NDAU Task Information

Non-Verbal Reasoning

What is non-verbal reasoning?

Non-verbal reasoning involves the ability to understand and analyse visual information and solve problems using visual skills.

Why is non-verbal reasoning important?

Children with good non-verbal reasoning ability are better at recognising visual sequences and identifying relationships between visual objects. This ability enables individuals to analyse and solve complex problems without relying upon language skills.

How do we measure non-verbal reasoning?

We measure non-verbal reasoning using tasks from the Lucid Ability tests that take account of the child’s age.

Children aged 4 – 6 years old complete the Dressing Up task (see Figure 1). This is a mental rotation task where the child is shown ‘Zoid’ (in the middle) and four of his friends around him on the computer screen. Zoid and his friends are all playing a dressing-up game together and are wearing or carrying different items. The child has to decide which one of Zoid’s four friends has copied him exactly.

Children aged 7 or above will complete the Matrix Puzzle task (See Figure 2). A pattern will appear with a missing shape replaced by a question mark. The child has to choose which of six possible options is the missing shape that completes the pattern.

Figure 1. Dressing Up Task

Figure 2. Matrix Puzzle Task