

## Appendix 2(d) Assessment of Auditory Sequential Memory

Name:

Date of assessment:

Date of birth:

Chronological age:

### Auditory sequential memory (short term)

For primary age children:

#### Instructions:

1. When carrying out this assessment items should be delivered at an even pace of about one item per second (which gives time to repeat a word/item **silently** before saying the next). Say, 'I am going to tell you some things that are in my shopping bag. I want you to say back to me exactly what I have said to you.'

#### Practice item:

Say, 'sausages'. Pupil responds, 'sausages'.

Say, 'Now try two things: tea, jam. Say them back to me in the same order.'

If correct proceed: (Note – you can choose your own items.)

*ALWAYS WRITE DOWN EXACTLY WHAT THE LEARNER SAYS.*

Series	Response (forwards)
1. apples, eggs 2. chicken, butter	
1. meat, sugar, cola 2. cake, spaghetti, milk	
1. beans, cheese, fish, pizza 2. oranges, chocolate, bread, peas	
1. grapes, flour, nuts, sugar, jam 2. eggs, crisps, peas, pears, jelly	

2. Explain that you are going to do the same thing using numbers this time. Give an example to practise: 7 – 2. Discontinue when a learner has difficulties.

Series	Response (forwards)
3 – 7 4 – 8	
7 – 3 – 1 4 – 8 – 6	
5 – 2 – 6 – 1 1 – 4 – 9 – 2	
2 – 6 – 1 – 5 7 – 9 – 3 – 1	
4 – 9 – 2 – 3 – 6 6 – 4 – 3 – 6 – 8	

In the case of older learners only give the second test (digit span). Increase the number of digits to give two sets of six numbers and two sets of seven.



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## Auditory sequential memory (working memory)

### Reverse order

For primary children give both: use second example for older learners.

#### Instructions:

1. Say, 'I am going to tell you again some things that are in my shopping bag. I want you to say back to me what I have said, **but this time** can you say them backwards?'  
'So if I say, "chops, chocolate", you will say, "chocolate, chops".

#### Practice item:

Try this one: sausages, cheese.

If the learner responds correctly, proceed with examples below. (If not, give another example.)

Series	Response (backwards)
1. chicken, carrots 2. eggs, fish	
1. sugar, gravy, rice 2. cake, spaghetti, meat	
1. yogurt, cheese, tomatoes, peas 2. pizza, honey, cornflakes, melon	
1. strawberries, fish, peas, burgers, carrots 2. chips, cola, salad, milk, oranges	

2. Explain that you are going to do the same thing using numbers this time. Give a practice example: 5 – 2. Discontinue when learner has difficulties.

Series	Response
3 – 7 8 – 2	
2 – 4 – 9 3 – 7 – 1	
5 – 3 – 4 – 2 7 – 3 – 6 – 4	
2 – 8 – 9 – 1 – 7 2 – 5 – 3 – 5 – 4	
9 – 2 – 7 – 8 – 3 – 5 4 – 9 – 4 – 3 – 1 – 6	
3 – 5 – 9 – 8 – 6 – 4 – 7 7 – 1 – 4 – 2 – 9 – 3 – 8	

For older learners, give only the digit span test.



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