

Procedure for Conducting Preference Assessment

To use a *forced-choice* preference assessment:

1. Interview persons who know the student to identify ten different objects or things that might be rewarding or motivating for the identified student. Such objects or things could be candy (specify the kind), drink (specify the kind), or objects (e.g. lint, heating pad, book. Do not select activities (such as going for a walk) because that activity cannot be tested.
2. Write the ten objects or things in the ten numbered spaces provided at the top of the “Forced Choice Preference Assessment Data Sheet.”
3. Collect the ten items.
4. Take the student and the items to the testing room or area.
5. Using the “Forced Choice Preference Assessment Data Sheet”, implement the preference procedure:
 - a. Put items 1 and 2 on the table in front of the student, approximately 18 inches apart;
 - b. Get the student’s hands folded in lap
 - c. Get the student’s attention;
 - d. (when attending) ask, “which do you want?”
 - i. allow 10 seconds for student to touch one object or name one object;
 - e. circle the number of the object touched (or named),
 - f. record the duration the student engaged with the activity
 - g. write “NR” if no response or no choice was made within 10 seconds
 - h. go through each trial following steps “a” through “d”
6. Upon completion of all 90 trials, tally the number of times each of the ten stimuli were selected by the student.
7. At the bottom of the “Forced Choice Preference Assessment Data Sheet”, write in the “Preferred Stimulus” the stimulus picked the largest number of times in #6.

Forced Choice Preference Assessment Data Sheet

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

Stimuli:

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.

Circle the ITEM Number Chosen by Student. Record the duration the student engaged with the activity. Write NR if no response or no choice was made.

Trial #	left	right	Duration	Trial #	left	right	Duration	Trial #	left	right	Duration
1	1	2		31	7	8		61	4	5	
2	10	3		32	4	6		62	8	3	
3	5	2		33	1	5		63	7	10	
4	4	7		34	9	10		64	4	1	
5	8	9		35	7	1		65	8	2	
6	10	7		36	4	10		66	7	9	
7	2	4		37	5	1		67	2	8	
8	6	8		38	1	4		68	6	9	
9	1	10		39	5	3		69	5	6	
10	7	6		40	9	1		70	8	7	
11	2	3		41	8	6		71	1	6	
12	1	8		42	2	9		72	8	10	
13	5	10		43	5	8		73	5	4	
14	9	3		44	3	10		74	9	2	
15	2	7		45	2	5		75	3	8	
16	3	6		46	6	1		76	10	1	
17	5	7		47	3	9		77	4	8	
18	6	3		48	2	10		78	6	5	
19	9	7		49	6	4		79	3	1	
20	3	2		50	9	6		80	9	8	
21	10	8		51	10	4		81	1	3	
22	3	5		52	1	9		82	9	4	
23	1	7		53	8	5		83	10	2	
24	6	10		54	3	7		84	8	4	
25	9	5		55	4	9		85	6	7	
26	6	2		56	7	2		86	10	5	
27	5	9		57	10	6		87	7	3	
28	8	1		58	4	2		88	2	6	
29	7	4		59	7	5		89	3	4	
30	4	3		60	2	1		90	10	9	