

The **Wechsler Individual Achievement Test Second Edition** (WIAT-II; Wechsler, 2005) developed by David Wechsler assesses the academic achievement of children, adolescents, college students and adults, aged 4 through to 85. The test enables the assessment of a broad range of academic skills or only a particular area of need. The Test Format for the WIAT-II is given below

Reading

- Word Reading: assesses pre-reading (phonological awareness) and decoding skills (naming letters, phonological skills [working with sounds in words], reading words from lists).
- Reading Comprehension: assesses types of reading comprehension skills taught in the classroom or used in everyday life (matching words to pictures, reading sentences aloud, orally answering oral questions about reading passages, silent reading speed).
- Pseudoword (phonetic) Decoding: assesses the ability to apply phonetic decoding skills. (Reading nonsense words aloud from a list [phonetic word attack]).

Mathematics

- Numerical Operations: evaluates the ability to identify and write numbers (e.g. counting, and solving paper & pencil computations).
- Mathematical Reasoning: assess the ability to reason mathematically (e.g. counting, identifying shapes, and solving verbally framed "word problems" [presented both orally and either written or in illustration]).

Written Language

- Spelling: evaluates the ability to spell (written spelling of dictated letters, sounds and words that are read in sentences).
- Written Expression: assesses the writing process (writing letters and words as quickly as possible, writing sentences, and writing a paragraph or essay).

Oral Language

- Listening Comprehension: measures the ability to listen for details (multiple-choice matching of pictures to spoken words).
- Oral Expression: assesses general ability to use oral language effectively (repeating sentences, generating lists, describing scenes and pictured activities).

The completion of the subtests for each of the four areas is spread over a period of hours.

Following scoring, analysis and interpretation, the results are presented in a table or grid. An example is included below.

TABLE OF RESULTS FOR THE WIAT – II – AN EXAMPLE

WIAT –II subtest	Standard Score Achieved	Per-centile	Age Equivalent Years & Months
Word Reading	106	66 th	14 years 0 months
Reading Comprehension	100	50 th	10 years 8 months
Pseudoword Decoding	109	73 rd	16 years 0 months
Numerical Operations	78	7 th	9 years 8 months
Mathematical Reasoning	108	70 th	13 years 0 months
Spelling	108	70 th	13 years 8 months
Written Expression	67	1 st	7 years 0 months
Listening Comprehension	110	75 th	13 years 8 months
Oral Expression	79	8 th	7 years 0 months

The findings are discussed in the report, and recommendations for strategies, provision and interventions which are required are also set out.

To discuss an assessment for your child using the WIAT-II (and the WISC-IV), please contact Hilary on 01905 428863, or by email at hilary@drhilarydyer.co.uk

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