

The background is a collage of four quadrants. Top-left: a stack of papers on a purple background. Top-right: a clock face on a pink background. Bottom-left: a stack of papers on a green background. Bottom-right: a clock face on a yellow background.

Mental State Examination

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General Description

Appearance

- Sex
- Age
- Grooming
- Dress
- Height
- Weight
- Head size
- Stigmata
- Injuries





- Appropriateness of appearance
- General attractiveness
- Physical maturation
- Gender differentiation

Behavior & Psychomotor Activity

- Posture
- Gesture
- Gait
- Activity level
- Coordination
- Muscular tension
- Gross motor activity
- Fine motor activity





- Mannerism
- Habit patterns
- Compulsions
- Rituals
- Abnormal movements
- SIB
- Strength
- Laterality



Attitude

- Waiting room behavior
- Reaction to separation from parent
- Relationship to examiner & its change during interview
- Reunion behavior
- Quality of relatedness

Mood & Affect

- Range
- Intensity
- Expressivity
- Emotional responsiveness





- Modulation
- Lability
- Appropriateness
- Specific moods



Speech & Language

Language

- Receptive
 - Lexical selection
- Expressive
 - Spontaneity
 - Turn taking
 - Topic selection
 - Topic maintenance
- Syntax
- Semantics
- Pragmatics
- Vocabulary





- Content

- Slang

- Aphasia

- Dysphasia

- Agnosia

- Echolalia

- Pallilalia

- Vocal tics

- Coprolalia

- Nonverbal communication



Speech

- Voice quality
- Pitch
- Prosody
- Articulation
- Quantity
- Rate
- Fluency
- Intelligibility



- Pronunciation

- Accent

- Dialect

- Mutism

- Stuttering

- Phonological disorder

Perception

- Reality testing
- Hallucinations
- Illusions





Thought

- Process
- Content



Sensorium & Cognition



■ **Consciousness**

■ **Orientation**

- **Time:** Year, season, month, date, day of week, time of day
 - **Place:** Geography, country, state, city, hospital, floor, address, function
 - **Person:** Name, sex, relation, occupation
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Memory

- **Immediate:** Repeat digits forward & backward, repeat 3 items, find hidden things around the room
- **Recent:** Recall after 1 & 5 minutes, today's food or conversation
- **Recent past:** Recall after 30 minutes, recall over past few months
- **Remote:** Recall over distant past, personal facts & memories

Attention & Concentration

- Ability to focus
- Selectivity
- Sustained attention
- Changing focus
- Distractibility
- Hypervigilance
- Trance
- Serial 7s
- Spell Backward



Reading, Writing, Mathematic



- Letter
- Paragraph
- Word recognition
- Copying
- Sentence
- Number



■ Accuracy

■ Speed

■ Coding

■ Decoding

■ Effort

■ Comprehension

■ Coherence



- Write a sentence containing subject & object
- Read & obey (close your eyes!)
- Follow a three stage command
- Repeat (No ifs, and or buts!)
- Point to pencil & watch & have the patient name them



- Count by 2s & 3s

- Addition

- Subtraction

- Number

- Serial 3s & 7s

- Multiplication

- Division

- Understanding of concepts

- Problem solving

Visuo-Spatial Ability

- Manipulating objects
- Drawing (HTP)
- Copy a design



Abstraction

- Classification & sorting abilities
- Similarities
- Opposites
- Generalization
- Understanding of humor
- Understanding of proverbs



Cognition, Basic Information, Intelligence



- Personal data
- Personal activities
- Family facts
- School facts



- Basic information about the world
- Knowledge
(current, general, historical, specific)
- Geographical facts
- Religious facts



- Ability to find specific words
(Synonyms, antonyms, homonyms)
- Logical sequences
- Cause & effect relationship



- Responsiveness
- Capacity to anticipate the response of others (social awareness)
- Imagination & curiosity

Judgment

- Appreciation & avoidance of dangers
- Awareness of social rules
- Respect for authority





- Understanding of outcomes of actions
- Estimation of benefits vs risks
- Balance of long-term & short-term goals
- Appreciation of behaviors of others

Insight

- Reason for seeing clinician
- Causes & magnitude of problems
- Degree of distress caused by problems





- Suggested solution for problems
- People suggested to help
- Belief that situation can improve
- Understanding of clinician's role in helping



- Awareness of phenomena



- Recognition the abnormality of phenomena



- Does he consider that they are caused by mental illness?



- Does he think he needs treatment?

- Does he follow treatment carefully?



Intrapsychic Organization

Drives

- Unconscious drives
- Aggressive drives
- Sexual drives





Conscience

- Frustration tolerance
- Attitude toward authority
- Awareness of rules
- Ability to follow rules (alone, with others)



- Self-regulation
- Role models
- Moral values
- Religious activities
- Antisocial acts

Defenses & Conflicts

- Behaviors indicating defenses
- Rigid or flexible
- Primitive or mature
- Awareness of defenses





- Evidence for intrapsychic conflicts
- Interference with adaptation
- Duration of conflicts
- Capacity for resolution

Object Relation

■ Quality

■ Rigidity

■ Intensity

■ Awareness

■ Duration

■ Associated
Individual

■ Flexibility



Self-Esteem



- Quality

- Intensity

- Duration

- Flexibility

- Rigidity

- Appropriateness

- Awareness



- Behaviors indicating self-esteem
- Primitive vs mature
- Dissatisfaction with self
- Comparison of self with peers
- Comparison of self with ideal self

Adaptive Capacities

- Problem solving abilities
- Capacity for adjustment
- Interpersonal skills
- Community work





- Humor
- Imagination
- Fortitude
- Empathy
- Mature defenses
- Perseverance
- Prudence
- Skills
- Friendship



Interpersonal Relation

Relationship with:

- Family
 - Authority figure
 - Peers
 - Pets
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- Modes of interaction