

Writing materials for psychological questionnaires

Question	PANAS	AISS	BFI-10
1. What is the full scale called? (full name followed by abbreviation)	The Positive And Negative Affect Schedule	Arnett's Inventory of Sensation Seeking	The Big Five Inventory – 10 items
2. Who is the author of the exact scale you are using? (cited correctly in APA style!)	Watson et al. (1988)	Arnett (1994)	Rammstedt and John (2007)
3. What are you measuring / what does the scale measure?	Levels of positive affect and negative affect	Participants level of sensation seeking. Can be split into novelty seeking and intensity seeking.	There are five sub-scales relative to the five main classes of personality; extraversion, neuroticism, agreeableness, openness to experience, and conscientiousness.
4. Are you using the whole scale of some of the sub-scales? If so, which ones and why only these?	The scale is split in to two mutually exclusive sub-scales; positive affect and negative affect.	The scale can be used as a whole in an assessment of general sensation seeking, or can be assessed as per the two sub-scales; novelty seeking and intensity seeking.	Each of the five sub-scales are used to provide an assessment of participant's level of that particular personality trait.
5. How many items are there in the scale (or subscale)?	Ten items per sub-scale. Twenty items in total.	Twenty items in total. Ten items per sub-scale	Ten items in total. Two items per sub-scale

6. Give an example of 1 or 2 items	“Irritable” “Interested”	“When I listen to music, I like it to be loud” (Intensity) “I think it’s better to order something familiar when eating in a restaurant” (Novelty)	“I am someone who is talkative” “I am someone who does a thorough job” <i>If using the WHOLE scale, include a couple of items from the whole scale – if only using certain sub-scales then you can go into detail about these further.</i>
7. Are there any negatively worded items that require reverse scoring before analysis? How many exactly?	There are no negatively worded items in this scale.	There are six negatively worded items that require reverse scoring.	There are five negatively worded items; one per personality trait.
8. What is the scoring mechanism? (how many possible responses are there? And how are they anchored?)	Participants are asked to respond to each item according to how they feel either right now or over the past week. Responses provided on a 5-point Likert scale; 1 = Very slightly or not at all, 2 = a little, 3 = moderately, 4 = quite a bit, and 5 = extremely.	4-point Likert scale, anchored between 4 = describes me very well and 1 = does not describe me at all.	5-point Likert scale, anchored between strongly disagree and strongly agree
9. What are the possible ranges of scores (possible lowest to possible highest)?	Both PA and NA sub scale range between ten and 50.	Range of potential scores for each individual sub-scale is between ten and 40, and for overall sensation seeking is between 20 and 80.	Range of potential scores is between two and ten per personality trait.

10. What do lower and/or higher scores indicate?	Higher scores on the positive affect scale indicate greater subjective experience of positive mood Lower scores on the negative affect scale indicate low levels of negative emotion or mood	Higher scores are indicative of higher levels of sensation seeking.	Simply higher reported levels of the personality trait <i>(personality measures rely on comparison to norms, so difficult to make specific judgements here on 'what' it is that can be concluded from higher/lower scores)</i>
11. What is the reliability of the scale? (report your calculated reliability and include information on previous reliability)			