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Preliminary Evaluation of a Test for Biological Background

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A CRITICAL EVALUATION OF STUDY HABIT INVENTORIES

IRENE MAMMEN

Out of a list of 60 items having to do with study habits and study conditions, as are used in certain tests, 44 related to high or low-grade-average categories. Fifty-five per cent of the items were found to differentiate boys only while 26.1 per cent differentiated girls only. Approximately 10 per cent were equivalent in placing the two sexes and about 10 per cent operated in an opposite way. There is some evidence that good study habits are more important in college than in high school for attaining good grades. The study also suggests the need for an evaluation of all questionnaire techniques for determining study habits and indicates separate treatment of the sexes in developing a primary criterion.

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PRELIMINARY EVALUATION OF A TEST FOR BIOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

RICHARD SCHWEET AND A. R. LAUER

A test, composed of 140 items, including names of men and terms associated with biology, was given to 65 undergraduate students with various majors and 25 graduate students in zoology. The undergraduates' records were analyzed to ascertain the effect of giving the test, with and without time limits, to comparable groups.

On the basis of data obtained, a revision of the test was made using 100 select items. This revision was given to 18 graduate and 33 undergraduate students. Correlation of odd versus even items for the separate groups yielded reliability coefficients of $+ .90$ after correction for length. A correlation of $r, + .53$ was obtained between the final examination grades of nineteen persons

in one class in biology and the revised test. The results are offered only as preliminary to a more complete study being carried out.

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AN APPARATUS FOR MEASURING TOLERANCE TO LIGHT AND VISUAL EFFICIENCY UNDER DIF- FERENT CONDITIONS OF ILLUMINATION

GLENN O. MARTINSON

Illumination in relation to automobile driving is considered one of the most important problems of highway safety. Because of contrast between source of light and background, lights which give sufficient illumination are considered blinding. An apparatus is described which makes possible the accurate measurement of tolerance to light under different atmospheric conditions.

Calibration of the light falling on the test object and the light impinging on the retina makes possible measurement of the optimal conditions of illumination under different degrees of darkness. The light measurements are made by electrometric methods.

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A STUDY OF COMPENSATION

MIRIAM G. ZUGMEIER AND A. R. LAUER

Although pages have been written in psychological text books on compensation, a survey of the literature shows an extremely meagre amount of experimental data. The present study is an attempt to formulate some of the problems of compensation into experimental form.

Forty subjects were given a series of laboratory tests in which accuracy and speed were compared under normal conditions and under conditions of distraction. Thirty-one of the same subjects were given a written test of the questionnaire type which was