

Topic- Types of Projective Test

There are a number of different types of projective tests. Here are a few of the best-known examples:

The Rorschach Inkblot Test:

This test was one of the first projective tests developed and continues to be one of the best-known and most widely used. Developed by Swiss psychiatrist Hermann Rorschach in 1921, the test consists of 10 different cards that depict an ambiguous inkblot.³ You're shown one card at a time and asked to describe what you see in the image. The responses are recorded verbatim by the tester. Gestures, the tone of voice, and other reactions are also noted. The results of the test can vary depending on which of the many existing scoring systems the examiner uses.

The Thematic Apperception Test (TAT): In the TAT test, you're asked to look at a series of ambiguous scenes and then to tell a story describing the scene, including what is happening, how the characters are feeling, and how the story will end. The examiner then scores the test based on the needs, motivations, and anxieties of the main character, as well as how the story eventually turns out.

The Draw-A-Person Test: This type of projective test involves exactly what you might imagine: you draw a person and the image you created is then assessed by the examiner. The test interpreter might look at factors such as the size of particular parts of the body or features, the level of detail given to the figure, as well as the overall shape of the drawing. Like other projective tests, the Draw-A-Person test has been criticized for its lack of validity. While a test interpreter might suggest that certain aspects of the drawing are indicative of particular psychological tendencies, many might argue that it simply means that the subject has poor drawing skills. The test has been used as a measure of intelligence in children, but research comparing scores on the Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence to the Draw-A-Person test found a very low correlation between the two scores.

Weaknesses

Projective tests are most frequently used in therapeutic settings. In many cases, therapists use these tests to learn qualitative information about you.

Some therapists may use projective tests as a sort of icebreaker to encourage you to discuss issues or examine your thoughts and emotions.

While projective tests have some benefits, they also have a number of weaknesses and limitations, including:

The respondent's answers can be heavily influenced by the examiner's attitudes or the test setting.

Scoring projective tests is highly subjective, so interpretations of answers can vary dramatically from one examiner to the next.

Projective tests that do not have standard grading scales tend to lack both validity and reliability. Validity refers to whether or not a test is measuring what it purports to measure, while reliability refers to the consistency of the test results.