

DESCRIPTION:

The *Revised PSB-Health Occupations Aptitude Examination* is comprised of five tests and three subtests.

Part 1 ACADEMIC APTITUDE

1. **Verbal Subtest** - The verbal aspect consists of 30 vocabulary-related test questions. Empirical evidence has shown this type of test item to be highly related to academic success.
2. **Arithmetic Subtest** - The numerical aspect consists of 30 items drawing largely from arithmetic. To some degree, it involves skill with arithmetical concepts along with computational speed. The content of the numerical items is that to which practically all eighth grade students have been exposed.
3. **Nonverbal Subtest** - The nonverbal aspect consists of 30 test items calling for comprehension of form relationships. The measurement is in terms of the ability to manipulate shapes mentally, to reason out differences in pictured objects, and to deal with concrete materials through visualization. Recognition of relationships and of differences between shapes has been shown by research to be basic to learning aptitude.

Academic Aptitude Total - The Academic Aptitude test, as measured by the Total, might be thought of as the ability to learn. The test content is specifically adapted for appraising the combination of native and acquired abilities that are needed for work of an academic nature. The Academic Aptitude test emphasizes familiar experiences and concepts while requiring careful reasoning and ability to comprehend and draw conclusions.

Part 2 SPELLING

The Spelling test measures skill with a tool essential to written expression or communication. To some extent the test also reflects the background of educational achievement in at least one of the basic tools of learning.

Part 3 READING COMPREHENSION

The Reading Comprehension test measures ability to understand direct statements, to interpret passages, to grasp the intent of the authors, to observe organization of ideas, and to extract information from passages with respect to ideas and purposes . . . to read and to understand what is read.

Part 4 INFORMATION IN THE NATURAL SCIENCES

Measurement with this test concerns accumulation of information in the natural sciences, e.g., biology, chemistry, health and safety, etc., at an elementary level. The relationship of knowledge in the area of the natural sciences to the course of study of the student in the allied health professions is an obvious one.

Part 5 VOCATIONAL ADJUSTMENT INDEX

An individual's characteristic life style is reflected in his or her educational and occupational adjustment. Feelings, attitudes, personality characteristics, and behavioral traits, which may be quite acceptable in many situations, may not be those desirable for the prospective allied health professional as a student and as a practitioner.