# A Test for Kindergarten Through Third Grade Students*

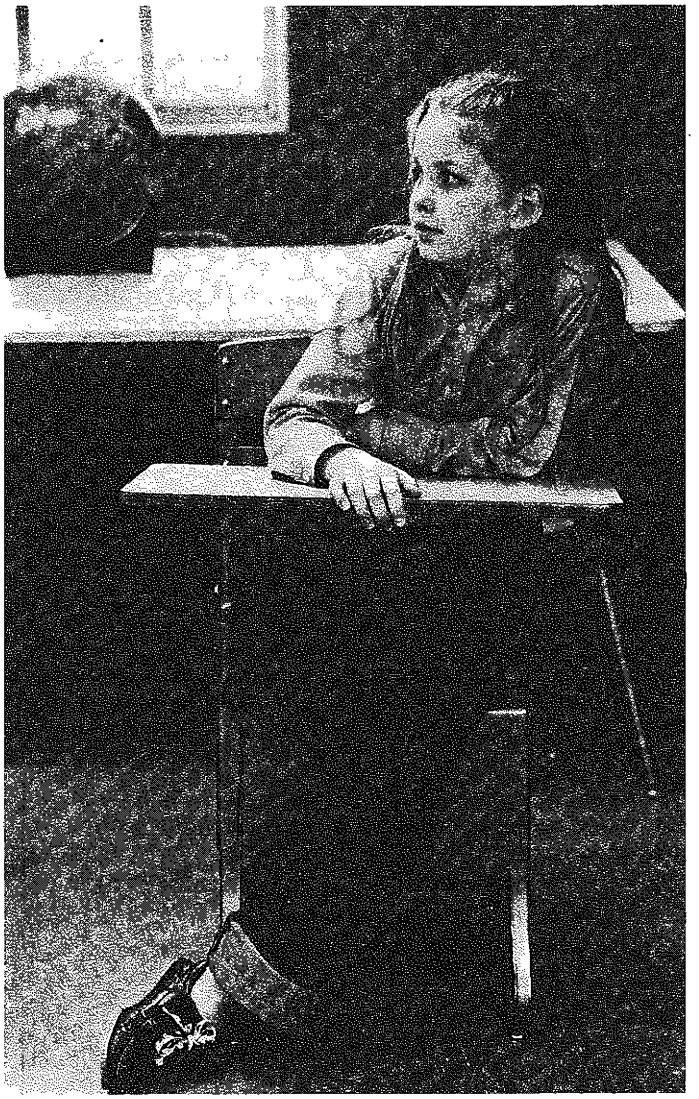
For the past three years, we have been trying to extend the philosophy for children program down into the early grades — kindergarten through third grade. We used a story called "Rebecca." Teachers in kindergarten through third grade read a chapter of "Rebecca" and then discussed it with their students (all of the teachers had already taken a six-credit graduate course in Analytic Teaching).

The teachers came back with favorable reports. The children liked the story and the story *seemed* to have a positive impact on their thinking skills. The difficulty, however, was that we had no way to measure that impact. We looked for an appropriate instrument and quickly discovered that no instrument dealt with the development of the specific thinking skills we were attempting to enhance. Thus, we were forced to devise an instrument of our own. The following test, "Analytic Thinking" (A.T.) is that instrument.

We are testing the instrument with approximately five hundred students in the Fort Worth area. The results of the tests will be printed in Volume IV, Number 1 of *Analytic Teaching*. In the meantime, we solicit your comments on and criticisms of the test.

If you would like to administer the test to your students, we would be glad to send you copies (25¢ per copy). If you would like to duplicate the test on your own, feel free to do so. We request only that you let us know the results of the test.

Ronald Reed





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## Analytic Test

(1) A red ball, a green apple and a yellow marble are alike because they have:
   a. the same color
   b. the same shape
   c. the same owners
   d. the same taste

(2) A red ball, a green apple and a yellow marble are all different because they have
   a. different colors
   b. different shapes
   c. different owners

(3) In a for-real story,
   a. very strange things never happen
   b. very strange things always happen
   c. very strange things may sometimes happen

(4) In a make-believe story,
   a. very strange things never happen
   b. very strange things always happen
   c. very strange things may sometimes happen

(5) To say somebody *should* do something means that they
   a. probably will do it
   b. probably won't do it
   c. ought to do it

(6) If John is a brother, then John must have
   a. a dog
   b. a brother
   c. a brother and sister
   d. a brother or sister

(7) Every time I imagine, I
   a. hope for something
   b. cry
   c. want something
   d. think about something

(8) The best time to decide something on the basis of a majority vote is when we are trying to find out
   a. how much 32 and 46 is
   b. how old the president is
   c. who should play full-back on the school team
   d. what color football uniforms the team should wear

(9) The best reason for not eating a kind of food is because
   a. it tastes bad
   b. it tastes bad and is bad for your health
   c. it tastes bad but is good for your health
   d. it looks terrible

(10) If Mary has never tasted chicken-fried steak, then Mary
   a. could know nothing about chicken-fried steak
   b. could know nothing about the taste of chicken-fried steak
   c. might know something about the taste of chicken-fried steak

(11) Mary has been to Mexico. Joan has not. This means
   a. that Mary knows more about Mexico than Joan
   b. that Mary travels more than Joan
   c. that Joan never travels
   d. that Mary has travelled at least one time

(12) Mary has been to Mexico. Joan has not. This means
   a. Mary knows something about Mexico
   b. Mary knows nothing about Mexico
   c. Joan knows something about Mexico
   d. Joan knows nothing about Mexico
   e. None of the above

(13) John *could know*
   a. that $2 + 2 = 4$
   b. that $2 + 2 = 5$
   c. that the world is flat
   d. all of the above

(14) If somebody knows something, then she
   a. can always explain what she knows
   b. might be able to explain what she knows
   c. is always very smart
   d. none of the above

(15) To say that John should win the game is to say that
   a. Mary could lose the game
   b. John must win the game
   c. Mary must lose the game
   d. John might win the game

(16) If we say that roundness is the best shape, which shape is best?
   a. b. c. d.

(17) If we say that straightness is best, which is best?
   a. b. c. d.

(18) If we say that the best baseball player is the player who gets the most hits, then we can say that John is the best player because
   a. he has the highest batting average
   b. he has been up to bat more than anybody
   c. he has the most home runs
   d. he has been up to bat more than anyone else and he has the highest batting average

(19) We can make mistakes about almost anything. What is there least chance that you could be wrong about?
   a. whether your team will win the game
   b. whether it will rain or not
   c. whether a sign is red or pink
   d. whether you have a stomach ache or not

(20) Comic books, newspapers and magazines are all alike because
   a. they all cost money
   b. you can read all of them
   c. they all have pictures
   d. none of the above

(21) If this looks like a piece of wood, then
   a. it must float
   b. it must give you splinters
   c. it must be hard
   d. it might be a piece of wood

(22) Mary is crying. This could mean that
   a. Mary is happy
   b. Mary is sad
   c. Mary is tired
   d. All of the above

(23) If John promises something to Mary, then
   a. John must keep his promise
   b. John should try to keep his promise
   c. Mary should pay him back
   d. John should forget about it

(24) If all of my marbles are red, then
   a. if this is my marble, it must be red
   b. if this is my marble, it must not be red
   c. if this is red, it must be my marble

(25) If John says that he is happy this means
   a. that he feels a certain way
   b. that he is not crying
   c. that he is not sad
   d. that he is smiling

(26) Mary is crying. She could be crying because
   a. she fell and hurt herself
   b. elephants don't have wings
   c. there are so many hungry children in the world
   d. all of the above

(27) Mary is laughing. She could be laughing because
   a. her brother told her a funny joke
   b. it is Thursday and she always laughs on Thursday
   c. Mary said something funny
   d. all of the above

(28) In order to win the race, I must train
   a. If I train, I will win the race
   b. If I don't train, I will not win the race
   c. If I don't train, I will win the race

(29) If A is better than B then
   a. A is prettier than B
   b. A is more expensive than B
   c. B is cheaper than A
   d. B is worse than A

(30) When someone wonders about something
   a. he knows it
   b. he thinks about it
   c. he believes it
   d. he wants it

(31) A person could not draw a picture of
   a. an elephant that was flying
   b. a green and white door
   c. a door that was open and not open at the same time
   d. a black swan
   e. all of the above
   f. none of the above

(32) In a make-believe story,
   a. an elephant might not be able to fly
   b. an elephant might be able to fly
   c. an elephant might not want to fly
   d. all of the above
   e. none of the above

(33) If Herman is handsome then he must have
   a. a handsome nose
   b. a handsome mouth
   c. handsome ears
   d. all of the above
   e. none of the above

(34) If Mary has a pretty nose, then she must have
   a. a pretty face
   b. a pretty mouth
   c. pretty ears
   d. all of the above
   e. none of the above