Social-Cognitive Aptitude Test

Directions:

Social-cognitive Aptitude Test consists of 10 brief character descriptions of a male and a female drawn from actual case observations. Please read each pair of character descriptions and then make a judgment based on the information provided about whether the couple will remain in a relationship for more than one year or separate before that time. Work quickly. Please turn page and begin.

Please do not mark in test booklet

Jane, 19, is from a Midwestern urban community. She is a very attractive girl with striking facial features and a tall, well-built frame. Unable to afford a college education, Jane has attempted to educate herself. She spends most of her free time reading classics. touring museums and taking free writing classes. Since she is shy in large groups and prefers to interact with people on a one-to-one basis, these activities not only provide her with intellectual stimulation, but with alternatives to going to large social events. Following her graduation from high school, Jane began waitressing. Although she considers waitressing a last resort, she makes the most of it and works hard in order to provide for herself. Jane takes advantage of any available overtime hours and is very pleasant to customers, in hopes that her friendliness will result in a generous tip. Living on her own, Jane is quite independent; she rarely leans on her parents or older brothers and sisters. When she is down and troubled, she looks to God for support; religion is a major force in her life.

Andy, 24, is from a urban East coast upper-middle class family. He is the youngest in his family and enjoys the attention this positioning begets him. Andy strives to be attractive through utilizing his talent to dress well and exercising his body. Andy used to spend most of his free time playing athletics. He was captain of both the soccer team and ski team for his old fraternity. However recently, he has started graduate school and has begun devoting all of his free time to his studies. Andy works especially hard to compensate for the fact that he is a slow-learner.

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Margret, 17, is a college junior. While her achievements are many, her intelligence is average. She was only able to skip two full grades due to her hard work and conscientious study habits. Compared to most college juniors, she is quite small and a bit underdeveloped. Intimitated by the fact that she is younger than all of her peers, she has withdrawn from the social scene at school and has become absorbed in her work.

Elliott, 22, is the eldest son of a Midwestern lower-middle class family of ten. Unable to afford college, he has held two jobs since he graduated from high school. He works as a teller in a bank during the day and bartends at night. He contributes most of his earnings to his family and tries to live as conservatively as possible with the remains. For enjoyment, he plays basketball for a church team and socializes with the people with whom he works. Elliott is a warm and caring person, who values these friendships.

Simone, a 19 year old college freshman, is originally from France. Five years ago when her father was promoted to Executive Vice President of Goodyear International, the whole family moved to the States. Although Simone has adapted to the American way of life, she still misses her friends and longs to return to France someday. She feels Americans lack sophistication and an appreciation for culture. Her younger brothers and sisters love their new home and can't understand why she would wants to go back to France. Simone speaks English fluently, yet she refuses to speak it outside of her class. She is considered arrogant and aloof and therefore, her social life is nonexistent. Without any friends, Simone has much free time on her hands. She spends this time studying.

Wolfgang, 21, is the eldest of a large Austrian family. He is quite tall and very well-built. His deep blue eyes are very engaging. At age 20, he left Vienna and traveled to the States for a "better life." He claimed tht Vienna was too restrictive for him and it lacked the opportunities of America. Although his American experience has not lived up to his expectations, he does not regret his decision to move and doubts if he will ever go back to Europe. He has made many friends and considers America to be his home. Even though Wolfgang can speak French and German fluently, he has experienced much difficulty in mastering English. This language handicap has proven to be quite an obstacle for him in finding a job. Many of the investment firms with which he has interviewed, are aware of the fact that he is very bright, but are reluctant to offer him a job. Presently, Wolfgang is delivering newspapers in order to make some money. Undaunted, he is trying to improve his English so as to better his chances of finding a job in investment banking.

Jill, a college sophmore, is from California. Although she is a bit heavy, she make the most of her looks. Jill is very outgoing and vivacious; she easily makes friends. Practicing acting with the drama club and participating in many athletics, she keeps very busy. Jill studies economics at UCLA and plans to eventually get her business degree. Knowing how competitive admission to business school is, she is very conscientious about her school work. Jill has identified her priorities: her family, friends, and school, and lives her life in accord with them.

Alan, is a 24 year old psychology graduate student. He is the middle child of a Eastern urban middle-class family. He puts all of his energy into the activities in which he is involved. Alan is very religious, and he goes to church every Sunday; he is very health-conscious, he works out everyday; he is very academically-conscious, he studies intensely everynight. Because these activities consume a lot of his time, his social life suffers.

Betsy, 23, is from a Midwestern urban community. She is often mistaken for a cheerleader because of her petite build and enthusiastic, energetic personality. Betsy has been a secretary for a law firm since the day after she graduated from high school. Although quite intelligent, she has never been much of an academic. Instead of striving to reach her intellectual potential, she directs her energy to improving her game of tennis, expanding her wardrobe, and throwing wild parties. She has lots of friends and is always the "life of the party."

Mike, California-born, is the star quarterback of his college football team. He is a fifth year senior. He is blond and blue-eyed with a carefree disposition. He is fun-loving and very spontaneous, always "up for a good time." Mike becomes very annoyed however, when others stereotype him as a "California surfer-type." He prides himself on the fact that he is an intelligent and conscientious student. Studying to be a doctor, he devotes many hours to his books.

Ashley, 21, is the only child of a East coast middle class family. Standing 5' 9'', she is a very attractive girl. Ashley's academic achievements are quite impressive. She was valedictorian, and will graduate in the spring from Harvard with honors. In comparison, her social accomplishments are not as grand. She rarely goes out and has a difficult time meeting people. Because she is a bit uncoordinated, she is rather shy about participating in any athletic group activities and prefers to do things on her own.

Jack 30, is from an East coast urban community. Although very handsome, he often looks messy and disheveled. Recently he quit his job as a lawyer to go back to art school. Feeling too restricted by the law profession, he decided to develop his artistic ability. He has never been married, and usually doesn't date the same woman for more than a month.

<u>Kim</u> is 24 years old and from a small Midwestern town. In addition to teaching nursery school, she instructs an aerobics dance class at night. She is quite content in both jobs since she has always loved children and athletics. When she was younger, she spent some time in France; an experience she claims she'll never forget. To hold on to this memory, she studies French and and french cooking during her free time. She also devotes a lot of her spare time to her friends. She is always available to listen to a problem or offer advice if a friends needs her. She is very perceptive and responsive to people.

Dave, 26, is a second year physics graduate student. His life long goal has been to be a scientist. Unlike most of his older colleagues who are bearded and wear horn-rimmed glasses, Dave has curly black hair, deep blue eyes and a very rosy complexion. He also dresses rather radically; he rarely wears a jacket and tie to meetings. When not in the physics lab conducting experiments or in the library studying relativity, he can be found enjoying a foreign film or visiting an art museum. He rarely drinks and finds large social gatherings to be very superficial.

Priscilla, 24, is the oldest of four children. She has naturally good looks and takes very good care of herself. She lives in New Jersey and works in New York City for a financial consultant. She was very persistent in getting her job. Many firms doubted her competence since she never went to college and was without a college degree. At the age of 16, both of her parents were killed in an automobile accident and ever since, she has had to mother and provide for her younger siblings. Although at times she resents the limitations that this responsibility places on her life, she realizes how much her family needs her and makes the most of the situation.

Leo, a 38 year old professor of philosophy, is from Denver, Colorado. He has recently been divorced and seems to be enjoying his freedom. He loves the outdoors and participates in both winter and summer outdoor sports. He waterskies, snowskies, and jogs whenever given the free time. Leo has lived in Colorado since he was a youngster and has remained close to many of his friends from his earlier school days. During his divorce, his "buddies" were very supportive of him. Inviting him out to cheer him up, listening to his problems and offering him advice are a few of the things they did. Although Leo may not spend large quantities of time with his friends, he makes the time that he does spend with them very meaningful.

Jackie, 22, is from a small Midwestern area. She is the youngest of two girls. Last year, she graduated from college and is presently applying for jobs in advertising, without much luck thus far. In the meantime, to avoid feelings of idleness, she has been traveling a lot. She traveled thru London and Greece in the past two months. Jackie is funloving and very spontaneous. She was never much of a student and is glad to be out of school. Although unattractive and a bit overweight, she knows she has a lot to offer and anyone who "can't look deeper than the surface", she feels, is not worth her time.

Billy, 20, is a junior at an all-boys' school. Although his SAT scores were just below the school's requirements, he had no problem being admitted. He was recruited there for athletics; academic requirements are relaxed for athletes. However, he is finding the academics to be a bit over his head. At first he feared that since Washington and Lee University was an all-boys' school, his social life would be unfulfilling. He has always had a very eclectic group of friends and feared that the student body would be too conservative for his taste. However, now that he has been there for over two years, Billy realizes that his fears were unfounded. The student body is very diverse and there are three girls' schools right nearby.

Anne, 21; is a senior in college, studying writing. Presently, she lives in a Midwestern urban town; however, she has lived all over the world. Born in Chile, she speaks Spanish fluently. She has also lived in Germany and Belgium at different points in her life. Although she is very beautiful, she does not rely on her appearance to attract people to her. Anne is quite intelligent and extremely analytical. She makes an effort to put this aspect of herself in the forefront for people to see. Ann has a very undisciplined side to her; she constantly struggles with her desire to socialize and be carefree at times when she needs to be serious and study.

Roland is 23 years old and originally from a small town in the South. However, recently he took a job with an engineering firm in the Midwest. He misses his home and is finding it difficult to adjust. Roland finds the Midwest to be less exciting and sophisticated than his home town. He has been unsuccessful in making friends and feels quite lonely. To fill his spare time and keep his mind off his loneliness, he has tried to develop hobbies. Reading and jogging appeal to him. Also, he has become more involved in his religion, and spends a lot of time at his new church.