

CAPTION

A Taxonomy of Psychological Situation Characteristics — Measure Items & Instructions

Source: Parrigon, S., Woo, S. E., Tay, L., & Wang, T. (2017). CAPTION-ing the situation: A lexically derived taxonomy of psychological situation characteristics. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 112(4), 642–681.
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Instructions

Think about the situation you wish to describe. Rate **how well each of the following words describes that situation**, using the scale below.

Response scale (1–5): 1 = Does not describe the situation at all • 2 = Describes slightly • 3 = Describes moderately • 4 = Describes well • 5 = Describes the situation extremely well.

The full CAPTION measure comprises 70 items (10 per dimension). Items marked with an asterisk (*) form the 28-item CAPTION Short Form (CAPTIONs-SF; 4 items per dimension).

The Seven Dimensions & Items

Complexity	analytical*, academic*, scholarly*, instructional*, complex, technical, intricate, intellectual, scientific, educational
Adversity	stressful*, fatiguing*, frustrating*, tiresome*, exhausting, tiring, difficult, strenuous, grueling, hectic
Positive Valence	heartwarming*, cherished*, precious*, sentimental*, loving, affectionate, joyful, special, heavenly, magnificent
Typicality	typical*, regular*, standard*, usual*, predictable, common, average, normal, ordinary, uneventful
Importance	effective*, useful*, productive*, helpful*, crucial, important, valuable, vital, beneficial, functional
Humor	wacky*, mischievous*, goofy*, childish*, funny, silly, nutty, crazy, juvenile, immature
Negative Valence	repulsive*, despicable*, malicious*, grotesque*, vile, inhumane, sinister, creepy, sleazy, cruel

* Item included in the 28-item CAPTION Short Form (CAPTIONs-SF).

Provided by the Well-Being, AI, and Measurement Lab (WAM Lab), Purdue University — www.wam-lab.com