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ABSTRACT

High school students' knowledge of alcohol and its use is measured by a test composed of 76 five option multiple choice items. Areas covered include definition of terms, physical effects, psychological effects, the disease concept of alcoholism, treatment and prevention, socio-economic factors, and safety factors. Mean scores by age and sex for a sample of 300 students are reported, along with split-half reliabilities. The test may be used without consulting the author. (DG)

ED053220

SMITH ALCOHOL KNOWLEDGE TEST

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION
& WELFARE

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TM 000 271

ALCOHOL KNOWLEDGE TEST

General Instructions

DO NOT MARK ON THE TEST PAPER

Write your name and date on the top of your answer sheet in the space provided. In the space labeled "Sex" write in the number which describes you:

Sophomore Boy	--11	Sophomore Girl	--12
Junior Boy	--21	Junior Girl	--22
Senior Boy	--31	Senior Girl	--32

Example:

Sex 21 This means the student is a junior and is a male.
M or F

This is a test of your knowledge of alcohol and its use. For each question there are five possible answers. Read each question and its possible answers carefully. When you have decided which one is the best answer, blacken the corresponding space on the answer sheet. Make your mark as long as the pair of lines, and completely fill the area between the pair of lines. Please, make no stray marks on the answer sheet.

Below is an example of the type question you will find in the test. Study it carefully so you will know how to mark your answer.

Example:

There are several kinds of alcohol, but the one found in alcoholic beverage is

- 1 Methyl Alcohol.
- X 2 Ethyl Alcohol.
- 3 Anyl Alcohol.
- 4 Wood Alcohol.
- 5 Denatured Alcohol.

The correct answer is "ethyl alcohol", which is answer number 2. The space opposite number 2 on your answer sheet is then marked according to the above instructions.

1::: 2~~:::~~ 3::: 4::: 5:::

ALCOHOL KNOWLEDGE TEST

1. According to some authorities, the proportion of young people in the United States who will become alcoholics is one out of
 - 1 - Fifteen.
 - 2 - Eighteen.
 - 3 - Twenty.
 - 4 - Twenty-five.
 - 5 - Thirty.
2. In some countries, alcoholic beverages have been used for centuries as a part of the diet. Of the following, in which country has this custom been most prevalent?
 - 1 - England.
 - 2 - Norway.
 - 3 - Italy.
 - 4 - Denmark.
 - 5 - Canada.
3. What percentage of alcohol in the blood is accepted by most states before a person can be legally declared to be under the influence of alcohol?
 - 1 - 0.15 per cent.
 - 2 - 0.12 per cent.
 - 3 - 0.10 per cent.
 - 4 - 0.08 per cent.
 - 5 - 0.05 per cent.
4. The most immediate effects of alcohol are those on the
 - 1 - Liver.
 - 2 - Heart.
 - 3 - Brain.
 - 4 - Digestive tract.
 - 5 - Muscles.
5. The occasional drinker is defined as one who drinks only
 - 1 - To celebrate special occasions.
 - 2 - For social reasons.
 - 3 - When unhappy.
 - 4 - At parties.
 - 5 - For custom, traditions, or reduction of discomfort.
6. Which of the following is affected first when people drink alcoholic beverages?
 - 1 - Disturbed reaction time and coordination.
 - 2 - Disturbed vision and speech.
 - 3 - Disturbed judgment and removed inhibitions.
 - 4 - Disturbed balance and coordination.
 - 5 - Disturbed walking and standing.
7. Individuals who have accidents while driving when drunk have
 - 1 - Only erred in judgment.
 - 2 - Committed a criminal act according to law.
 - 3 - Not committed a criminal act according to law.
 - 4 - Committed a grossly irresponsible act which is not punishable by law.
 - 5 - Only erred against society.
8. Scientific studies have not shown that alcohol taken frequently and in excessive amounts over a long period of time contributes to the development of
 - 1 - Delirium tremors.
 - 2 - Ulcers.
 - 3 - Cirrhosis of the liver.
 - 4 - Depression.
 - 5 - Pneumonia.
9. Life insurance companies consider alcoholics bad risks because they
 - 1 - Lack respect for others.
 - 2 - Often do not keep up their payments.
 - 3 - Lack family responsibility.
 - 4 - Won't carry big policies.
 - 5 - Have a shorter life span.

10. Alcohol taken in small amounts often creates a false sense of well-being. This would
- 1 - Increase one's chances of having an accident.
 - 2 - Decrease one's chances of having an accident.
 - 3 - Have no effect on one's driving.
 - 4 - Improve one's driving efficiency.
 - 5 - Encourage carefulness.
11. Taking a drink of water the morning after the night before when considerable beer has been drunk, will produce intoxication.
- 1 - Never,
 - 2 - Always.
 - 3 - Sometimes,
 - 4 - Rarely.
 - 5 - Frequently.
12. Alcohol used in moderation over a number of years will cause
- 1 - Permanent damage to the nerve tissue.
 - 2 - No damage to the nerve tissue.
 - 3 - Temporary paralysis of the nerve tissue.
 - 4 - Acute inflammation of the nerve tissue.
 - 5 - Irritation of nerve tissue.
13. Alcohol is not medically useful for
- 1 - Anxiety.
 - 2 - An internal medicine.
 - 3 - Nervousness.
 - 4 - High blood pressure.
 - 5 - Fatigue.
14. For the average individual weighing 150 pounds, 3 ounces of pure alcohol taken within a one-hour period will
- 1 - Not affect driving ability.
 - 2 - Make one a more cautious driver.
 - 3 - Render an individual unfit to drive.
 - 4 - Increase one's driving skills.
 - 5 - Make the driver more alert.
15. For the average person, one ounce of alcohol taken on an empty stomach will
- 1 - Interfere with reflexes and with coordination.
 - 2 - Not affect muscle coordination.
 - 3 - Increase muscle coordination.
 - 4 - Make one more alert.
 - 5 - Slow heart action.
16. Loss of judgment and loss of the ability for self-criticism usually occur before there are obvious symptoms of
- 1 - Intoxication.
 - 2 - Delirium tremors.
 - 3 - Loss of physical control.
 - 4 - Blurred vision.
 - 5 - Dizziness.
17. The causes of alcoholism are
- 1 - Physical, psychological, and social.
 - 2 - Heredity and poor environment.
 - 3 - Nutritional deficiencies.
 - 4 - Economic depression and poor health.
 - 5 - Poor social environments.
18. Alcoholic beverages taken in cold weather will
- 1 - Increase the body temperature.
 - 2 - Lower the body temperature.
 - 3 - Keep a person from freezing.
 - 4 - Increase the body's resistance to cold.
 - 5 - Constrict the blood vessels.

19. The greatest single danger to young people from drinking is

- 1 - Alcoholism.
- 2 - Automobile accidents.
- 3 - Personal and social consequences of intoxication.
- 4 - Brain damage.
- 5 - Social disapproval.

20. Prohibition was ill-received by the American people because of

- 1 - Economic reasons.
- 2 - Customs and social reasons.
- 3 - Lack of public interest.
- 4 - Lack of enforcement officials.
- 5 - Lack of publicity.

21. Intoxication is caused by the effect of alcohol on the

- 1 - Brain.
- 2 - Lungs.
- 3 - Liver.
- 4 - Kidneys.
- 5 - Muscles.

22. Which one of the following statements about alcoholism is false?

- 1 - It is a curable illness.
- 2 - It is a treatable illness.
- 3 - It is a health problem.
- 4 - It is due to moral degeneracy.
- 5 - It is a social problem.

23. Which of the following procedures would be the best in treating an injured person who was suffering from shock?

- 1 - Give the patient a large shot of whiskey.
 - 2 - Wrap the patient in a warm blanket and give him a glass of brandy.
 - 3 - Do not give patient any alcoholic beverages in any form and send for medical help.
 - 4 - Send for medical aid; then give patient a big drink of whiskey.
- (cont. to top of page)

5. Elevate feet, loosen clothes and give patient a glass of brandy.

24. Alcohol is useful for

- 1 - Frostbite.
- 2 - Shock.
- 3 - Nose bleeds.
- 4 - Snake bites.
- 5 - Industrial purposes.

25. One of the best arguments for drinking is that it

- 1 - Aids digestion.
- 2 - Makes one sleep.
- 3 - Helps a person to relax.
- 4 - Is good for one's health.
- 5 - Increases efficiency.

26. Of the following, which home condition has been shown to be related to incidence of alcoholism in the later life of the children?

- 1 - Wealth.
- 2 - Poor health status of family.
- 3 - Poverty.
- 4 - Parents of low intelligence.
- 5 - Family discord and divorce.

27. Alcohol is a chemical which acts on the central nervous system to

- 1 - Depress its functions.
- 2 - Increase its functions.
- 3 - Cause nerve irritation.
- 4 - Poison the central nervous system.
- 5 - Cause muscle spasms.

28. The same amount of alcohol affects

- 1 - Everybody in the same way.
- 2 - Larger persons more than smaller ones.
- 3 - Smaller persons more than larger ones.
- 4 - Adults more than teenagers.
- 5 - Teenagers more than adults.

29. Children who become alcoholics are more apt to come from homes where the parents are
- 1 - Non-drinkers.
 - 2 - Moderate drinkers.
 - 3 - Occasional drinkers.
 - 4 - Alcoholics.
 - 5 - Heavy drinkers.
30. Of the following effects of the use of alcohol, which one is the most directly due to the lowering of the normal inhibitions of the drinker?
- 1 - Crime.
 - 2 - Family problems.
 - 3 - Poverty.
 - 4 - Sexual promiscuity.
 - 5 - Personality problems.
31. There are several kinds of alcohol, but the one found in alcoholic beverage is
- 1 - Methyl alcohol.
 - 2 - Ethyl alcohol.
 - 3 - Amyl alcohol.
 - 4 - Wood alcohol.
 - 5 - Denatured alcohol.
32. In the United States, the most commonly used alcoholic beverages are
- 1 - The brewed ones--beer and ale.
 - 2 - Brandy, gin and ale.
 - 3 - Whiskey, gin and vodka.
 - 4 - Wine and brandy.
 - 5 - Whiskey and wine.
33. The use of alcoholic beverages by young people
- 1 - Make boys more manly.
 - 2 - Make them better dancers.
 - 3 - Make girls more popular.
 - 4 - Contribute nothing to social living.
 - 5 - Cure feelings of inferiority.
34. An organization to help alcoholics rehabilitate themselves is
- 1 - Council on Alcoholism.
 - 2 - Council of Churches.
 - 3 - Al-Anon.
 - 4 - Alcoholics Anonymous.
 - 5 - Alateen.
35. Which one of the following statements regarding the treatment of frostbite is recommended?
- 1 - Give the victim whiskey.
 - 2 - Treat victim by rubbing the area with alcohol.
 - 3 - Place victim in hot water and give him a drink of whiskey.
 - 4 - Alcohol neither helps nor harms the victim.
 - 5 - Alcohol can be more dangerous than helpful to the victim.
36. The early detection, treatment and rehabilitation of alcoholics are
- 1 - Hardly worth the effort; they all go back to the bottle.
 - 2 - Economically sound for the average community.
 - 3 - Too costly in comparison to the good it would do.
 - 4 - Too costly for the average community.
 - 5 - An impossible task.
37. In the United States 70% of the cost of maintaining jails goes for taking care of persons arrested for drunkenness. This cost is estimated to be approximately
- 1 - Five million dollars.
 - 2 - Ten million dollars.
 - 3 - Twenty-five million dollars.
 - 4 - Twenty-seven million dollars.
 - 5 - Thirty million dollars.

38. Aspirin taken with Coca-Cola will
- 1 - Produce intoxication similar to alcohol intoxication.
 - 2 - Not produce any type of intoxication.
 - 3 - Act as a depressant.
 - 4 - Have no affect.
 - 5 - Make one less mentally alert.
39. One of society's best tools for the control of alcoholism is
- 1 - Education.
 - 2 - Prohibition.
 - 3 - Law enforcement.
 - 4 - Treatment.
 - 5 - Rehabilitation.
40. Recent studies of 8,000 high school students' drinking habits and attitudes indicate that their drinking patterns are closely related to the
- 1 - Drinking practices of their companions.
 - 2 - Drinking practices of their parents.
 - 3 - Drinking practices of the society in which they live.
 - 4 - Attitudes of the community to drinking.
 - 5 - Parents' social and economic status.
41. In the United States authorities generally claim that alcoholism is the
- 1 - Second major health problem.
 - 2 - Third major health problem.
 - 3 - Fourth major health problem.
 - 4 - Fifth major health problem.
 - 5 - Sixth major health problem.
42. In the United States, the two chief causes of arrest by law enforcement agencies are
- 1 - Assault and intoxication.
 - 2 - Robbery and intoxication.
 - 3 - Traffic violations and intoxication.
 - 4 - Car theft and intoxication.
 - 5 - Gambling and intoxication.
43. The chief characteristic of an alcoholic is his
- 1 - Lack of responsibility.
 - 2 - Lack of ambition.
 - 3 - Inability to get along with people.
 - 4 - Uncontrollable drinking.
 - 5 - Lack of education.
44. According to the figures released by the F.B.I., what per cent of all the crimes committed in the United States are associated with alcohol?
- 1 - Ten per cent.
 - 2 - Twenty-five per cent.
 - 3 - Thirty-three per cent.
 - 4 - Fifty per cent.
 - 5 - Seventy-five per cent.
45. Alcoholics are
- 1 - Public nuisances.
 - 2 - Worthless drunks.
 - 3 - People who need help.
 - 4 - Public enemies.
 - 5 - Drunken bums.
46. What is meant by intoxication?
- 1 - Alcohol has had a severely depressing effect on the nervous system.
 - 2 - The individual is highly stimulated.
 - 3 - The individual is physically aggressive toward others.
 - 4 - The body has been poisoned.
 - 5 - The individual has lost self-control.

47. Individuals vary in tolerance of alcohol depending on their
- 1 - Age and size.
 - 2 - Drinking habits and personality.
 - 3 - Age and personality.
 - 4 - Size and drinking habits.
 - 5 - Attitudes and health.
48. The first major step in alcohol metabolism occurs in the
- 1 - Stomach.
 - 2 - Body tissue.
 - 3 - Liver.
 - 4 - Large intestine.
 - 5 - Small intestine.
49. Chronic alcoholics have
- 1 - Fewer emotional problems.
 - 2 - Fewer delirium tremors.
 - 3 - Greater susceptibility to infections.
 - 4 - Better diets.
 - 5 - Longer lives.
50. Medication prescribed by a medical doctor is most useful in the rehabilitation of the alcoholic during
- 1 - The acute stages of his treatment.
 - 2 - The intervals of sobriety.
 - 3 - The hangover.
 - 4 - The blackout.
 - 5 - The period of dehydration.
51. The ailments most frequently found in chronic alcoholics are
- 1 - Heart and kidney ailments.
 - 2 - Liver and heart ailments.
 - 3 - Nutritional ailments.
 - 4 - Liver and kidney ailments.
 - 5 - High blood pressure and ulcers.
52. When promiscuous behavior results from excessive drinking of alcoholic beverage, it is because of the alcohol's
- 1 - Relaxing effect.
 - 2 - Depressant effect on the central nervous system.
 - 3 - Stimulating effect on the central nervous system.
 - 4 - Having reduced one's ability to think.
 - 5 - Having made one feel gay and happy.
53. In controlling compulsive drinking, one must first recognize it as a problem
- 1 - That he cannot solve alone.
 - 2 - For which he must have help.
 - 3 - For which he must join Alcoholics Anonymous.
 - 4 - That is not his fault.
 - 5 - That is due to his environment.
54. Of the following, which statement is correct?
- 1 - Some people can be certain before they start drinking that they will not become alcoholics.
 - 2 - Anyone who drinks over a long period of time will become an alcoholic.
 - 3 - A driver can take "one for the road" safely.
 - 4 - The only known cure for an alcoholic is for him to give up drinking.
 - 5 - Alcoholics can drink socially after they are cured.
55. The rate at which alcohol is oxidized in the body is
- 1 - Retarded by sleep.
 - 2 - Increased by exercise.
 - 3 - Decreased by exercise.
 - 4 - An unchanging rate.
 - 5 - Increased by drinking coffee.

56. The process of fermentation of grain and fruits for producing alcohol was discovered by
- 1 - Primitive man.
 - 2 - The Egyptians.
 - 3 - The Babylonians.
 - 4 - The Romans.
 - 5 - The Hebrews.
57. A person's life is in danger if the amount or per cent of alcohol in his blood reaches a concentration of
- 1 - 0.10 per cent.
 - 2 - 0.20 per cent.
 - 3 - 0.30 per cent.
 - 4 - 0.50 per cent.
 - 5 - 0.60 per cent.
58. Which of the following has the greatest influence upon the rate of alcohol absorption in the body?
- 1 - Concentration of alcohol in the drink.
 - 2 - Dilution of the drink and stomach content.
 - 3 - Dilution of drink.
 - 4 - How fast it was drunk.
 - 5 - Certain mixes in which alcohol was drunk.
59. Over 90% of the alcohol taken into the body is disposed of through
- 1 - The urine.
 - 2 - The digestive tract.
 - 3 - Oxidation.
 - 4 - The lungs.
 - 5 - Muscular activities.
60. Studies on alcohol have reaffirmed the conclusion that ethyl alcohol is
- 1 - A depressant.
 - 2 - A stimulant.
 - 3 - An inhibitor.
 - 4 - A toxin.
 - 5 - A food.
61. Research studies confirm that for highly skilled work the use of alcohol
- 1 - Increases total efficiency.
 - 2 - Decreases total efficiency.
 - 3 - Has no affect on work.
 - 4 - Follows no general pattern.
 - 5 - Only affects coordination.
62. The energy produced in the body by oxidation or burning of alcohol is
- 1 - Used up in muscular activity.
 - 2 - Stored in the body.
 - 3 - Used to stimulate circulation.
 - 4 - Used to stimulate the mental processes.
 - 5 - Used to stimulate the central nervous system.
63. In the United States, it is estimated that there are approximately
- 1 - Five million alcoholics.
 - 2 - Three million alcoholics.
 - 3 - Six million alcoholics.
 - 4 - Six and one-half million alcoholics.
 - 5 - Four million alcoholics.
64. Which one of the following statements best describes alcoholism according to physicians?
- 1 - It is a mental disorder.
 - 2 - It is a physical disorder.
 - 3 - It is a physical and mental illness.
 - 4 - It is a criminal problem.
 - 5 - It is a temporary problem.
65. The quickest way to sober up a drunk is to
- 1 - Give him black coffee.
 - 2 - Give him hot tea.
 - 3 - Put him in a cold shower.
 - 4 - Put him in a hot shower.
 - 5 - Stop his drinking of alcohol.

66. One of the most effective ways to cut down on automobile accidents due to drinking is believed to be
- 1 - Heavier fines.
 - 2 - Education.
 - 3 - Jail sentences.
 - 4 - Suspended licenses.
 - 5 - Larger police force.
67. The scientific devices used by the police in some states to determine the amount of alcohol in the body are
- 1 - Walking a straight line.
 - 2 - Breath and blood tests.
 - 3 - Speech tests.
 - 4 - Muscle coordination tests.
 - 5 - Vision and blood tests.
68. Extreme thirst following excessive drinking occurs because
- 1 - Alcohol dries out the body tissues.
 - 2 - Of the loss of body fluids through excessive urination.
 - 3 - Of the loss of body fluids through excessive perspiration.
 - 4 - Of the loss of salt from the body.
 - 5 - Alcohol changes the water balance of the body cells.
69. A moderate drinker may be described as one who drinks
- 1 - On week-ends.
 - 2 - Only on or during special occasions.
 - 3 - But does not seek intoxication.
 - 4 - Just to relieve tension.
 - 5 - To be sociable.
70. According to the National Safety Council, the largest percentage of all the arrests in the nation is for
- 1 - Drunkenness.
 - 2 - Theft.
 - 3 - Speeding.
 - 4 - Gambling.
 - 5 - Robbery.
71. The alcometer is a scientific device used for measuring the concentration of alcohol in
- 1 - Different types of beverages.
 - 2 - Drugs produced in laboratories.
 - 3 - Solutions used for industry.
 - 4 - The human body.
 - 5 - Solutions used in cars.
72. The prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of alcoholics is the responsibility of the
- 1 - Medical profession.
 - 2 - Church.
 - 3 - Law and legal profession.
 - 4 - Community.
 - 5 - Family.
73. Alcoholic beverages are classified according to
- 1 - Type--beer, whiskey, etc.
 - 2 - Method of production.
 - 3 - Alcohol content.
 - 4 - Method of production and alcohol content.
 - 5 - Type and alcohol content.

74. Excessive drinking and alcoholism are undoubtedly related to
- 1 - Theft and gambling.
 - 2 - Family problems, crime and automobile accidents.
 - 3 - Juvenile delinquency and automobile accidents.
 - 4 - Gambling and crime.
 - 5 - Family problems and crime.
75. Competent authorities state that a person is intoxicated when the alcohol in the blood reaches a level of
- 1 - 0.05 per cent.
 - 2 - 0.08 per cent.
 - 3 - 0.10 per cent.
 - 4 - 0.15 per cent.
 - 5 - 0.20 per cent.
76. The facts about alcohol, separated from opinions and old wives' tales, would help young people in
- 1 - Deciding to drink only on rare occasions.
 - 2 - Making an intelligent decision about drinking alcoholic beverages.
 - 3 - Being more deceptive with their drinking alcoholic beverages.
 - 4 - Minimizing the hazards of drinking.
 - 5 - Their being relieved of any concern about alcoholism.

KEY FOR ALCOHOL KNOWLEDGE TEST

Number of Test Items	Correct Answer	Number of Test Item	Correct Answer
1	4	36	2
2	3	37	4
3	1	38	2
4	3	39	1
5	5	40	2
6	3	41	3
7	2	42	3
8	2	43	4
9	5	44	3
10	1	45	3
11	1	46	1
12	2	47	4
13	2	48	3
14	3	49	3
15	1	50	1
16	1	51	3
17	1	52	2
18	2	53	1
19	3	54	4
20	2	55	4
21	1	56	1
22	4	57	5
23	3	58	2
24	5	59	3
25	3	60	1
26	5	61	2
27	1	62	1
28	3	63	1
29	4	64	3
30	4	65	5
31	2	66	2
32	1	67	2
33	4	68	5
34	4	69	3
35	5	70	1

KEY FOR ALCOHOL KNOWLEDGE TEST--CONTINUED

Number of Test Items	Correct Answer	Number of Test Items	Correct Answer
71	4	74	2
72	4	75	4
73	4	76	2