

This is a **Sample** version of the
**The Cognitive Failures
Questionnaire (CFQ)**

The **full version** of the The Cognitive Failures Questionnaire (CFQ) comes without 'sample' watermark.

The full complete version includes –

- Overview
- Review results
- Complete 25 item questionnaire/Test
- Observer Questionnaire (Brief CFQ)

Buy full version here -  **for \$7.00**

Once you have paid for your item you will receive a direct link to download your full complete e-book instantly. You will also receive an email with a link to download your e-book. Each purchased product you order is available to download for 24 hours from time of purchase.

The Cognitive Failures Questionnaire (CFQ)

Overview:

The CFQ is a measure of self-reported failures in perception, memory, and motor function. Responses to all questions tend to be positively correlated, and the whole questionnaire correlates with other recent measures of self-reported deficit in memory, absent-mindedness, or slips of action.

The questionnaire is however only weakly correlated with indices of social desirability set or of neuroticism. It is significantly correlated with ratings of the respondent by his or her spouse, and accordingly does have some external significance rather than purely private opinion of the self. The score is reasonably stable over long periods, to about the same extent as traditional measures of trait rather than state. Furthermore, it has not thus far been found to change in persons exposed to life-stresses.

However, it does frequently correlate with the number of current psychiatric symptoms reported by the same person on the MHQ (Middlesex Hospital Questionnaire); and in one study it has been found that CFQ predicts subsequent MHQ in persons who work at a stressful job in the interval. It does not do so in those who work in a less stressful environment. The most plausible view is that cognitive failure makes a person vulnerable to showing bad effects of stress, rather than itself resulting from stress.

Development of the questionnaire

Items

Twenty-five possible failures were assembled from events which had happened to ourselves or acquaintances, the aim being to find episodes which the majority of people would accept as occurring to them at least occasionally. (This goal turned out too optimistic, as will be seen.) The particular events included were also intended to cover each of the three general areas already mentioned. The items chosen, in the wording and with the response format finally adopted, are shown in Appendix 1. It should be noted (see end of paper) that the method of selecting items may well have determined some of the results.

Response format

As can be seen, the respondent is asked to indicate the frequency with which he or she makes such mistakes, the final version being a five-point scale allowing the response of 'never'. Other versions were tried in some of the groups studied; the first used was a six-point scale with specific rates of occurrence attached to the points (once a week, more than once a week, etc.). The advantage of the final version is that since the absolute number of opportunities for error are different for different kinds of event, respondents dislike having to relate them to an absolute scale of time. They tend also to use only four points; but some of them object strongly to having no opportunity to say 'never'. In some of the groups, responses were obtained by trained interviewers who coded the responses into the five-point framework, and the changes in the response categories (as well as the wording finally used for questions) were partly due to the difficulties encountered in these interviews.

Time period

It will also be noted that responses are required with reference specifically to the last six months; again, some respondents were unclear how to reply with earlier versions which had no time period mentioned. The final format also seemed more consistent with the hope that the questionnaire might be sensitive to temporary state rather than underlying traits, and thus useful as an indicator of occupational stresses. In the student nurse groups who responded repeatedly at six-week intervals, responses after the first were given with reference to six weeks rather than months.

Positive/negative wording

All questions are worded in the same direction, rather than adopting the device of wording some questions positively and some negatively to cancel out biases favouring affirmation or denial. A version with reversed wording was tried on a small scale and did not appear to show serious differences in structure or average level of response; in a trial with a mixed wording there was some reason to suspect that respondents were misreading the response scale, and unintentionally answering at the wrong end of the scale.

The proper check against performance being due to affirmation bias is rather to examine the correlation with other measures of that bias. It is notable that current practice is for similar reasons swinging against the use of mixed affirmative and negative questions (Goldberg, 1972)

CFQ scores have been found to correlate with some psychiatric symptoms associated with stress; hence, high scores on the CFQ are considered by some as an indicator of increased vulnerability to stress. The higher the score rate the more unable to handle stress.

The Cognitive Failures Questionnaire

(Broadbent, Cooper, FitzGerald & Parkes, 1982)

The following questions are about minor mistakes which everyone makes from time to time, but some of which happen more often than others. We want to know how often these things have happened to you in the past 6 months. Please circle the appropriate number.

		Very often	Quite often	Occasionally	Very rarely	Never
1.	Do you read something and find you haven't been thinking about it and must read it again?	4	3	2	1	0
2.	Do you find you forget why you went from one part of the house to the other?	4	3	2	1	0
3.	Do you fail to notice signposts on the road?	4	3	2	1	0
4.	Do you find you confuse right and left when giving directions?	4	3	2	1	0
5.	Do you bump into people?	4	3	2	1	0
6.	Do you find you forget whether you've turned off a light or a fire or locked the door?	4	3	2	1	0
7.	Do you fail to listen to people's names when you are meeting them?	4	3	2	1	0
8.	Do you say something and realize afterwards that it might be taken as insulting?	4	3	2	1	0

This the end of the sample version of the CFQ. The full version has complete 25 question test/ Assessment as well as questionnaire (Brief CFQ) for partner.

