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# Mood-Congruent Judgment Scale Forms A and B

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## Mood-Congruent Judgment Scale Forms A and B

UNH Personality Lab

Prepared by John D. Mayer

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Below are two, roughly tau-equivalent (similar to parallel) forms of the mood-congruent judgment measurement forms "A" and "B". The central manuscript in which they are described is:

Mayer, J. D., & Hanson, E. (1995). Mood-congruent judgment over time. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 21, 237-244.

### ASSOCIATION AND REASONING SCALE [Form A]

Code or Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is the probability that a 30-year-old will be involved in a happy, loving romance?

(Circle one:) 0%-10% 11%-20% 21%-40% 41%-60% 61%-80% 81%-90% 91%-100%

2. How many thoughts, images, and associations are brought to mind by the word: GENEROUS

(Circle one number): Very Few 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 A Great Deal

3. Which is the most typical example of a type of worker?

(Circle one example:) a. conscientious b. lazy c. honest

4. Which is the most typical example of a type of personality?

(Circle one example:) a. depressed b. anxious c. fulfilled

5. How many thoughts, images, and associations, are brought to mind by the word: WISDOM

(Circle one number): Very Few 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 A Great Deal

6. What is the probability of there being fewer good job opportunities in the near future than there are now?

(Circle one:) 0%-10% 11%-20% 21%-40% 41%-60% 61%-80% 81%-90% 91%-100%

7. How many thoughts, images, and associations, are brought to mind by the word: PAIN

(Circle one number): Very Few 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 A Great Deal

8. What is the probability that the average person will be a victim of crime this year?

(Circle one:) 0%-10% 11%-20% 21%-40% 41%-60% 61%-80% 81%-90% 91%-100%

9. Which is the most typical example of an attitude?

(Circle one example:) a. optimistic b. unfriendly c. charitable

10. How many thoughts, images, and associations are brought to mind by the word: DESTROY

(Circle one number): Very Few 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 A Great Deal

11. Which is the most typical example of a household possession?

(Circle one example:) a. musical instrument b. gun c. suitcase

12. What is the probability that the economy will improve in the next few years?

(Circle one:) 0%-10% 11%-20% 21%-40% 41%-60% 61%-80% 81%-90% 91%-100%

#### ASSOCIATION AND REASONING SCALE [Form B]

Code or Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is the likelihood of a marriage resulting in long-term happiness for both members of the couple?

(Circle one:) 0%-10% 11%-20% 21%-40% 41%-60% 61%-80% 81%-90% 91%-100%

2. How many thoughts, images, and associations are brought to mind by the word: PEACE

(Circle one number): Very Few 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 A Great Deal

3. Which is the most typical example of a type of worker?

(Circle one example:) a. productive b. white collar c. unemployed

4. Which is the most typical example of a type of personality?

(Circle one example:) a. antisocial b. altruistic c. shy

5. How many thoughts, images, and associations, are brought to mind by the word: DAWN

(Circle one number): Very Few 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 A Great Deal

6. What is the likelihood that there will be an atomic war in the next five years?

(Circle one:) 0%-10% 11%-20% 21%-40% 41%-60% 61%-80% 81%-90% 91%-100%

7. How many thoughts, images, and associations, are brought to mind by the word: FAIL

(Circle one number): Very Few 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 A Great Deal

8. What is the probability of a married couple getting a divorce within five years of their marriage?

(Circle one:) 0%-10% 11%-20% 21%-40% 41%-60% 61%-80% 81%-90% 91%-100%

9. Which is the most typical example of an attitude?

(Circle one example:) a. pessimistic b. realistic c. good

10. How many thoughts, images, and associations, are brought to mind by the word:

DISAPPOINT

(Circle one number): Very Few 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 A Great Deal

11. Which is the most typical example of a household possession?

(Circle one example:) a. file cabinet b. living room couch c. garbage can

12. What is the likelihood of at least one of the friendships of a high school student lasting for the rest of that person's life?

(Circle one:) 0%-10% 11%-20% 21%-40% 41%-60% 61%-80% 81%-90% 91%-100%

### Appendix: Scoring Instructions

The items of Form A (and Form B) were regarded as forming 3 different types: Probability, Category, and Salience items. The next section describes the three classes of items and how they were scored.

In brief, the Probability items were scored from 1 to 7 corresponding to the seven alternative probabilities. The salience items similarly were scored on a Likert scale that ranged from 1 to 7. Although the original article did not include the exact scoring weights for the Category items in the report, the specific weights for both forms are provided in the SPSS code provided below.

Once each item was scored, they were summed to form an overall score for the Judgment Form (A or B). The last compute statements in the SPSS code below show the summing procedure we used (but please note that it is sensitive to missing data, so you will need to handle missing data in some fashion that does not distort the results).

The details follow:

Scoring overview from p. 239 of Mayer, J. D., & Hanson, E. (1995). Mood-congruent judgment over time. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 21, 237-244.

*Probability items.* The four-item probability subscale concerned two positive events, (e.g., “What is the probability that a 30-year-old will be involved in a happy, loving romance?”) and two negative events (e.g., the likelihood of a nuclear war). Subjects responded by circling one of seven alternatives (0%-10%, 11%-20%, 21%-40%, 41%-60%, 61%-80%, 81%-90%, and 91%-100%). Pleasant items were coded from 1 to 7, negative items were coded from 7 to 1, and all items were summed for a total score. Pleasant-mood participants were expected to receive higher scores.

*Category items.* The four-item category task asked participants to select, for example, “the most typical type of worker” from among the three choices, for example, “A. Conscientious, B. Lazy, or C. Honest.” The three responses were rated earlier by 12 independent judges for their emotional valence on a 7-point scale (1 = *unpleasant*, 7 = *pleasant*). Each of the participant’s choices had a prejudged valence that was summed across items to form the total score. Participants in pleasant moods were hypothesized to choose more positive exemplars.

*Salience items.* The four-item salience subscale requested subjects to rate the thoughts, images, and associations that came to mind in response to a target word, such as *generous* or *destroy*, on a scale from 1 (*very few*) to 7 (*a great deal*); negative items were reverse scored. Participants in pleasant moods were expected to obtain higher scores.

### (Weighting the Alternatives)

Relevant Scoring for the Scale Here is the SPSS scoring for forms A and B of Mood-Congruent Judgment Scales, Forms A and B.

(Number the items ajs01 to ajs12, and bjs01 to bjs12).

if (ajs03 eq 1) ajs03x = 6

if (ajs03 eq 2) ajs03x = 2

if (ajs03 eq 3) ajs03x = 7

if (ajs04 eq 1) ajs04x = 2

if (ajs04 eq 2) ajs04x = 3  
 if (ajs04 eq 3) ajs04x = 6

if (ajs09 eq 1) ajs09x = 6  
 if (ajs09 eq 2) ajs09x = 2  
 if (ajs09 eq 3) ajs09x = 6

if (ajs11 eq 1) ajs11x = 6  
 if (ajs11 eq 2) ajs11x = 2  
 if (ajs11 eq 3) ajs11x = 4

if (bjs03 eq 1) bjs03x = 6  
 if (bjs03 eq 2) bjs03x = 4  
 if (bjs03 eq 3) bjs03x = 2

if (bjs04 eq 1) bjs04x = 2  
 if (bjs04 eq 2) bjs04x = 6  
 if (bjs04 eq 3) bjs04x = 4

if (bjs09 eq 1) bjs09x = 3  
 if (bjs09 eq 2) bjs09x = 5  
 if (bjs09 eq 3) bjs09x = 5

if (bjs11 eq 1) bjs11x = 4  
 if (bjs11 eq 2) bjs11x = 5  
 if (bjs11 eq 3) bjs11x = 4

compute judga = ajs01 + ajs02 + ajs03x + ajs04x + ajs05 - ajs06  
 - ajs07 - ajs08 + ajs09x - ajs10 + ajs11x + ajs12

compute judgb = bjs01 + bjs02 + bjs03x + bjs04x + bjs05 - bjs06  
 - bjs07 - bjs08 + bjs09x - bjs10 + bjs11x + bjs12