


# Information for Understanding Your Score Report (34-point versions)



The California Critical Thinking Skills Test (CCTST) is a research-based, discipline-neutral assessment for undergraduate and graduate level students that is designed to objectively measure the core reasoning skills needed for reflective decision making concerning what to believe or what to do.

**Critical thinking reasoning skills can be strengthened with effective and engaging training, personal reflection and evaluation, and practice over time**

The CCTST OVERALL Score is the best overall measure of critical thinking skills, and has been shown to predict success in workplace contexts, the successful completion of educational programs, and passing scores on certification and licensure examinations.

	Qualitative Description of CCTST OVERALL Score				
	Not Manifested	Weak	Moderate	Strong	Superior
CCTST OVERALL Score (34-point Versions)	0 - 7	8 - 12	13 - 18	19 - 23	24 - 34


**Superior:** This result indicates critical thinking skill that is superior to the vast majority of test takers. Skills at the superior level are consistent with high potential for more advanced learning and leadership.

**Strong:** This result is consistent with the potential for academic success and career development.

**Moderate:** This result indicates the potential for skills-related challenges when engaged in reflective problem-solving and reflective decision-making associated with learning or employee development.

**Weak:** This result is predictive of difficulties with educational and employment related demands for reflective problem-solving and reflective decision-making.

**Not Manifested:** This result is consistent with possible insufficient test-taker effort, cognitive fatigue, or possible reading or language comprehension issues.

	Qualitative Interpretation of Scale Scores		
	Not Manifested	Moderate	Strong
Analysis	0 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 7
Inference	0 - 5	6 - 11	12 - 16
Evaluation	0 - 3	4 - 7	8 - 11
Induction	0 - 5	6 - 11	12 - 17
Deduction	0 - 5	6 - 11	12 - 17

**Successful decision-making and problem-solving rely on these core reasoning skills:**

<b>OVERALL</b>	The <b>OVERALL Score</b> describes overall strength in using reasoning to form reflective judgments about what to believe or what to do. To score well overall, the test taker must excel in the sustained, focused and integrated application of core reasoning skills including analysis, interpretation, inference, evaluation, explanation, induction and deduction. The <b>OVERALL Score</b> predicts the capacity for success in educational or workplace settings which demand reasoned decision-making and thoughtful problem-solving.
<b>Analysis</b>	Analytical skills are used to identify assumptions, reasons, themes, and the evidence used in making arguments or offering explanations. Analytical skills enable us to consider all the key elements in any given situation, and to determine how those elements relate to one another. People with strong analytical skills notice important patterns and details. People use analysis to gather the most relevant information from spoken language, documents, signs, charts, graphs, and diagrams.
<b>Inference</b>	Inference skills enable us to draw conclusions from reasons, evidence, observations, experiences, or our values and beliefs. Using Inference, we can predict the most likely consequences of the options we may be considering. Inference enables us to see the logical consequences of the assumptions we may be making. Sound inferences rely on accurate information. People with strong inference skills draw logical or highly reliable conclusions using all forms of analogical, probabilistic, empirical, and mathematical reasoning.
<b>Evaluation</b>	Evaluative skills are used to assess the credibility of the claims people make or post, and to assess the quality of the reasoning people display when they make arguments or give explanations. We can also apply our evaluation skills to assess the quality of many other elements that are important for good thinking, such as analyses, interpretations, explanations, inferences, options, opinions, beliefs, hypotheses, proposals, and decisions. People with strong evaluation skills can judge the quality of arguments and the credibility of speakers and writers.
<b>Induction</b>	Inductive reasoning relies on estimating likely outcomes. Decision-making in contexts of uncertainty relies on inductive reasoning. Inductive decisions can be based on analogies, case studies, prior experience, statistical analyses, simulations, hypotheticals, trusted testimony, and the patterns we may recognize in a set events, experiences, symptoms or behaviors. Inductive reasoning always leaves open the possibility, however remote, that a highly probable conclusion might be mistaken. Although it does not yield certainty, inductive reasoning can provide a solid basis for confidence in our conclusions and a reasonable basis for action.
<b>Deduction</b>	Deductive reasoning is rigorously logical and clear cut. Deductive skills are used whenever we determine the precise logical consequences of a given set of rules, conditions, beliefs, values, policies, principles, procedures, or terminology. Deductive reasoning is deciding what to believe or what to do in precisely defined contexts that rely on strict rules and logic. Deductive validity results in a conclusion which absolutely cannot be false, if the assumptions or premises from which we started all are true. Deductive validity leaves no room for uncertainty. That is, unless we decide to change the very meanings of our words or the grammar of our language.

**[Contact us](#) today if you have questions about interpreting your score reports.**

