

CORRELATION BETWEEN QUICK WORD TEST AND SIXTEEN PERSONALITY FACTOR QUESTIONNAIRE B FACTOR SCORES

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Summary.—A correlation of .37 between scores on Sixteen Personality Factor Questionnaire source trait B and scores on the Quick Word Test of 104 male and 141 female American college students was calculated. It was concluded that Factor B's validity as an individual assessment of intelligence is not supported for this sample of college students.

Factor B of the Sixteen Personality Factor Questionnaire (16 PF) has been described by Cattell, Eber, and Tatsuoka (1970, p. 83) as a measure of general intellectual ability, "adequate in much vocational selection . . . and in almost all clinical fields." As norms for college students are provided, it must be assumed that Factor B is considered by its authors to be a valid measure of general intellectual ability within that population.

The validity of Factor B has been investigated by comparing scores with other tests of intelligence for clinical populations. Correlations of scores on Factor B and WAIS for hospital and psychiatric patients have ranged from .19 to .51 (Reimanis, 1965; Tamkin, 1967; Sims & Clower, 1966). A correlation of .25 was reported by Joshi (1965) for Indian college students' scores on Factor B and the Humanities Group Test of General Mental Ability. This study further investigated Factor B validity within a college student population by employing the Quick Word Test as the criterion. Borgatta and Corsini (1964) have reported correlations above .80 between this test and WAIS Full Scale IQ while Nunnally (1975) has characterized the vocabulary test as providing a simple, quick approximation of scores on tests of general intelligence.

Form A of the 16 PF and Level 2, Form Bm of the Quick Word Test were administered to 104 male and 141 female university undergraduates (M age = 21.7, SD = 2.30) enrolled in a pre-service teacher education program. The raw score means and standard deviations were for the Quick Word Test 54.3 and 13.1 and for Factor B 9.15 and 1.98, respectively. A Pearson product-moment correlation of .37 ($p < .001$) was obtained for scores on the two tests.

Although the correlation of .37 is significantly different from zero, its magnitude is very low. The authors of the 16 PF assert that general ability is an important dimension in individual differences. Few would disagree with this but Factor B has not been shown to be a valid measure of this ability in either a clinical or a college student population, which is contrary to manual claims. Sims and Clower's conclusion (1966, p. 11) that use of Factor B for "individual predictions would be unwise" appears to hold for college students as well as clinical patients.

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