

How Cognitive Skills Relate to Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program Questions



Reading:

Cognitive Skill	Application to TCAP Questions	BrainWare Safari Exercises Developing the Skill
<p><i>Sustained Attention</i> – the ability to stay on task for a sustained period of time.</p>	<p>Reading a passage for comprehension requires sustained attention. If attention is not sustained, parts of the passage may not be processed or understood.</p>	<p>Most BrainWare Safari exercises work on sustained attention, including <i>Iguana Lookout, Jungle Labyrinth, Rhythm Ribbet, and Slithering Symbols.</i></p>
<p><i>Visual Sequential Memory</i> – the ability to recall a sequence of bits of information in the same order as originally received.</p>	<p>In a story passage, “What happens when Bobby doesn’t check his backpack?”</p>	<p><i>Arrow Point Bridge, Bear Shuffle, Rhythm Ribbet and Slithering Symbols</i> are exercises that work on visual sequential memory.</p>
<p><i>Conceptual Thinking</i> – the ability to recognize a collection of features that go together to create an idea or category of ideas.</p>	<p>After reading a passage containing a short letter, “Which sentence does not belong in Michael’s letter?”</p>	<p><i>Ancient Logic and Reasoning</i> and <i>Llama Logic</i> help develop conceptual thinking skills.</p>

There are many cognitive skills involved in learning as well as being tested on what one has learned. This document provides examples of how the Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program places demands on cognitive skills. This is not meant to provide a complete perspective on cognitive skills nor a thorough analysis of the TCAP. These are simply examples for illustration. BrainWare Safari is a product of Learning Enhancement Corporation. It is a comprehensive program that develops 41 cognitive skills in a fun and entertaining video game format. For more information, contact Learning Enhancement Corporation at www.BrainWareforYou.com or 877-BRAIN-10 (877-272-4610). Examples taken from Tennessee Department of Education Materials for Grade 4 and Grade 5.

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Mathematics:

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<p>Visualization – the ability to recall an image of what has been seen and to mentally manipulate and change aspects of that image in the mind.</p>	<p>“Which of these correctly shows the position of the sun and a person’s shadow?”</p>	<p>Most BrainWare Safari exercises develop visualization skills. Such exercises include Cave Comparisons, Piranha Pass, Web Weaving, and Whispering Waterfall.</p>
<p>Oculomotor – the ability to use the eyes efficiently to read and gather information from the environment.</p>	<p>A question that asks, “Which figure is congruent to this shape?”</p>	<p>Iguana Lookout, Jungle Labyrinth, Piranha Pass, Sky Scanning and Turtle Recall address oculomotor skills.</p>
<p>Working Memory – the ability to hold information in the mind while performing a mental operation on it.</p>	<p>“Clark is reading a book that is 134 pages. He has read 59 pages. How many more pages does Clark have to read in the book?”</p>	<p>Bear Shuffle, Cave Comparisons, Memory Mountain and Tree Tic-Tac-Toe are among the exercises that improve working memory skills.</p>

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Science:

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Visual Discrimination – the ability to distinguish differences.	“Which ice-cream flavor did the most students pick as their favorite?”	BrainWare Safari exercises that develop visual discrimination include Cave Comparisons , Jumping Jaguar Flash , Sky Scanning and Volcanic Patterns .
Reasoning – the ability to form concepts and solve problems using unfamiliar information.	“In which of these environments would webbed feet be most helpful for survival?”	Ancient Logic and Reasoning and Piranha Pass are two of the exercises that develop reasoning skills.
Logic – the ability to reason and think rationally and analytically.	“Which of these most likely happened after the rabbits were brought to Australia?”	Llama Logic and Tree Tic-Tac-Toe are two of the exercises that develop logic skills.

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