

ASSESSMENT OF 16 PERSONALITY FACTORS

The Cattell 16 PF (16 Personality Factors) model is probably the most widely used system for categorizing and defining personality. The 16 PF defines our basic, underlying personality, without regard to how we apply it or the environment or which we apply it.

Personality is the unique characteristics within the individual that underlies and influence his behaviour. It is the most abstract concepts used in psychological literature. Scarcely any word in psychology is more versatile than personality. A number of approaches and theories have been put forward to explain the structure and dynamics of personality, of which the trait theory, proposed by Raymond Cattell (1950) is of much importance because it is wide acceptance in the clinical appraisal of personality. The 'trait' approach, in contrast to the 'type' approach focus on the specific psychological attributes along which individuals tends to differ in consistent and stable ways.

According to the trait theory, human personality composed of a number of broad traits or dispositions. Cattell held that there is a common structure on which people differ from each other and this structure could be determined empirically. Cattell relied heavily on factor analysis, a statistical technique to investigate these structural elements of personality. He classified the traits into surface and source traits. Surface traits are dispositions that can be easily recognized by one's manifestation of behaviour. Source traits on the other hand, are underlying structures that determine the behaviour of the individual. Since source traits make up the most basic structure of personality, they are better predictors of human behaviour.

After extensive factor analysis is results, Cattell identified 16 source traits that constitute the underlying structure of personality. The 16 PF questionnaire is the objectively suitable test devised by basic research in psychology to give the most complete coverage of personality possible in a brief time. The test was designed to use with individuals aged 16 and above. It was first published in 1949, thereafter, 2nd and 3rd editions in 1956 and 1962. Five alternative forms of 4th edition were released in between 1967 and 1969. Fifth edition of 16 PF was released in 1993. Cattell's trait theory assets that every person possesses a degree of each of the 16 traits; each represented by a factor label or code letter. The 16 factors and their descriptions are shown in the table.

Comprehensive coverage of personality tests depend upon measurement of the functionally independent and psychologically meaningful dimensions isolated and replicated in more than 30 years of factor analytical research on normal and clinical groups. The personality factors measured by the 16 PF test are not just unique, but instead tests within the context of a general theory of personality. The 16 dimensions are essentially independent. Any item in the test contributes to the score on one and only one factor such that no dependence was introduced at the level of scale construction.

Aim:

To measure the relative strengths of 16 Personality factors of the participant

Method:

a. Participant's profile

Name:

Age:

Gender:

Educational Qualification:

b. Experimenter's profile:

Name:

Age:

Gender:

Educational Qualification:

Materials:

1. 16 Preliminary IPIP Scale (online test).
2. Pencil, scale, eraser.

Description of the test

In his explorations of personality, British psychologist Raymond Cattell found that variations in human personality could be best explained by a model that has sixteen variables (personality traits), using a statistical procedure known as factor analysis. Following this discovery he went on to create and promote the 16PF Questionnaire. This test uses a public domain scales from the International Personality Item Pool to measure the same traits.

Procedure

The participant should be seated comfortably and establish a good rapport. The experimenter should read out the instructions for the participant. There is no time limit, but it's good to remind the participant not to delay instead give immediate answers and move along.

This personality test consists of 164 statements about yourself, for each indicate how accurate it is on the scale of (1) disagree (2) slightly disagree (3) neither agree nor disagree (4) slightly agree (5) agree. It will take most people around ten minutes to complete. Make sure that the participant has answered all the questions. The test administered need to be enclosed in the document or the report of the test.

Informed consent

This test should be taken for educational purposes only. It is not a substitute for any type of professional service, medical or otherwise. Your answers on this test will be stored and used for research, and possibly shared in a way that preserves your anonymity.

Scoring and interpretation

Scoring and interpretation is done through online itself and the relative strengths of each personality factor can be retrieved after the completion of the test. The scores are interpreted as per the norms indicated against the test.

Precautions

1. A congenial environment should be provided for the participant.
2. It should be ensured that the participant does not omit any item.

Result

Table shows the scores obtained by the participant for 16 personality factors. The scores are between 0 and 4. Table should be drawn in the left side of the sheet.

Discussion

First paragraph- Aim+ immediate result

Second paragraph- discuss each personality factor score and its interpretation

Final paragraph- indicate the most and the least scores obtained to mention the critical personality factors of the participant.

Conclusion

The participant's 16 personality factors are measured and both more positively and negatively deviated ones are to be mentioned here.

Reference

Only on APA format(7th edn).
