



Clinical Evaluation of Language Fundamentals[®], Fifth Edition Metalinguistics

Overview:

Assessment to measure higher-level language skills

Age Range: 9:0–21:11

Publication Date: 2014

Qualification Level: B

Completion Time: Approximately 45 minutes for the Total Metalinguistics Score

Scores/Interpretation: Test and composite standard scores, percentile ranks, age equivalents, growth scale values

Scoring Options: Q-global[®] (web-based) or manual scoring

Develop Higher-Level Language Skills

Identify students 9–21 years old, who have adequate linguistic knowledge, can understand basic concepts and speak in grammatically correct sentences, but lack the higher-level language skills needed to master year-level curriculum for Year 4 and up. Ideal for students with subtle language disorders or students on the autism spectrum who are lagging behind year-level peers.

The CELF-5 Metalinguistics includes five stand-alone tests:

- **Metalinguistics Profile**—A rating scale examining higher-level language skills used in classroom and home settings; can be completed by the student's caregivers and/or teacher(s) before or after testing; yields a norm-referenced score.

- Two tests of meta-pragmatic skills examining the student's ability to respond appropriately to the communicative demands of the situation.
- **Making Inferences**—Assesses the ability to make logical inferences based on everyday situations. Students with difficulties in this area may be able to express what happens in a situation, but are unable to infer from the context more than one logical reason why something might have happened.
- **Conversation Skills**—Assesses the ability to initiate a conversation and respond in a way that is both relevant, pragmatically appropriate to the content and audience, and grammatically accurate. In social situations and academic communication (oral and written), students with difficulties in this area make errors in gauging appropriate register, contributing relevant information, and using complex sentence structures for expository and narrative discourse.
 - Two tests of meta-semantic skills examining the student's ability to understand language content as it relates to the larger communication context.
- **Multiple Meanings**—Assesses the ability to recognise multiple meaning words and match the correct meaning for the situation or context. Students with difficulties in this area may have difficulty in determining the meaning of ambiguous sentences in social contexts. Students in high school or college who have difficulty resolving ambiguities find it especially problematic when rapid lexical processing is required, such as during lectures and during group activities.
- **Figurative Language**—Assesses the ability to interpret common figurative expressions (idioms) needed to understand spoken and written communication. Widely used in social situations and in academic curriculum, idioms are misinterpreted by students who fail to understand that a literal interpretation of an idiom does not make sense contextually.

Metalinguistic Skills and Academic Performance

What is “metalinguistic awareness” and why is it important for school success?

Metalinguistic awareness is the ability to talk about, analyse, and think about language independent of the concrete meaning of each word. Students with language disorders who have received language intervention may have acquired adequate linguistic knowledge (e.g., semantics, morphology, syntax, pragmatics) and perform in the average or low-average range on CELF-5, but

those students may not have the next level of language ability that requires metalinguistic awareness and metacognitive abilities that are separate from linguistic skills. *Students lacking these critical higher-level language skills often fall further and further behind academically.*

Some metalinguistic difficulties that could have an impact on academic performance are:

- Planning for production of statements, questions, paragraphs, stories in speaking/writing
- Making predictions and forming hypotheses
- Problem-solving for strategic language use
- Self-monitoring to identify errors and problems
- Correcting inefficient approaches and behaviours
- Recognising syllable, word, phrase, clause, and sentence boundaries in speech/print
- Monitoring, self-correcting, editing speech and writing
- Playing with language (riddles, jokes, rhymes)
- Analysing and talking about language

Q-global[®], Scoring and Reporting

Q-global[®] is a web-based scoring and reporting system that also allows you to deliver select, self-administered assessments on any device connected to the internet. This reliable system delivers reporting not available with hand-scoring alone, while saving time. Q-global allows you to:

- Efficiently enter results from paper-and-pencil tests
- Generate scores and produce accurate, comprehensive reports
- Access digital manuals and stimulus books online and display from any device connected to the internet in face-to-face and telepractice settings.

**Learn more on the CELF 5 Metalinguistics
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