



Frequently Asked Questions about the Stanford-Binet Intelligence Scales, Fifth Edition

When will the Stanford-Binet Intelligence Scales, Fifth Edition (SB5) be available?

The SB5 will be available in early spring of 2003.

What are the differences between the Fourth and the Fifth Edition?

The Fifth Edition will build on and retain some features of the Fourth Edition.

The SB5 will continue to rely on routing tests to estimate the examinee's ability and route him or her to remaining subtests at the most efficient level of difficulty. However, with the SB5 there will be 2 routing tests (Matrices and Vocabulary) instead of only 1 in the Fourth Edition (Vocabulary).

The SB5 has norms that extend the age range for the test 4 decades higher. The theory underlying the Fifth Edition is much like the Fourth, including g with five factors instead of four. Visual-Spatial Processing has been added as the fifth factor in the SB5.

The SB5 Full Scale IQ, Verbal IQ, Nonverbal IQ, and five Factor Indexes have means of 100 and SD of 15, unlike the SB-IV, which had an SD of 16.

The SB5 retains key subtest activities such as Matrices, Vocabulary, Quantitative Reasoning, Picture Absurdities, and Memory for Sentences have been retained. Each of these subtests has been updated with new artwork, toys, and manipulatives where appropriate, and enhanced with new items to provide better measurement at the low and high ends of each scale. The model underlying the Fifth Edition is much like the Fourth ("g" with five factors instead of four). The SB5 new edition also includes several new subtest activities:

Nonverbal: Object Series, Procedural Knowledge

Verbal: Verbal Analogies, Position and Direction, Last Word

Is the SB5 going to be more like the SB-LM?

Yes, in some ways. The use of routing tests and "levels" of increasing item-difficulty, similar to the SB-LM format, makes it possible to "adapt" the Fifth Edition to the functioning level of the examinee. However, the "levels" in the SB5 are based on modern item response theory rather than chronological age as in the SB-LM.

Vocabulary is still used as a routing subtest, but a second routing test, Object-

Series/Matrices, has been added to provide an initial, nonverbal estimate of ability. Classic items from the SB-LM have been updated and included. It restores the goal of a very low floor (easy items) and a very high ceiling (difficult items). Similar to the SB-LM, the SB5 begins with two initial routing tests, then moves on to a variety of types of items and activities (cutting across subtests and factors) that gradually increase (in a spiral) toward higher levels of difficulty. This variety helps to maintain the examinee's interest and provides a marked distinction between the SB5 and both the Fourth Edition and competing tests.

Is Bead Memory still an activity subtest on the Fifth Edition?

No, memory in the Fifth Edition has shifted toward the concept of Working Memory, where information is transformed in short-term memory rather than simply recalled. For several reasons, the SB5 does not retain Bead Memory as one of the activities that measures the factor Working Memory. However, two SB5 subtests (Verbal and Nonverbal Working Memory) do provide good measurement of this important area of ability.

Are the manipulatives going to be different from those included with the Fourth Edition?

Yes, large, rounded blocks have been added, along with numerous child-friendly toys. A plastic tray for organizing the pieces helps examiners administer the test and store the manipulatives. The child-friendly Form Board has been retained along with an expanded set of Form Board pieces used in the new subtest called Form Patterns.

What are the characteristics of the standardization sample norming population?

Norms will be provided for ages 2 through 85+ based on a standardization sample of 4,800 representative of the gender, ethnic, regional, and educational levels of the U.S. shown by the 2000 Census. Thus, the full range of subjects, from preschool through elderly can be tested. In addition, the standardization sample included 3,000 additional individuals, including samples from a variety of special populations (e.g., gifted, MR, developmental delay, LD, ADHD, Speech/Language problems, Deaf).

Will the SB5 provide a Verbal, Performance, and Full Scale IQ?

Yes, Full Scale IQ, Verbal IQ, and Nonverbal IQ will be provided.

What are the means and standard deviations of the SB5 scores?

Full Scale, Verbal, and Nonverbal IQ will have means of 100 and standard deviations of 15. 10 subtests (formed by crossing 2 domains—verbal and nonverbal—with five factors) will have a mean of 10 and SD of 3. Composite scales formed by various combinations of subtest scores (Full Scale IQ, Verbal IQ, Nonverbal IQ, and five Factor Indexes) will have a mean of 100 and SD of 15. There will also be additional special scores, including

Change Sensitive Scores (providing an objective level of ability, regardless of age) and Age Equivalent scores (based on Change Sensitive Score values).

. Factor indices and profile scores (mean 10, standard deviation of 3) will also be provided.

How high and low will the score range be?

The score range for all composite scores will be 40 to 160, which is wider than previous editions and other major measures of intelligence comparable to other major measures of intelligence. In addition, an experimental "Extended IQ" is being considered—based on recent advances in psychometric theory—that will yield score equivalents to extend this range both lower and higher.

How do I compare SB-IV with the SB5 scores?

The Technical Manual will have correlations and an equating table for conversion of scores from the SB-IV to the SB5.

Will there be an early development form or score?

The Full Scale, Verbal, and Nonverbal IQ The appropriate composite scores will be available for all ages, including 2-5 years ages 2 through 5, so there is no need for a special early development score.

Will there be discrepancy procedures with achievement tests?

Extensive discrepancy analyses with complete tables will be provided for the SB5 and the WJ III[®] Tests of Achievement. Both the frequencies and statistical significance of discrepancies will be explained and tables will be provided. Correlational studies with other individual and group achievement tests such as WIAT[®]-II will be included in the Technical Manual. Formulas will be provided for computing discrepancies for other achievement tests as well.

Will the SB5 be correlated to other measures?

Correlational studies with WISC-III[®] and WAIS[®]-III and a number of other measures (including, but not limited to, the SB-IV, SB-LM, WPPSI-R[®], Bender[®]-Gestalt II, UNIT[™], and SIB-R) will be included in the Technical Manual.

Will the SB5 provide a predicted achievement score?

Yes, tables of predicted achievement for use in the analysis of ability-achievement discrepancies will be provided for Full Scale, Verbal, and Nonverbal IQ. The prediction is based on a large study of SB5 and WJ III Tests of Achievement scores (N = 650).

Can you score the test by hand?

Yes, hand-scoring is facilitated by directions on the Record Form and by norm tables in the Examiner's Manual.

Will the software be packaged with the kit?

No, the software will be available for purchase separately from the test kit.

When will the scoring software be available?

The software will be available in the early spring of 2003.

Will the scoring program include a Narrative Report?

The scoring program will have some descriptive narrative but will primarily focus on scoring, graphing of profiles, and calculation of score differences and discrepancies.

Will the software be licensed to just one computer or can you network it?

The program is only licensed to be installed. The license provides for installation on one computer, for local use on that computer only. The program is not licensed to be installed. The license does not permit installation on a network server.

Will there be a correlated adaptive behaviour scale to use for MR and DD identification?

An adaptive behaviour measure is not included as part of the kit. For that, we recommend use of the Scales of Independent Behavior—Revised (SIB-R). The SB5 technical manual will include a report of SB5 scores for a sample of children identified through schools as MR or DD; SIB-R scores will also be available for this group. For adolescents transitioning to the world of work, we recommend the Responsibility and Independence Scale for Adolescents (RISA).

Can you use the SB5 with people with motor or speech problems and get a valid IQ?

Yes, the Nonverbal IQ does not require expressive language. Also, the number of timed tasks involving manipulation of objects has been minimized throughout the battery. The SB5 technical manual will include a report of SB5 scores for a sample of children with orthopedic and motor impairments. Portions of the SB5 may have to be adapted and accommodations provided in the case of severe motor problems.

Can you identify ADHD with the SB5?

The SB5 was designed with ADHD in mind. The Working Memory factor, with both verbal and nonverbal subtests (Last Word—Memory for Sentences and Block Span) is expected to show large differences between normative and ADHD cases. The SB5 technical manual will include a report of SB5 scores for a sample of children with ADHD.

Will the SB5 provide a fair, unbiased IQ score for LEP students?

Yes, the Nonverbal IQ is recommended. The Nonverbal subtests are comprised of activities that do not require expressive language by the examinee. The examiner provides very brief spoken directions to which the examinee responds nonverbally; this should be sufficient for LEP students with at least minimal receptive vocabulary in English..

Will the test be available in other languages?

No, not at the present time; however, a Spanish version is being considered.

How much time do you recommend before retesting with the same test?

The ideal time period is one year or more. Published research has not pinpointed an exact time; however, the main principal is to allow enough time so that examinees will not easily recall specific tasks and items. Perhaps a nine-month interval could be tolerated in cases where students have passed into another grade level. A nine-month interval for elderly might also be possible in cases of memory loss.

Will there be a way of prorating IQ if a test is spoiled?

Yes, when one up to two of the five parts subtests within either theof Verbal or Nonverbal IQ composite is spoiled, a prorating table is provided. Up to four subtests (two each of the Verbal and Nonverbal IQ domain scores) may be missing and still yield a (prorated) Full Scale IQ. We recommend a prorated score be used carefully as it is better to base decisions on all 10 subtests.