitive rigidity. If High F+% with Low X+% = may have intellectual ability but is not using it effectively. Cognitive rigidity is noted in cases of paranoia and depression. X+ takes into account the total picture of subject's reality testing in all situations. X+% is a better and more reliable index. X=% is hard to fake.</p>	<p>Cognitive dysfunction – retardation. Limits in perceptual accuracy. Reactive CNS problems (drugs/surgery). Affect may be intruding on reality (especially if Low X+% with High F+%). May perceive world in unusual manner; may be highly committed to individuality or may suggest serious psychopathology. Schizophrenics have a mean of 53%. There may be poor affective control. Organic Problems – residual focal brain dysfunction. Chronic or deteriorated cases of psychotic depressions, neurasthenics and sever hysterical conversion. Low X+% = perceptual distortion, over-commitment to individuality, or failure in modulating affect. When X+% is Low and X-% is High, it is reasonable to conclude that the magnitude of the impairment is considerable.</p>

**F+% – Conventional Pure Form:** Normals in the 80% range. F+% assesses the same dimension as X+% but is limited to a narrower number of responses because it involves only pure F responses rather than other scoring categories (C', Y, T, and V) that might have been combined with F. Thus, interpretation is similar to the interpretation of X+% but should be done more cautiously. It reflects a person's respect for the conventional aspects of reality and perceptual clarity. The Exner norms indicate schizophrenics have an F+% of only 42%, in contrast to the average of 71% among normals. In general, a low F+% might suggest limited intellectual endowment, organic impairment, or schizophrenia.

HIGH	LOW
High respect for reality. There may be an undue emphasis on reality at the expense of subject's own creativity or uniqueness. (This is especially likely when F+% and X+% are near 100%.) There may be a cognitive rigidity. If High F+% with Low X+% = may have intellectual ability but is not using it effectively. Cognitive rigidity is noted in cases of paranoia and depression. F+ in general gives a reasonable index of subject's capacity to handle stress - of internal efficiency.	Cognitive dysfunction – Retardation. Limits in perceptual accuracy. Reactive CNS problems (drugs/surgery). Affect may be intruding on reality (especially if Low X+% with High F+%). u/- reflects disregard for reality. There may be poor affective control. Organic Problems – residual focal brain dysfunction. Chronic or deteriorated cases of psychotic depressions, neurasthenics and sever hysterical conversion.

**X-% – Distorted Form:** Mean = 0.07, SD = 0.05. Minus answers can be caused by a host of reasons. Faulty processing can cause some, however, in most instances the processing is adequate but emotional elements, ideational sets, and/or preoccupations prompt a misidentification of the stimulus features. Regardless of cause, the minus reflects some personal aspect of the individual that causes the stimulus field to be disregarded and replaced by internal aspects of the person that become projected into the response. Minus answers represent a disregard for, or distortion of reality. Frequently, minus responses will have some homogeneity for location, determinants, or content which, in turn, can provide some insights into the antecedents of the mediational dysfunction. Obviously, when minus answers occur with a substantial frequency, they usually indicate a significant cognitive dysfunction that can be related to any of a variety of serious psychological or neurologically related problems.

In contrast to X+% (and F+%), X-% is a direct index of the degree to which a person has distorted perceptions of reality. The higher the X-%, the more likely that the person will have a significant level of impairment. For example, moderately high percentages (X-% = 20%) are found for depressives, and percentages of 37% are characteristic of schizophrenics. Any percentage above 20% suggests that the person will have difficulty, because he or she will have poor ties with reality and difficulty developing accurate abstractions. If this score is 15% or greater, the examinee has a significant tendency to distort reality.

**S-% – White Space Distortion:** This represents the proportion of distorted form answers that involve use of white space. Sometimes, X+% and F+% can be low and it might then be assumed that this is a result of a high number of form minus responses. This assumption might then result in incorrect interpretations. One way of checking for this difficulty is to note the percentage of minus responses for the white space (S-). Instead of suggesting the sort of distortions suggestive of schizophrenia (see interpretations for F+% and X+%), a low S—% might be due to strong negativism or anger.

**Xu% – Unusual Form:** Mean = 0.15, SD = 0.07. The Xu% represents the proportion of u responses in the protocol. They have a special importance because none occurs very frequently even though all are congruent with the properties of the blots. Almost every protocol will contain unusual responses, and the interpretation of them can be challenging. It is clear that they are less conventional and more idiographic. Many probably contain some projected elements, but that is not an issue when studying mediation. The issue is whether the proportion of these answers that appear in a record represent a tendency to disregard convention.

Some u answers are variations of an o response that are verbalized in an uncommon way. Sometimes, they are simply more cautious or defensive. For instance, when the D3 area of Card II is identified as a "butterfly" the response is coded o, but when the same area is identified as an "insect with wings" the response is coded u. It could be argued that because a butterfly is a winged insect, some extrapolation should occur and both should be coded o. To do so, however, would ignore the fact that the "insect" translation is atypical. This may seem inconsistent, but it is not. It is important to remember that the definition of an o answer is that it occurred in at least 190 of the 9,500 records used to construct the table. Actually, the "butterfly" response appeared in 963 protocols while the "winged insect" response occurred in only 37 records. It is not an inappropriate response; it is simply a manner of translating the distal properties in a more generalized and more cautious or defensive manner than is common.

Most u responses are not simply generalized cautious or defensive variations of o responses. On the contrary, many tend to be more original or creative. For instance, the u response of "scarecrow," to the whole of Card IV (with DI as a post) is probably seen as easily as the Popular human or human-like figure response, and more easily than other o answers to the W area such as "boots on a pole," a "badge," or a "topographic map," yet it appears in only 43 of the 9,500 records. Unquestionably, it is a more creative response. It probably has special meaning in the context of self-image, but that is not a matter of concern here. What is important is that the image has been translated in an appropriate manner but unusual manner.

Usually, well over half, and often more than three-fourths of the responses in a record will be coded o, but the presence of some u answers is also expected, especially as R increases above 17 answers. The proportion of u responses varies considerably but is always expected to be greater than the proportion of minus answers. It is not uncommon for the Xu% to range between .15 and .25, however, when the proportion exceeds .25 questions must be raised about tendencies to be overly individualistic and/or orientations to deliberately disregard conventional or socially expected behaviors.

Xu% also provides a check for potentially incorrect interpretations derived from low X+% or F+% scores. There might be cases where X+% and F+% are low primarily as a result of a large proportion of unusual form (Fu) responses. Fu responses are unusual, but they still do not violate reality in the way that minus responses do, and thus they do not reflect severe pathology. In fact, a few Fu responses in a protocol can be a healthy sign that the person is capable of seeing his or her world in a novel manner. However, an overabundance of Fu responses suggests the person is highly committed to an unconventional orientation. Unless the environment is highly tolerant of such an orientation, he or she is likely to have numerous conflicts and confrontations.

**IDEATION**

This is the third cluster in the cognitive triad. Although all three clusters deal with forms of mental activity, ideation is probably the most complex. Whereas processing concerns the action that occurs in creating an image and mediation relates to the translation of that image, ideation refers to how the translations of inputs become conceptualized and used. It is the form of thinking that entails the organization of symbols or concepts in ways that make them meaningful to the individual. Conceptual thinking is a basic ingredient for reality testing. It constitutes the core of psychological activity from which all decisions and deliberate behaviors evolve.

Although all Rorschach responses entail some conceptualization, the manifestations of it are not always obvious, especially in the response proper. For instance, if a person viewing Card I says, "A bat," the verbalization only represents the translation of the image. Even in the inquiry, when the examiner has requested that the subject detail where the object is located and why it looks like that, conceptual material is not necessarily evoked. A person may say, "These could be the wings and this is the body." Again, this simply depicts the mediational translation. It is almost certain that some sort of ideational (conceptual) activity occurred while this answer was being formed and articulated but there is nothing in the verbal material that reflects that activity.

Fortunately, many Rorschach answers go beyond an articulation of the translation. The bat may be described either in the response or the inquiry as flying, diving, sleeping, hanging, etc., all of which are conceptualizations. Similarly, it might be described as angry, hurt, dead, etc. These too are conceptualizations. They represent the products of ideational activity. In some responses, the conceptualizations are more obvious. A Card III answer such as, "Two people cooking something in a pot," or a Card V answer of "Two people sitting back to back, leaning against each other," require considerable thought or conceptualizing.

**a:p – Flexibility of Thinking Index:** Norm = 2:1. The Active:Passive Ratio is a relationship of active and passive movement determinants.  $M^a + FM^a + m^a : M^p + FM^p + m^p$ . Individuals who have a distinctly higher number of passive responses are likely to be correspondingly more passive in other situations. In contrast, a clearly higher number of active responses indicates a person who is more active in terms of thoughts and behaviors. However, the contrast or magnitude of differences must be quite clear, as indicated by one of the following conditions: 1. "sum of the values in the ratio is four and one value is zero," 2. "values in the ratio exceed four, and the value on one side of the ratio is no more than twice that of the other," or 3. "ratio exceeds four, and the value on one side is two to three times greater than the value on the other side."

If this ratio is significantly weighted to one side, the examinee appears to have a preference in interaction and problem-solving style, e.g., passive or active. If the ratio is approximately equal, they are said to have an uncertain interaction or problem-solving style, and the lack of consistency may cause problems, especially if they are uncertain about which approach to use.

<b>a&gt;p</b>	<b>a&lt;p</b>
<p>If excessively high a, could indicate a character disorder. Stress will lead to action. Although there should be a balance of a and p, if they are exactly equal, this could suggest ambivalence regarding a response mode. That is, there is no preferred response pattern. Balanced a and p indicates that subject has a degree of flexibility in ideation and coping strategies.</p>	<p>Subject looks to outside world for gratification. Feels acted upon, helpless. Prone to depression, retreats. Stress leads to inactivity.</p>

**M<sup>a</sup>:M<sup>p</sup>:** A further refinement of the a:p ratio is to consider only the proportion of active and passive responses for human movement scorings. The M<sup>a</sup>:M<sup>p</sup> ratio does not provide any direct insights into the fantasy life of a person. Its usefulness is derived from the fact that the value for M<sup>a</sup> is always expected to be greater than the value for M<sup>p</sup>. When this is true, the magnitude of the difference has no interpretive significance. However, when the value for M<sup>p</sup> is greater than the value for M<sup>a</sup>, it does identify individuals who tend to use fantasy more routinely than is common. The ratio is useful only if the value for M is greater than one.

When the value for M<sup>p</sup> is one point more than the value for M<sup>a</sup>, it indicates that the person has a distinct tendency to defensively substitute fantasy for reality in stressful situations more often than do most people. This can be a very effective defensive strategy and should not be considered as a liability unless other evidence indicates that the person is markedly dependent on others. If the individual is prone to unusual dependence on others, the tendency to abuse fantasy only serves to exacerbate the dependency orientation.

When the value for M<sup>p</sup> is two or more points greater than the value for M<sup>a</sup>, it indicates the presence of a stylistic orientation in which flights into fantasy have become a routine tactic for dealing with unpleasant situations. This feature sometimes is referred to as a Snow White Syndrome, which is characterized mainly by the avoidance of responsibility and decision making. People such as this use fantasy with an abusive excess to deny reality and often the results are counter productive to many of their own needs.

This mode of coping creates a self-imposed helplessness because it requires a dependency on others. Unfortunately, individuals with this feature are quite vulnerable to the manipulations of others. The pervasiveness of this defensive coping style is particularly detrimental for the introverted subject because the basic ideational orientation becomes subservient to the dependency orientation in situations that seem overly complex or potentially stressful.

**2AB+(Art+Ay) – Intellectualization Index:** This index includes the contents Abstract, Art, and Anatomy. When these scores appear in the record, they are empirically related to the use of the defensive process of intellectualization. Individuals with elevated scores on this index tend to deny the presence of affect, reducing the likelihood that feelings will be dealt with directly or realistically. This approach becomes less effective as the magnitude of affective stimuli increases.

Although most people intellectualize from time to time, its habitually excessive use as a defense can cause the thinking of the person to become vulnerable to flawed logic or the distortion of internal cues. It does not automatically lead to thinking problems but does heighten the possibility that the person will form and/or accept faulty concepts. When carried to an extreme, intellectualization can become a basic ingredient in forming or sustaining very misconstrued concepts similar to those found in delusional thinking.

When the value for the index falls between four and six, it signifies that the person is more prone than most to intellectualize feelings. This suggests that the individual may adopt or accept a distorted form of conceptual thinking that serves to deny the true impact of a situation.

If the index value exceeds six, it signifies that the person uses intellectualization as a major defensive tactic in situations that are perceived as stressful. It is a pseudo-intellectual process that conceals and/or permits denial and, as a result, reduces the likelihood that feelings will be dealt with directly and/or realistically. People such as this are quite vulnerable to accepting distorted concepts and their ideation can become disorganized during intense emotional experiences because the intellectualization tactic becomes less effective as the magnitude of stressful stimuli increases.

**M- – Human Movement, Poor Form Quality:** Mean = 0.07, SD = 0.27. The human movement responses usually contain the most obvious representations of conceptual thinking, and the form quality of those answers serves as a useful source from which to evaluate the clarity of ideation. Optimally, all of the M responses will have an +, o, or u form quality, but when this is not true it suggests that ideation may be clouded more often than expected and may even indicate the possibility of peculiar or disturbed thinking. There are instances in which earlier findings may not detect some of the nuances of ideational difficulties that can be highlighted by the M form quality.

Sometimes a single M- may appear in a protocol. If there are no formless M responses in the record, the one M- may represent some peculiarities in thinking that are created by a preoccupation that interferes with mediation or the clarity of thinking. In some cases, a single M- may represent a glimpse of ideational disarray, but when this is true, previous findings concerning the critical special scores are almost always significant.

M- responses represent instances of lability in which feelings overwhelm thinking and lead to a detachment from reality.

When the combined value for M- and NoForm M is two or more, it is very likely that thinking is peculiar or disturbed. Although this may be the product of a semi-isolated preoccupation, it more likely represents a broader form of ideational disarray that will probably be confirmed by a significant elevation in the WSum6.

**Sum6:** Raw Sum6 is an equation tallying six special scores that concern unusual verbalizations. They include deviant verbalizations (DV and DR), inappropriate combinations (INCOM, FABCOM, and CONTAM) and inappropriate logic response (ALOG).

The total (Sum6) has some relevance to interpretation because it denotes how often instances of mismanagement or slippage have occurred. The information provided about ideational clarity from the Sum6, WSum6, and the frequencies for the six special scores is indirect. The absence of distinctly negative features simply means that instances of cognitive mismanagement or ideational slippage occur no more frequently than is expected. It is a "no news is good news" finding that signifies there is no reason to question the clarity of conceptual thinking. However, this does not necessarily mean that thinking will be appropriate or effective.

**Lvl-2:** Level 2 is an equation of all level 2 special scores including deviant verbalizations lvl-2, deviant responses lvl-2, incongruous combinations lvl-2, and fabulized combination lvl-2 combinations.

DV2 responses reflect a very serious form of cognitive mismanagement. They usually signal the presence of a preoccupation that is intruding into the conceptual operations of the individual.

The INCOM2 response goes well beyond a simple level of discrimination failure. They usually are bizarre and reflect a very strained kind of logic that occurs most often among those whose thinking is seriously impacted by preoccupations and/or a marked disregard for reality.

DR2 answers reflect a very serious problem in ideational impulse control. They signify some impairment to the ability to stay "on target." Even one DR2 answer suggests that conceptual thinking is impulsive and disjointed.

FABCOM2 answers are very bizarre and are indicative of significant disruption in conceptualization. They reflect an extreme disregard for reality and suggest that the judgments of the individual often are severely flawed and/or overwhelmed because ideation is not well controlled. Even one FABCOM2 signifies a serious thinking problem and indicates that reality testing is jeopardized because of very notable patterns of conceptual distortion.

**Wsum6:** Weighted Sum6 is an equation tallying the same special scores from Raw Sum6 but adding specific weights to each variable for a level of 1 or level 2 response. Mean = 4.48, SD = 4.08.

The total weighted value (WSum6), considered in relation to R, and the frequency data for each of the scores provide more specific information about the clarity of thinking and whether a thinking problem exists.

The information provided about ideational clarity from the Sum6, WSum6, and the frequencies for the six special scores is indirect. The absence of distinctly negative features simply means that instances of cognitive mismanagement or ideational slippage occur no more frequently than is expected. It is a "no news is good news" finding that signifies there is no reason to question the clarity of conceptual thinking. However, this does not necessarily mean that thinking will be appropriate or effective.

Sometimes the WSum6 may underestimate or overestimate negative ideational features. It is for this reason that a review of the answers containing critical special scores is necessary. For instance, the WSum6 could become substantial simply because a person habitually substitutes the word "hands" instead of paws or feet when describing various animals. If this occurs four or five times the WSum6 will be in a range that prompts a negative postulate. Although the INCOM coding is correct, the resulting WSum6 is misleading. Conversely, a protocol may contain only two or three special scores that contain hints of bizarreness but in the opinion of the scorer did not meet a Level 2 criterion. In such a case the WSum6 can easily underestimate the extent of ideational slippage that is present.

**M none:** Mean = 0.01, SD = 0.08. Form Quality Human Movement None is a tally of all responses that include a human movement and no Form Quality. Occasionally, a protocol will have no M- responses but will contain a formless M. NoForm Ms usually signify problems with ideational control that interfere with the clarity of thinking. Most NoForm M answers include an affective component such as sadness, rage, pain, ecstasy, love, etc., but some have a more esoteric quality such as peace, creativeness, intelligence, etc.

NoForm Ms appear to reflect instances in which ideation becomes fluid and internal preoccupations become superimposed on or replace reality. Both NoForm M and M- signify that the ability to control thinking is impaired; however, the more esoteric formless M answers probably include processes that are similar to those which give rise to hallucinatory experiences.

When the combined value for M- and NoForm M is two or more, it is very likely that thinking is peculiar or disturbed. Although this may be the product of a semi-isolated preoccupation, it more likely represents a broader form of ideational disarray that will probably be confirmed by a significant elevation in the WSum6.

TABLE 1. DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS FOR NONPATIENT ADULTS (N=600)

VARIABLE	MEAN	SD	MIN	MAX	FREQ	MEDIAN	MODE	SK	KU
AGE	31.73	10.69	19.00	69.00	600	30.00	22.00	1.34	1.65
Years Educ	13.43	1.58	8.00	19.00	600	13.00	12.00	0.33	0.22
R	22.32	4.40	14.00	43.00	600	22.00	23.00	0.86	1.90
W	8.28	2.36	3.00	24.00	600	8.00	9.00	1.67	7.82
D	12.88	3.77	0.00	32.00	598	13.00	14.00	-0.14	1.72
Dd	1.16	[1.67]	0.00	15.00	370	1.00	0.00	4.00	24.01
S	1.57	[1.28]	0.00	10.00	514	1.00	1.00	1.99	7.61
DQ+	7.36	2.23	1.00	19.00	600	7.00	6.00	0.53	1.24
DQo	13.58	3.67	5.00	36.00	600	14.00	15.00	1.26	5.69
DQv	0.98	[1.26]	0.00	6.00	306	1.00	0.00	1.35	1.30
DQv/+	0.39	[0.61]	0.00	2.00	193	0.00	0.00	1.32	0.65
FQx+	0.71	0.88	0.00	5.00	290	0.00	0.00	1.33	2.19
FQxo	16.44	3.34	7.00	29.00	600	17.00	17.00	0.25	0.59
FQxu	3.49	2.03	0.00	16.00	580	3.00	3.00	1.50	5.33
FQx-	1.56	1.20	0.00	8.00	513	1.00	1.00	1.25	2.58
FQxNone	0.11	[0.37]	0.00	3.00	60	0.00	0.00	3.80	17.53
MQ+	0.44	0.68	0.00	3.00	210	0.00	0.00	1.52	1.98
MQo	3.57	1.84	0.00	8.00	595	3.00	3.00	0.42	-0.62
MQu	0.21	0.51	0.00	5.00	104	0.00	0.00	3.24	16.14
MQ-	0.07	[0.27]	0.00	2.00	35	0.00	0.00	4.48	21.40
MQNone	0.01	[0.08]	0.00	1.00	4	0.00	0.00	12.15	146.23
S-	0.25	[0.56]	0.00	3.00	117	0.00	0.00	2.71	8.25
M	4.30	1.95	1.00	10.00	600	4.00	3.00	0.48	-0.55
FM	3.74	1.31	0.00	9.00	598	4.00	4.00	0.15	0.58
m	1.28	0.99	0.00	6.00	458	1.00	1.00	0.62	0.61
FM+m	5.01	1.70	1.00	12.00	599	5.00	5.00	0.20	0.25
FC	3.56	1.88	0.00	9.00	580	3.00	3.00	0.38	-0.24
CF	2.41	1.31	0.00	7.00	564	2.00	3.00	0.29	-0.17
C	0.12	[0.37]	0.00	3.00	61	0.00	0.00	3.76	17.14
Cn	0.01	[0.08]	0.00	1.00	4	0.00	0.00	12.15	146.23
Sum Color	6.09	2.44	0.00	12.00	599	6.00	5.00	0.11	-0.66
WSum C	4.36	1.78	0.00	9.50	599	4.00	3.50	0.11	-0.54
Sum C'	1.49	[1.16]	0.00	10.00	490	1.00	1.00	1.41	5.96
Sum T	0.95	[0.61]	0.00	4.00	490	1.00	1.00	0.83	3.33
Sum V	0.28	[0.61]	0.00	5.00	124	0.00	0.00	2.71	9.58
Sum Y	0.61	[0.96]	0.00	10.00	267	0.00	0.00	3.53	23.46
Sum Shading	3.32	2.09	0.00	23.00	588	3.00	3.00	2.54	15.45
Fr+rF	0.11	[0.43]	0.00	4.00	48	0.00	0.00	4.98	30.45
FD	1.18	[0.94]	0.00	5.00	456	1.00	1.00	0.84	1.35
F	7.95	2.83	2.00	23.00	600	8.00	7.00	0.92	2.04
(2)	8.52	2.18	1.00	21.00	600	8.00	8.00	0.29	2.11
3r+(2)/R	0.40	0.09	0.03	0.87	600	0.39	0.33	0.47	3.86
LAMBDA	0.60	0.31	0.11	2.33	600	0.53	0.50	2.27	8.01
EA	8.66	2.38	2.00	18.00	600	9.00	9.50	-0.04	0.42
es	8.34	2.99	3.00	31.00	600	8.00	7.00	1.43	6.58
D Score	-0.03	0.97	-10.00	3.00	600	0.00	0.00	-3.06	24.34
AdjD	0.15	0.82	-5.00	3.00	600	0.00	0.00	-0.88	5.89
a (active)	6.44	2.23	0.00	14.00	599	6.00	6.00	0.32	0.01
p (passive)	2.90	1.64	0.00	9.00	572	3.00	2.00	0.57	0.03
Ma	2.90	1.57	0.00	8.00	583	3.00	2.00	0.52	-0.26
Mp	1.42	1.03	0.00	5.00	493	1.00	1.00	0.53	-0.13
Intellect	1.57	1.48	0.00	9.00	449	1.00	1.00	1.27	2.16
Zf	11.84	2.78	5.00	27.00	600	12.00	12.00	0.87	3.44
Zd	0.57	2.98	-11.50	9.50	560	0.50	-1.00	0.31	0.48
Blends	5.15	2.08	0.00	12.00	598	5.00	5.00	0.00	-0.26
Blends/R	0.24	0.10	0.00	0.67	598	0.24	0.26	0.35	0.65
Col Shd Blends	0.45	[0.68]	0.00	5.00	215	0.00	0.00	1.70	4.12
Afr	0.67	0.16	0.23	1.29	600	0.67	0.67	0.35	0.65

**DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS FOR NONPATIENT ADULTS (N=600) (Continued)**

VARIABLE	MEAN	SD	MIN	MAX	FREQ	MEDIAN	MODE	SK	KU
Populars	6.58	1.39	3.00	10.00	600	6.00	6.00	-0.09	-0.47
XA%	0.92	0.06	0.57	1.00	600	0.94	0.96	-1.34	3.68
WDA%	0.94	0.06	0.54	1.00	600	0.95	0.95	-1.42	4.93
X+%	0.77	0.09	0.35	1.00	600	0.78	0.78	-0.86	2.33
X-%	0.07	0.05	0.00	0.43	513	0.05	0.05	1.41	4.56
Xu%	0.15	0.07	0.00	0.45	580	0.15	0.15	0.54	0.86
Isolate/R	0.19	0.09	0.00	0.60	588	0.18	0.18	0.51	0.41
H	3.21	1.71	0.00	9.00	595	3.00	3.00	0.97	0.84
(H)	1.22	1.02	0.00	6.00	432	1.00	1.00	0.65	0.48
Hd	0.84	1.02	0.00	7.00	336	1.00	1.00	1.98	6.60
(Hd)	0.21	0.50	0.00	4.00	109	0.00	0.00	2.90	11.25
Hx	0.03	[0.23]	0.00	4.00	14	0.00	0.00	11.29	164.54
All H Cont	5.49	1.75	1.00	15.00	600	5.00	5.00	0.59	1.24
A	7.96	2.25	3.00	25.00	600	8.00	8.00	1.06	5.03
(A)	0.27	[0.54]	0.00	3.00	137	0.00	0.00	2.31	6.38
Ad	2.30	[1.20]	0.00	9.00	571	2.00	2.00	0.79	2.85
(Ad)	0.10	[0.34]	0.00	2.00	53	0.00	0.00	6.57	13.07
An	0.54	[0.77]	0.00	4.00	243	0.00	0.00	1.59	2.81
Art	0.90	0.91	0.00	5.00	363	1.00	1.00	0.98	1.20
Ay	0.35	[0.52]	0.00	2.00	198	0.00	0.00	1.23	1.38
Bl	0.20	[0.46]	0.00	3.00	104	0.00	0.00	2.40	5.80
Bt	2.37	1.32	0.00	6.00	551	2.00	2.00	0.17	-0.29
Cg	1.41	1.09	0.00	5.00	482	1.00	1.00	0.73	0.29
Cl	0.14	[0.38]	0.00	2.00	78	0.00	0.00	2.67	6.76
Ex	0.20	[0.40]	0.00	2.00	119	0.00	0.00	1.57	0.74
Fi	0.56	[0.77]	0.00	4.00	240	0.00	0.00	1.09	0.22
Food	0.21	[0.47]	0.00	3.00	112	0.00	0.00	2.26	5.03
Ge	0.05	[0.24]	0.00	2.00	27	1.00	0.00	5.18	28.97
Hh	0.99	0.90	0.00	4.00	407	1.00	1.00	0.85	0.57
Ls	0.86	0.79	0.00	3.00	382	0.00	1.00	0.60	-0.23
Na	0.36	[0.63]	0.00	6.00	178	1.00	0.00	2.35	11.12
Sc	1.12	[1.15]	0.00	6.00	388	0.00	0.00	1.22	1.96
Sx	0.11	[0.47]	0.00	5.00	46	0.00	0.00	6.16	48.09
Xy	0.05	[0.24]	0.00	2.00	29	1.00	0.00	4.80	24.46
Idio	1.36	1.32	0.00	7.00	404	0.00	0.00	1.03	1.43
DV	0.59	[0.78]	0.00	4.00	266	0.00	0.00	1.36	1.77
INCOM	0.56	[0.78]	0.00	4.00	263	0.00	0.00	1.74	3.91
DR	0.39	[0.69]	0.00	4.00	175	0.00	0.00	1.97	4.15
FABCOM	0.27	[0.52]	0.00	3.00	141	0.00	0.00	1.85	3.02
DV2	0.00	[0.06]	0.00	1.00	2	0.00	0.00	17.27	297.49
INC2	0.02	[0.13]	0.00	1.00	10	0.00	0.00	7.57	55.49
DR2	0.01	[0.11]	0.00	1.00	8	0.00	0.00	8.50	70.61
FAB2	0.03	[0.16]	0.00	1.00	16	0.00	0.00	5.89	32.81
ALOG	0.04	[0.20]	0.00	2.00	21	0.00	0.00	5.58	33.07
CONTAM	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	----	----
Sum6 Sp Sc	1.91	1.47	0.00	7.00	496	2.00	1.00	0.80	0.56
Lvl 2 Sp Sc	0.06	[0.25]	0.00	2.00	34	0.00	0.00	4.33	19.25
WSum6	4.48	4.08	0.00	28.00	496	4.00	0.00	1.42	3.25
AB	0.16	[0.43]	0.00	3.00	84	0.00	0.00	2.82	8.39
AG	1.11	1.15	0.00	5.00	380	1.00	0.00	1.02	0.60
COP	2.00	1.38	0.00	6.00	498	2.00	2.00	0.25	-0.63
CP	0.01	[0.09]	0.00	1.00	5	0.00	0.00	10.84	115.98
GOODHR	4.93	1.78	0.00	10.00	598	5.00	5.00	0.36	0.02
POORHR	1.53	1.46	0.00	8.00	431	1.00	1.00	1.25	2.30
MOR	0.79	[0.89]	0.00	4.00	321	1.00	0.00	1.01	0.60
PER	0.92	0.91	0.00	5.00	385	1.00	1.00	1.33	3.39
PSV	0.07	[0.25]	0.00	2.00	38	0.00	0.00	3.84	14.28

**NOTE:** Standard Deviations shown in brackets indicate that the value is probably unreliable and/or misleading and should not be used to estimate expected ranges. Ordinarily these variables should not be included in most parametric analyses.

Much of the material presented in this handout has been quoted directly from the following sources. Please refer to the original source for exact citations.

Reference List

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