

How Cognitive Skills Relate to Kentucky Core Content Test Questions



Reading:

Cognitive Skill	Application to KCCT 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>“The article ‘Recycled Paper’ tells you how to make recycled paper by using certain ingredients and following certain directions. In your own words, describe step-by-step how you would teach a younger child to make recycled paper.”</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>“What did the author MOST likely want you to learn from this story?”</p>	<p><i>Ancient Logic and Reasoning and 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 Kentucky Core Content Test places demands on cognitive skills. This is not meant to provide a complete perspective on cognitive skills or a thorough analysis of the KCCT. 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 KCCT released test items 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>Shown a diagram in which a figure’s mirror image is shown beside it and a series of possible answers: mirroring, rotating, etc. “Look at the diagram below. The diagram shows an example of—?”</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>Shown a diagram of shaded circles and fractions, a question which asks, “Mrs. Washington asked her students what fractional part of these 12 circles is shaded. Who is correct?”</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>“The relationship between numbers of cars (C) and numbers of wheels (W) is given by the expression $W = 4 \times C$. This means the number of wheels is equal to 4 times the number of cars. Copy the table below onto the next page. Complete the table by showing the number of wheels for each number of cars.”</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>Shown a chart of average January and July temperatures, a question which asks, “If you are looking for a place to live that has warm winters and cool summers, which city would be your BEST choice?”</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, “Which is MOST likely to make a rock break open?”</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>“Look at the two magnets above. If you push the two magnets toward each other as shown, the magnets will—?”</p>	<p>Llama Logic and Tree Tic-Tac-Toe are two of the exercises that develop logic skills.</p>

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