Subtests on the WISC-R

The data set in Tabachnick & Fidell, used to illustrate confirmatory factor analysis, consists of subtest scores on the second version of the Wechsler Intelligence Test for Children. The subjects were school-aged children who had been diagnosed as learning-disabled. The data were collected between 1972 and 1984.

Verbal IQ

- **Information** – general knowledge questions. Example: What do your lungs do?
- **Comprehension** – measures common-sense social knowledge, practical judgment in social situations, and level of social maturation, along with the extent of development of their moral conscience. Children are asked to explain situations, actions, or activities that they’d be expected to be familiar with. Example: Why do we turn out lights when we leave a room?
- **Arithmetic** – orally administered arithmetic questions. Timed.
- **Similarities** – asking how two words are alike/similar. Example: How are whales and lions similar?
- **Vocabulary** – examinee is asked to define a provided word or name a pictured object.
- **Digit Span** – children are orally given sequences of numbers and asked to repeat them, either as heard and in reverse order.

Performance IQ

- **Picture Completion** – children are shown artwork of common objects with a missing part, and asked to identify the missing part by pointing and/or naming.
- **Picture Arrangement** – given an unordered series of pictures (on cards), arrange them properly to tell a story.
• **Block Design** -- children put together blocks in a pattern according to a displayed model. This is timed, and some of the more difficult puzzles award bonuses for speed.

![Block Design Image](image1)

• **Object Assembly** -- The child is asked to assemble puzzles of cut-apart silhouette objects with no outline pieces. (time limit and bonuses for speed)

![Object Assembly Image](image2)

• **Coding** -- children under 8 mark rows of shapes with different lines according to a code -- the first line contains the key. They must place a mark within all the other figures so that they match the key. Children over 8 transcribe a digit-symbol code. The task is time-limited with bonuses for speed.

![Coding Image](image3)