

**Aptitude Tests**  
**Parents' Brochure**

# *The* **Cambridge** **Profile**



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# The Cambridge Profile Aptitude Tests

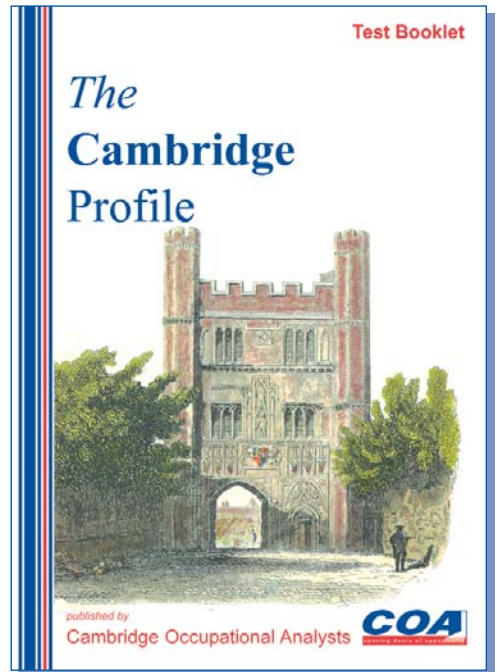
## Introduction

Aptitude tests are increasingly used by both employers and careers advisers. They provide valuable insight into a person's potential and likely performance in a career.

The tests comprise:-

- Verbal Reasoning
- Numerical Reasoning
- Abstract Reasoning
- Spatial Reasoning (2D and 3D)
- Arithmetic Calculation
- Spelling
- Working Quickly & Accurately

The results are statistically based and show how a young person compares with others of the same age group.



## Important Outcomes

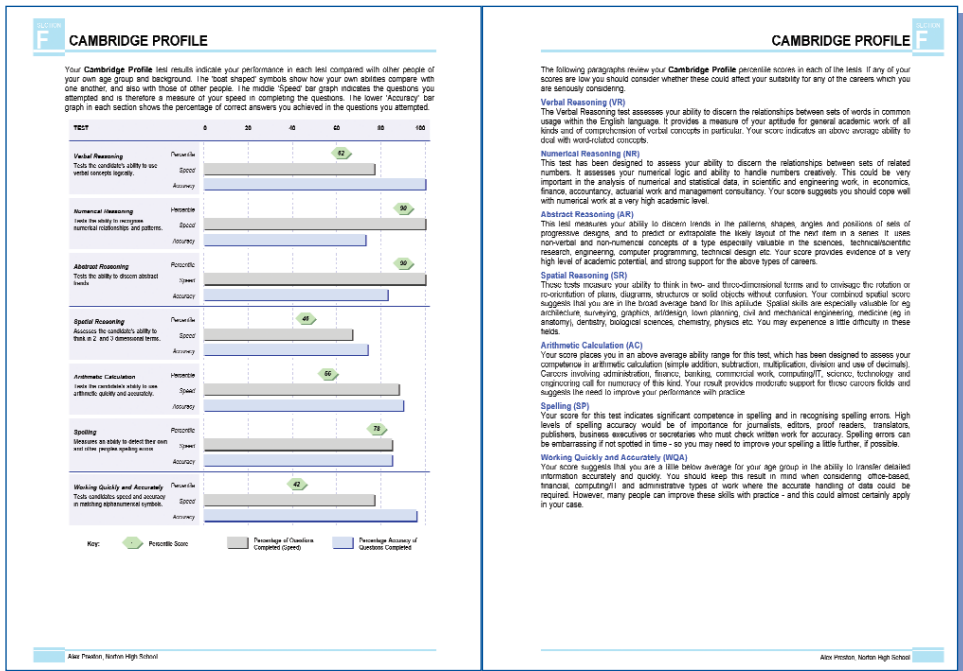
The results are analysed and a review of them is included in the Careers Report. It emphasises the meaning and relevance of each aptitude score, and its significance to appropriate careers fields. Each test result is shown in a triple bar graph form to reveal the percentile, speed and accuracy.

This information is valuable in several ways:

- The Verbal, Numerical and Abstract Reasoning scores provide an independent assessment of academic potential, which can supplement the school's estimates of future A level or equivalent performance.
- The pupil becomes aware of his or her stronger aptitudes and of those occupations where these could prove valuable. They often discover outstanding personal strengths which can give them greater confidence in their academic work and career planning.
- 'Warning notes' can be sounded when important scores are low and problems may arise in relevant future occupations.

## Some Examples

For potential Architects, Civil Engineers or Surveyors, spatial reasoning results should be taken into account. (These measure performance in 2D and 3D thinking, and the ability to envisage geometrical shapes and layouts.) A high score would provide strong support, provided other abilities are adequate, for such careers. Of ten the young person may be unaware that he or she has a strong aptitude of this sort and could be greatly encouraged by the result. In contrast, a low score could sound a 'warning note' for those contemplating such spatially dependent careers.



Similarly, performing well in Working Quickly and Accurately, which measures clerical efficiency, would receive confirmation for careers involving detailed clerical or administrative work, whereas a low score might warn of possible future difficulties in handling detailed figure work.

In almost every careers field, one or more aptitude scores may throw light on a young person's suitability. This can bring a greater sense of objectivity and reality during and after the interview, and help to avoid superficial self-assessment.



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