

If you read a statement and think it describes you, put a check next to it.

- 1) _____ I sometimes multiply when I mean to add, or vice versa-- or any combination of add, subtract, multiply, divide, or calculate an exponent that wasn't what I intended to do.
- 2) _____ I sometimes copy part of the problem wrong. I see it on the board, then write something else on my paper. Or I'm working on my paper, and I change something when I write it in the next line of work. Or I'm working on my paper, and I leave something out.
- 3) _____ I get really focused on one part of the problem and forget to do another part. (Or one part of an exam, and don't do the rest – maybe leave a page of the exam entirely blank.)
- 4) _____ I understand the rules about signs, but I make a lot of sign errors.
- 5) _____ Some people may have told me that my errors are “careless”, or that I lack “attention to detail” even though I care and I pay attention to details.
- 6) _____ I write really neatly (or I'm careful to show all the steps), so I can find my mistakes.
- 7) _____ Sometimes I have trouble writing down anything at all until I understand the problem.
- 8) _____ Sometimes I understand it better when I write on lined (or graph, or unlined) paper.
- 9) _____ I've sometimes mistaken an exponent for a regular number.
- 10) _____ I need a lot of space to write my work. When I get to use my own paper, I leave a lot of blank space, sometimes using a whole sheet for just one problem.
- 11) _____ I sometimes lose track of what I'm doing and why.
- 12) _____ I rarely finish timed tests, unless everyone else was done a long time ago.
- 13) _____ If they'd only give me more time on everything, I'd do a lot better.
- 14) _____ Sometimes it just takes me longer, but I get it, and I learn it well.
- 15) _____ I've found my own way of doing it that works for me but seems unusual (or really picky) to others.
- 16) _____ I just don't understand it as quickly as others seem to.
- 17) _____ Sometimes I need someone to explain or show every step more than once.
- 18) _____ When I'm learning a harder problem, I may temporarily forget I know something really basic.
- 19) _____ I need to know WHY for everything, or I just don't get it.
- 20) _____ Graphing is often hard for me. Even when I know what I'm doing, I seem to make mistakes.
- 21) _____ Sometimes I find a really unusual, valid way to do a problem. Sometimes it's super-cool and quick, or sometimes it's long and round-about.
- 22) _____ I sometimes ask myself “Why is this so hard for me?” or “How difficult can this be?” or similar.
- 23) _____ After something is explained to me, I wonder “Why didn't I see (or understand) (or get) that?”
- 24) _____ Sometimes word problems make more sense to me than the “basic” problems.
- 25) _____ Sometimes I work a really long time – hours at a stretch-- and my progress seems so slow that I get really frustrated or angry.
- 26) _____ Colored pens (my own or the instructor's) sometimes make the difference between my understanding and my being completely lost.
- 27) _____ Sometimes I have to ask questions about the basics, but when I get the answer to my simple question, I understand everything.

- 28) _____ I ask questions other students think are weird, obvious, or part of some other course (before or after the current one).
- 29) _____ I'm tired of being embarrassed that I'm different in the way that I learn.
- 30) _____ I hide that I learn differently by joking about myself, my mistakes, or about the material. I can become a class clown so that people won't notice.
- 31) _____ I get mad and frustrated because of how I learn.
- 32) _____ I try to act like I don't care because I don't know what else to do.
- 33) _____ I've considered dropping out of college (or dropped out of high school) because I think I just don't understand enough of the material.
- 34) _____ When I'm feeling good, I know that I'm smart. But after a while, I start to doubt it.
- 35) _____ My grades don't seem to reflect how much I know (or how smart I am).
- 36) _____ Sometimes it seems easier to listen to what's happening outside the room (or across the room, or next to me) than to listen to the professor. I get distracted more easily than other people seem to.
- 37) _____ I depend on patterns and get confused when a problem does not exactly match the pattern I am expecting.
- 38) _____ I depend on patterns and will sometimes make mistakes by assuming a problem matches a pattern when it actually doesn't match that pattern at all.
- 39) _____ I cannot visualize it in my head. I have to have it written down or drawn.
- 40) _____ When I look at the question, I don't always see what everyone else seems to see.
- 41) _____ I understand the questions better if I read them aloud or whisper them to myself.
- 42) _____ I understand the questions better if someone else reads them aloud and I listen, or I listen while reading along.
- 43) _____ I forget deadlines and often don't have materials I need or tasks completed, even though I use a date book (or other organizer) and I really am trying to do everything on time.
- 44) _____ People tell me I'm disorganized, but I'm doing the best I can.
- 45) _____ I know I'm dyslexic (mix up letter or word order, change shape of letters, see letters differently).
- 46) _____ I have trouble learning a foreign language, too.

Some of the statements above are true for everyone. Most of the statements come from students who have learning disabilities. A person with a learning disability must have high intelligence, but has lower academic success than expected for the effort made. If you checked many of these, you may have a learning disability.

If you would like to be tested to learn your learning strengths and weaknesses, you can enroll in a brief class under Personal Development. It involves several appointments with a testing specialist, to complete the tests and discuss the results. It is completely confidential.

If your test results show a learning disability, you will receive recommendations of strategies you can use and accommodations that will be provided to you so that you will be more successful and less frustrated. Again, this is completely confidential.

For more information about learning disabilities or testing, call Disability Support Services at 421-6700 x6512 and ask to speak to a Learning Disabilities Specialist.