

How Cognitive Skills Relate to Connecticut Mastery Test Questions



Reading:

Cognitive Skill	Application to CMT Questions	BrainWare Safari Exercises Developing the Skill
<p>Sustained Attention – 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</i>, <i>Jungle Labyrinth</i>, <i>Rhythm Ribbet</i>, and <i>Slithering Symbols</i>.</p>
<p>Visual Sequential Memory – the ability to recall a sequence of bits of information in the same order as originally received.</p>	<p>“In the fourth paragraph, the author says the canoes were like—”</p>	<p><i>Arrow Point Bridge</i>, <i>Bear Shuffle</i>, <i>Rhythm Ribbet</i> and <i>Slithering Symbols</i> are exercises that work on visual sequential memory.</p>
<p>Conceptual Thinking – the ability to recognize a collection of features that go together to create an idea or category of ideas.</p>	<p>After reading a short passage, a question which asks, “Which opinion can be supported with information from the story?”</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 Connecticut Mastery Test places demands on cognitive skills. This is not meant to provide a complete perspective on cognitive skills or a thorough analysis of the CMT. 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 CMT released questions, grades 4 and 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>“How many dots would be in the next figure in this pattern?”</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>“What number is shown by the blocks in this picture?”</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>“Sam ran between 8 and 15 miles a week for 5 weeks. About how many miles could he have run?”</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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<p>Visual Discrimination – the ability to distinguish differences.</p>	<p>A question which asks, “Which animal foot shown is best adapted for swimming?”</p>	<p>BrainWare Safari exercises that develop visual discrimination include Cave Comparisons, Jumping Jaguar Flash, Sky Scanning and Volcanic Patterns.</p>
<p>Reasoning – the ability to form concepts and solve problems using unfamiliar information.</p>	<p>A question which asks, “What would happen if—?”</p>	<p>Ancient Logic and Reasoning and Piranha Pass are two of the exercises that develop reasoning skills.</p>
<p>Logic – the ability to reason and think rationally and analytically.</p>	<p>“On the prairie herbivores would compete most for—?”</p>	<p>Llama Logic and Tree Tic-Tac-Toe are two of the exercises that develop logic skills.</p>

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