

ANNEXURE-2

WORK AND FATIGUE IN SEMI-SIMPLICIT ACTIVITY

PROBLEM: To measure continuous thinking work and its change, especially changes by fatigue.

MATERIALS: Tables of numbers in vertical column for cumulative adding

PROCEDURE: Subject (S) is to be comfortably seated in a quiet room. Experimenter (E) is to pronounce aloud a number. S is immediately asked to add 2 to this number aloud, then asked to add 3 to this new number aloud, then 4 to that, then 5 and then again 2,3,4,5, etc., in rotation. For instance, if the number given were 9, the consecutive sums would be: 11, 14, 18, 23, 28, 32, 37, 39, etc. Every thirty seconds E is to announce a new number with which S is to start at once a new number keep adding through out at your maximum speed.

Taking first some column of numbers, E should offer S a trial by speaking aloud the number at the top, and should check his accuracy in the adding by following down the column. If a mistake is made call out the correct number and at the same time make a dot opposite it on the page.

For the formal experiments, E uses the columns in their order from left to right. The numbers to be announced every thirty seconds to S are the ones at the top of the columns. As S adds aloud, E follows down each column and corrects and marks errors. At the end of each thirty seconds he draws a line under the last number given by S to indicate how many numbers were added and at the same time announces aloud the new number of the next column.

One person as S is to work constantly in one single bodily position until he has been taken over twenty columns three times – a total of 30 minutes of adding time. He should be seated looking at a point on the wall and through out his work he should not vary his bodily posture, but keep the same sitting position, both feet flat on the floor, head and arms in the same pose, etc. This is important. (Dashell, 1931; Watson; Robinson; Pillsbury; Gates)