

Name _____

ID # _____

Date _____

ANIMAL NAMING

Introduction: “I’d like to ask a question to check your memory.”

Instruction: “Tell me the names of as many animals as you can think of, as quickly as possible.”

Procedure: Time for 60 seconds and record all responses.

If the person stops before 60 seconds, say “Any more animals?”

If the person says nothing for 15 seconds, say “A dog is an animal.

“Can you tell me more animals?”

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 12. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 13. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 14. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 15. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 16. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 17. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 18. _____ |
| 8. _____ | 19. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 20. _____ |
| 10. _____ | 21. _____ |
| 11. _____ | 22. _____ |

Scoring: Count the total number of animals (NOT including repetitions or non-animal words): _____

Next step: If the score is less than 14, further testing should be done.

Directions for Scoring Animal Naming Screen

Instructions: “Tell me the names of as many animals as you can think of, as quickly as possible.”

If the person says nothing for 15 seconds, say “A dog is an animal. Can you tell me more animals?” If the person stops before 60 seconds, say “Any more animals?”

Scoring: Count all animals, including birds, fish, reptiles, insects, humans, extinct animals, etc. Credit can be given for general category terms (e.g., dog) and for specific instances (e.g., terriers) when both are given. Credit only one item when people name the same animal at different developmental stages (e.g., sheep, lamb).

Note: These minimalist initial instructions date back to an early research study on verbal fluency in aging and dementia by Wilma Rosen (1980) in which subjects were instructed to “give the names of as many animals as you can think of” for 60 seconds. These very brief instructions have been subsequently used in several normative studies (e.g., Tombaugh et al., 1999 and Mayo’s MOANS studies such as Lucas et al., 1998) and in some other recent studies of the efficacy of verbal fluency as a diagnostic tool for dementia (e.g., Canning et al., 2004).