Overview

The Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test® — Multilevel Form (NNAT® — Multilevel Form) is a language-free test of ability in seven grade-based forms for students in grades K-12 (ages 5-17). With powerful norms based on a sample of more than 100,000 students, NNAT is a reliable, culture-fair measure of ability for evaluating students from diverse cultural and linguistic groups. The nonverbal method of testing, based on progressive matrices, allows for a fair evaluation of the student’s overall ability, independent of his or her educational curriculum.

Taking only 30 minutes to administer, NNAT will be invaluable as a screener for use by a variety of professionals, including bilingual educators, testing coordinators, gifted and talented teachers, special educators, and school psychologists.

NNAT results may be used to screen for general nonverbal ability and to identify potentially gifted students for whom English is a second language, students whose school performance may be poor because of limited English proficiency, at-risk students whose low nonverbal reasoning ability may indicate potential academic problems, and students who may have a learning disability and require further diagnostic testing.

The author, Jack A. Naglieri, Ph.D., has taught education and psychology for more than two decades. He is the author of more than 100 publications and developed the NNAT after over a decade of research based upon his previously published tests, which include the Matrix Analogies Test.

NNAT Highlights

Features Language-Free Items

NNAT items are based on progressive matrices that require no verbal or written answers. This makes the test fair for students who don’t know English, or who are just beginning to learn the language. Students are asked to see the patterns formed by shapes organized into designs, and then are asked to choose the answer that best completes the pattern. The student must rely on reasoning and problem-solving skills, rather than word knowledge, mathematics, or reading abilities.

Provides Brief Instructions

There are 38 items in each level. Instructions are short to ensure that the purpose of each task is clear to the student regardless of his or her spoken language.

Can Be Administered Quickly and Easily

The 38 items in each of the seven levels can be administered in only 30 minutes, and scored quickly as well. Group administration provides a time-saving factor especially valuable for those in a school setting.

Identifies Gifted and Talented

NNAT’s seven levels provide ample floor and ceiling (easy and difficult questions) at every age, providing an excellent means of identifying gifted students from diverse cultural and linguistic groups.

Tests Fairly

NNAT is fair and unbiased for minority students, as well as those with color vision or hearing impairments. It requires minimal motor skills and no expressive language. The blue, yellow, and white items were designed to be precise in their placement within the diagrams and have a pleasing appearance.

Linked with Achievement Tests

Results from NNAT can be used in conjunction with an achievement test, such as Aprenda®: La prueba de logros en español, Segunda edición (Aprenda 2), or the Stanford Achievement Test Series, Tenth Edition (Stanford 10), to find discrepancies between students’ ability and achievement scores. These discrepancies are valuable in identifying potential learning problems and underachievement.
Each of NNAT’s seven levels, shown below, has 38 items, progressing from easy to hard as appropriate for the grade level. The multilevel approach makes NNAT an especially accurate means of determining students’ nonverbal abilities and an excellent way to identify exceptional students.

### NNAT Sample Items

All the information needed to determine the answer or solution to each question or task is presented with each diagram. So, students do not have to depend on word or mathematical knowledge, or reading skills, to complete tasks. Items consist of shapes and designs that are not unique to any cultural group. Thus, the test is a true measure of general ability using universal nonverbal content.

Although NNAT is a measure of general ability rather than specific abilities, different types of items appear and separate scores are provided, each measuring ability in a slightly different way. The types of items are Pattern Completion, Reasoning by Analogy, Serial Reasoning, and Spatial Visualization.

#### Pattern Completion

Pattern Completion items require a student to look at a design in a large rectangle with a portion missing and determine which of the choices correctly completes the pattern. These types of items generally appear at levels intended for elementary school-aged children because they are among the easiest of the several types of matrices used in the test.

#### Reasoning by Analogy

These items are created so that a student has to recognize a logical relationship between several geometric shapes. To determine which answer is correct the student must see how the objects change as one moves across the rows and down the columns in the design. The items also require that the student pay careful attention to the details of the design and work with more than one dimension (shape and shading) simultaneously. Reasoning by Analogy becomes more difficult as the logic increases in complexity and number of dimensions involved.

#### Serial Reasoning

The items in Serial Reasoning matrices are constructed using a series of shapes that change across the row horizontally and the columns vertically throughout the design. The figure above shows an example where the circle-triangle-square sequence is presented in stages down the rows. As the design moves down the matrix it also moves one position to the right, creating a series of designs that changes over the matrix. These items demand that the child recognize the sequence of shapes and figure out that the sequence appears on the lower rows with a different starting point.

#### Spatial Visualization

The fourth type of NNAT item requires the student to recognize how two or more designs would look if combined. Spatial Visualization items are among the most difficult, especially when involving shapes that intersect in ways that are difficult to recognize or involve rotation.
The NNAT sampling plan involved testing a nationally representative sample of more than 100,000 students. From this sample, norms were developed for ages 5-17.

**Urbanicity**
- Urban 26.6%
- Suburban 47.3%
- Rural 25.8%

**Geographic Region Targeted Percentage of U.S. Population**
- WEST 31.9%
- MIDWEST 24.1%
- SOUTH 24.2%
- NORTHEAST 19.8%

**SES (Socio-Economic Status) Targeted Percentage of U.S. Population**
- Low 20%
- Low/Med. 20%
- Medium 20%
- High/Med. 20%
- High 20%

Copyright © 2008 by Pearson Education, Inc. or its affiliate(s). All rights reserved.
Multilevel Form
Jack A. Naglieri

Scoring NNAT

You may either hand score NNAT or send it to Pearson’s Central Scoring Services. Central scoring is also available when NNAT is co-administered with Aprenda®: La prueba de logros en español, Segunda edición. Scores include Raw Scores; Nonverbal Ability Index Scores; Scaled Scores; and both age- and grade-based Percentile Ranks, Stanines, and Normal Curve Equivalents; and Age Equivalents.

In Summary

NNAT – Multilevel Form is a group-administered test of ability offered in seven grade-based levels for students ages 5-17. Culture-fair and language free, NNAT provides valid, reliable information about the abilities of students. In just 30 minutes, by using progressive matrices in a bright, attractive format, NNAT gives you insight into the abilities of students, especially those students with limited English, gifted students, at-risk students or students who may have a learning disability.

Standardized on a large sample of children nationwide, NNAT also was administered with the Stanford Achievement Test Series and Aprenda®: La prueba de logros en español, Segunda edición, a Spanish-language achievement test, so that you can obtain achievement-ability comparisons.

For more information, please call 1-800-211-8378 or visit us at www.PearsonAssess.com