

S.A.S. SYDNEY ATTRIBUTIONAL SCALE

VERSION 4 – Standard

Surname _____ First Name: _____ Circle one: Male Female

School: _____ Teacher: _____ Year: _____ Age: _____

This is not a test. There are no right or wrong answers. There are a number of things listed that could happen in school or at home. You are asked to show how true or false each reason for this happening is for you. Look at the first example. Someone called Terry has filled this in to show you how to do it.

Examples

	False	Mostly False	Some- times False, Some- times True	Mostly True	True	
1. Suppose you won a race at the sports carnival. It would probably be because:						1
a) you were lucky.....	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
b) you are a good runner	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	b)
c) you tried hard to run fast.....	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	c)

(Terry put a tick in the False box for the first reason because for Terry that reason was not true at all. Terry put a tick in the True box for the second reason because Terry is a good runner and always wins races. Terry put a tick in the Mostly True box for the third reason because Terry did try pretty hard to run fast and it was mostly true.

	False	Mostly False	Some- times False, Some- times True	Mostly True	True	
2. Suppose you painted a picture at school and everyone said it was awful. It would probably be because:						2
a) you are a bad painter.....	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	a)
b) you only tried a little.....	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	b)
c) they did not like you	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	c)

(Terry picked Sometimes True, Sometimes False for the first reason because Terry is only a bad painter sometimes. Terry ticked mostly true for the second reason because Terry tried only a little on most paintings. Terry picked mostly false for the third reason as most of the time she knows some good methods she can use to paint.

Now, you try these examples

	False	Mostly False	Some- times False, Some- times True	Mostly True	True	
3. Suppose you made a model and it fell to pieces as soon as you finished it. It would probably be because:						3
a) you are not good at making models	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
b) you did not work carefully on it.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
c) the glue was bad.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
4. Suppose you wrote a story that the teacher said was very good. It would probably be because:						4
a) you write good stories.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
b) you tried very hard.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
c) the teacher likes you	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)

Please do not talk to anyone about your answers or look at anyone else's paper.

	False	Mostly False	Sometimes False, Sometimes True	Mostly True	True	
1. Suppose your teacher choose you to do the top reading group in your class. It would probably be because:						1
a) you are good at reading.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
b) you work hard at reading	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
c) the teacher made a mistake	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
2. Suppose you have to swap books with someone to correct some maths exercises and no one wants to give you their book. This is probably because:						2
a) nobody likes you very much	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
b) you are careless in your work and with corrections	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
c) everyone knows you do maths badly	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
	False	Mostly False	Sometimes False, Sometimes True	Mostly True	True	
3. Suppose you had trouble trying to answer the teacher's question about a story in a reading lesson. It is probably because:						3
a) the story was too hard for everyone	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
b) you are a poor reader.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
c) you should have read it more carefully	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
4. Suppose the teacher wanted you to help correct some maths tests. This is probably because:						4
a) you are one of the best students in maths.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
b) it was your turn to do it.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
c) you always try to do well at maths	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)

		False	Mostly False	Sometimes False, Sometimes True	Mostly True	True	
5	Suppose the school librarian wants someone to help count books and you are chosen. This is probably because:						5
	a) you were sitting near the teacher when the librarian asked for someone.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) you always work hard and carefully in maths.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) you are one of the best pupils in your maths class.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
6	Suppose the teacher asked you to read aloud part of a story for the class and you had trouble doing this. It is probably because:						6
	a) you are bad at reading aloud.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) you had to read the hardest part of the story.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) you were careless about reading the story.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
		False	Mostly False	Sometimes False, Sometimes True	Mostly True	True	
7	Suppose you get a maths question wrong in class. It is probably because:						7
	a) you often have trouble in maths.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) the question was hard.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) you never pay any attention in maths lessons.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
8	Suppose you are chosen from your school to take part in a state maths competition. This is probably because:						8
	a) you will try your best.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) you were lucky.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) you are good at maths.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)

		False	Mostly False	Sometimes False, Sometimes True	Mostly True	True	
9	Suppose you start a new story in reading and you find it hard to understand straight away. It is probably because:						9
	a) the teacher picks hard stories	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) you were day dreaming.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) your reading is poor	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
10	Suppose your parents tell you that your reading is good. It would probably be because:						10
	a) you really work hard at reading	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) you always do well at reading.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) they are only being nice	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
		False	Mostly False	Sometimes False, Sometimes True	Mostly True	True	
11	Suppose the class was asked to choose the best five people in maths. If they chose you it would be because:						11
	a) you really are one of the best at maths.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) you work hard to be good at maths.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) they like you.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
12	Suppose you get a maths problem to do on the board in front of the class and you do it wrong. This is probably because:						12
	a) you are unlucky to be asked the hardest problem	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) you always have trouble solving problems	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) you did it too quickly and made a silly mistake	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)

		False	Mostly False	Some- times False, Some- times True	Mostly True	True	
13	Suppose your teacher says you are doing badly in reading work. It would probably be because:						13
	a) you are lazy in reading.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	a) the teacher doesn't like you	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) you always do badly in reading.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
14	Suppose you are chosen to read out a story to all the parents at a special assembly. It would probably be because:						14
	a) no one else wanted to do it	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) you are a good reader	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) you have been working hard on your reading all year	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
		False	Mostly False	Some- times False, Some- times True	Mostly True	True	
15	Suppose the teacher awarded a gold star for today's reading work and you got it. It would probably be because:						15
	a) you earned it by working hard.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) you were lucky.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) your reading is good.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
16	Suppose the teacher shows you a new way of doing something in maths and you get it wrong. This is probably because:						16
	a) you should pay more attention	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) the teacher explains things badly	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) anything in maths is hard for you.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)

		False	Mostly False	Sometimes False, Sometimes True	Mostly True	True	
17	Suppose the teacher asked people in your class to try out to read a poem on a TV show but did NOT ask you. It would probably be because:						17
	a) your reading is not good enough.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) you decided to play instead of trying to get the poem ready....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) the teacher forgot to ask you.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
18	Suppose you read a story well in front of your class. It would probably be because:						18
	a) you are good at reading.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) the story was an easy one.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) you made a special effort to read it.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
		False	Mostly False	Sometimes False, Sometimes True	Mostly True	True	
19	Suppose your teacher tells you not to help a friend with their maths. This would probably be because:						19
	a) you should work harder on your own maths.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) you make a lot of mistakes in maths yourself.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) it is unfair.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
20	Suppose your teacher asks you to collect and count the money for an excursion trip. It would probably be because:						20
	a) it is you turn to collect money this time.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) you always try hard in maths classes	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) you are good at maths and will collect the right money	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)

		False	Mostly False	Sometimes False, Sometimes True	Mostly True	True	
21	Suppose you really did well on a reading test. It is probably because:						21
	a) you were lucky.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) you tried very hard.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) you always do well in reading tests.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
22	Suppose you find it hard to understand a story you are reading. It is probably because:						22
	a) you need to try harder at reading	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) you are a poor reader	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) the story is boring	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
		False	Mostly False	Sometimes False, Sometimes True	Mostly True	True	
23	Suppose you did badly in a maths test. This is probably because:						23
	a) you always do badly in maths tests	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) you spend too little time studying maths	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) the test was hard for everyone	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)
24	Suppose the teacher chooses you to do a special problem in maths. It would probably be because:						24
	a) you know more about maths than most children.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	a)
	b) you would work harder on it than your class mates.....	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	b)
	c) nobody else wanted to do it	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	c)

End of Questionnaire

The following pages make up the Breakdown of Questionnaire and should not be distributed to pupils.

READING SUCCESS ABILITY

- 1a) You are good at **reading**.....
- 10b) You always do well at **reading**.....
- 14b) You are a good **reader**.....
- 15c) Your reading is good.....
- 18a) You are good at reading.....
- 21c) You always do well in reading tests.....

READING SUCCESS EFFORT

- 1b) You work hard at reading.....
- 10a) You really work hard at reading.....
- 14c) You have been working hard on your reading all year.....
- 15a) You earned it by working hard.....
- 18c) You made a special effort to read it.....
- 21b) You tried very hard.....

READING SUCCESS EXTERNAL

- 1c) The teacher made a mistake.....
- 10c) They are only being nice.....
- 14a) No one else wanted to do it.....
- 15b) You were lucky.....
- 18b) The story was an easy one.....
- 21a) You were lucky.....

READING FAILURE ABILITY

- 3b) You are a poor reader.....
- 6a) You are bad at reading aloud.....
- 9c) Your reading is poor.....
- 13c) You always do badly in reading.....
- 17a) Your reading is not good enough.....
- 22b) You are a poor reader.....

READING FAILURE EFFORT

- 3c) You should have read it more carefully.....
- 6c) You were careless about reading the story.....
- 9b) You were day dreaming.....
- 13a) You are lazy in reading.....
- 17b) You decided to play instead of trying to get the poem ready.....
- 22a) You need to try harder at reading.....

READING FAILURE EXTERNAL

- 3a) The story was too hard for everyone.....
- 6b) You had to read the hardest part of the story.....
- 9a) The teacher picks hard stories.....
- 13b) The teacher doesn't like you.....
- 17c) The teacher forgot to ask you.....
- 22c) The story is boring.....

MATHS SUCCESS ABILITY

- 4a) You are one of the best students in maths.....
- 5c) You are one of the best pupils in your maths class.....
- 8c) You are good at maths.....
- 11a) You really are one of the best at maths.....
- 20c) You are good at maths and will collect the right money.....
- 24a) You know more maths than most children.....

MATHS SUCCESS EFFORT

- 4c) You always try to do well at maths.....
- 5b) You always work hard and carefully in maths.....
- 8a) You will try your best.....
- 11b) You work hard to be good at maths.....
- 20b) You always try hard in maths classes.....
- 24b) You would work harder on it than your class mates.....

MATHS SUCCESS EXTERNAL

- 4b) It was your turn to do it.....
- 5a) You were sitting near the teacher when the librarian asked for someone.....
- 8b) Your were lucky.....
- 11c) They like you.....
- 20a) It is your turn to collect money this time.....
- 24c) Nobody else wanted to do it.....

MATHS FAILURE ABILITY

- 2c) Everyone knows you do maths badly.....
- 7a) You often have trouble in maths.....
- 12b) You always have trouble solving problems.....
- 16c) Anything in maths is hard for you.....
- 19b) You make a lot of mistakes in maths yourself.....
- 23a) You always do badly in maths tests.....

MATHS FAILURE EFFORT

- 2b) You are careless in your work and with corrections.....
- 7c) You never pay attention in maths lessons.....
- 12c) You did it too quickly and made a silly mistake.....
- 16a) You should pay more attention.....
- 19a) You should work harder on your own maths.....
- 23b) You spend too little time studying maths.....

MATHS FAILURE EXTERNAL

- 2a) Nobody likes you very much.....
- 7b) The question was hard.....
- 12a) You are unlucky to be asked the hardest problem.....
- 16b) The teacher explains things badly.....
- 19c) It is unfair.....
- 23c) The test was hard for everyone.....