

DAT RESULTS

HOW TO INTERPRET YOUR SCORES

VERBAL REASONING

LC subjects to consider:
Languages, History, Geography,
Home Economics, Business

MEASURES:

- Having an aptitude for words and verbal communication.
- Important for work which may involve communicating ideas or understanding written material, as well as work in which the understanding of difficult concepts is required.

SUITABLE CAREERS:

- Professional jobs - lawyer, doctor, teacher, journalist, broadcaster, Public relations officer, sales representative
- Technical jobs – engineer, computer programmer,
- Business – management, sales, marketing, advertising
- Scientific work

NUMERICAL REASONING

LC subjects to consider:
Accounting, Applied Maths,
Engineering, DCG, Physics,
Ag Science, Chemistry,
Biology

MEASURES:

- The ability to perform mathematical reasoning tasks, work with numbers and perform calculations, as well as logical thinking.

SUITABLE CAREERS:

- Technical professions – science, physics, chemistry, engineering, lab work, architecture
- Business & Finance – banking, sales forecasting, fund manager etc
- Accounting / Actuary / Mathematics
- Book keeping & administrative jobs
- Carpentry & tool making

ABSTRACT REASONING

LC subjects to consider:
Applied Maths, Art, DCG,
Construction, Chemistry

MEASURES:

- Non-verbal measure of reasoning ability. It assesses how well individuals can reason with geometric figures, abstract ideas or designs.
- An aptitude for spotting trends/patterns/sequences from a wide range of data and arriving at hypotheses/conclusions

SUITABLE CAREERS:

- Mathematics / computer programming / software design
- Science / engineering / drafting
- Car repair & technical maintenance / design and management
- Doctor
- Archeologist
- Detective

PERCEPTUAL SPEED AND ACCURACY

LC subjects to consider:
Languages, History,
Geography, Home
Economics, Business

MEASURES:

- Measures the ability to compare and mark written lists quickly, accurately and with detail.
- Having good hand/eye coordination and dexterity,

SUITABLE CAREERS:

- Clerical work
- Scientific work
- Technical work – computer programmer or lab work, where precision is required
- Dentist
- Train driver

MECHANICAL REASONING

LC subjects to consider:
Engineering, DCG,
Construction, Physics

MEASURES:

- The ability to understand basic mechanical principals of machinery, tools, motion and of the physical relationship between things
- An understanding of technical operations/activities.

SUITABLE CAREERS:

- Design, operation or repair of equipment
- Product design
- Builder / carpenter / mechanic / engineer / surveyor
- Electrician
- Machine operator
- Mechanical engineer / aeronautical engineer / electrical engineer

SPACE RELATIONS

MEASURES:

- The ability to visualize objects in three dimensions
- An aptitude for design and imagining how something is going to look from a drawing or a thought

LC subjects to consider:
Art, Engineering, Geography,
Home Economics, Construction,
DCG

SUITABLE CAREERS:

- Drafting / architecture / art / design / technical drawing
- Dentistry
- Fine arts / clothing design
- Carpentry / technical or craft work
- Perhaps – auctioneer / psychologist / accountant (provided scores in VR, AR & NR are also strong)

SPELLING

MEASURES:

- How well test takers can spell
- Needed for jobs where written communication is important

LC subjects to consider:
Languages, History, Geography,
Home Economics, Business

SUITABLE CAREERS:

- Most courses that require written reports
e.g. many professional jobs
- Administration
- Journalism
- Legal drafting
- Technical writing

LANGUAGE USAGE

LC subjects to consider:
Languages, History, Geography,
Home Economics, Business

MEASURES:

- The ability to use language and detect errors in grammar, punctuation and capitalization
- It is important in any job in which communication (verbal it non-verbal) is involved.

SUITABLE CAREERS:

- Administrative work
- Writers / editors
- Librarians
- Management
- Teaching / medicine / law
- Accountancy
- Work in the media (radio/TV/journalism)

EDUCATIONAL APTITUDE

MEASURES:

- Combination of verbal reasoning and numerical reasoning
- This is taken as a general indication of your ability to learn in an academic environment such as a school, college or university

SUITABLE CAREERS:

- Good indicator of third level performance

SCORE INTERPRETATION

A SCORE IN THE 55TH PERCENTILE MEANS THAT AN INDIVIDUAL'S SCORE IS BETTER THAN 55% OF STUDENTS OF YOUR AGE GROUP IN IRELAND. A 95TH PERCENTILE SCORE SHOWS THE STUDENT IS IN THE TOP 5% OF STUDENTS.

STANINES SHOW THE AVERAGES OF SCORES.

	Stanine	Percentile
Very high	9	97 and above
Above average	8	90-96
	7	78-89
Average	6	59-77
	5	41-58
	4	23-40
Below average	3	12-22
	2	5-11
Very low	1	4 and below

USE WITH CAUTION

- Can help choose education and career options based on strengths and weaknesses
- Help understand why you do well/poorly in certain subjects
- Can suggest new career options not previously considered
- They *don't* take into consideration: work experience, interest, goals, personality, values, family and environmental influences.
- They *don't* factor how you were feeling on the day (tiredness, boredom, unwell, lack of interest, frustration, losing your place on the test sheet).
- A person can have an aptitude for a particular area but have no interest in it, vice versa.
- They don't measure determination to succeed, leadership, empathy, interpersonal skills, being realistic, optimism, independence, stress tolerance, ability to help others succeed and the list goes on!