



Administrator's Report

The Decision Analysis Test

Denise Debutante



Administrator's Report

The Decision Analysis Test

Denise Debutante

What the Decision Analysis Test is designed to measure

The Decision Analysis Test is designed to measure areas of cognitive functioning that are important in real life. Any analysis of what people have to do soon shows how people are subjected to vast amounts of information which is not usually well organised and is often incomplete. In real life people find that they have to make judgements based on incomplete, ambiguous and sometimes contradictory information. This test simulates these aspects of real life and focuses less on logic and deduction and more on inference and judgements that have to be made on the basis of incomplete or ambiguous information.

The Decision Analysis Test assesses cognitive functioning through questions requiring the following skills:

- Analysis - These questions ask the respondent to extract clear information and follow known rules to reach logical conclusions.
- Synthesis - These questions test the extent that known information is used but combined to make new connections and inferences in order to reach logical conclusions.
- Evaluation and judgement - These questions test the degree to which the respondent is able to work with more ambiguous information and hence needs to make new connections, generate new concepts, handle missing data and work with ambiguous content in order to make best-fit judgements.

As well as assessing cognitive functioning, the Decision Analysis Test also asks about how confident Denise was about the answers she gave on a 5-point scale, where higher scores indicate greater confidence. This provides an indication of Denise's confidence in dealing with incomplete and ambiguous information.

Test results

On the Decision Analysis Test, Denise attempted 30 questions out of 30 and answered 24 correctly. The average rating Denise gave for her level of confidence in her answers was 2.9 out of 5. To put these raw scores into context, they have been compared with the following group: UK Graduates (n=127).

In relation to the comparison group, Denise's ability and confidence scores are as follows:

	Ability score	Confidence
T-Score	74	42
68% T-Score confidence band	64 - 84	32 - 52
80% T-Score confidence band	61 - 86	29 - 54
Percentile	99	21

The T-Scores, percentiles and 68% confidence bands are shown below:

Ability (99th %ile)											
Confidence (21st %ile)											
	Below average			Average				Above average			
Percentile	1	2	6	16	31	50	69	84	93	98	99
T-Score	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75

The table below shows how Denise performed on the sections of the test that assess different areas of cognitive functioning: 'analysis', 'synthesis and evaluation' and 'judgement'. As the more complex elements of 'synthesis and evaluation' and 'judgement' are assessed by questions towards the middle and end of the Decision Analysis Test, there may be limited information on these areas if Denise did not reach these parts of the test in the time allowed.

	Analysis	Synthesis	Evaluation and judgement
Number of items	9	11	10
Number attempted	9	11	10
Number correct	8 (89%)	9 (82%)	7 (70%)

Speed and accuracy

Combining information on the number of questions attempted and the number answered correctly indicates that Denise attempted more questions than the majority of the comparison group. Of the questions attempted, the proportion of questions she answered correctly was higher than average.

Notes on interpreting this report

When reading this report, you should remember that test results are only one source of information about a person's abilities, and the test Denise has taken looks at a very specific type of ability. All test scores are subject to error and so scores indicate a band of ability within which the test taker might fall, so an obtained score may under or over estimate ability. Low test scores can occur for many reasons - misunderstanding, lack of familiarity, anxiety - and the score may change if the test is taken again.

Date tested: 22/7/2010

Norm used: UK Graduates (n=127)

Copyright © Profiling for Success