A Revised Adult Dyslexia Checklist

Please tick Yes or No to each question. Don’t miss any questions out. If in doubt, tick which ever feels like the truer answer.

YES  NO

1) Do you find difficulty in telling left from right? □  □
2) Is map reading or finding your way to a strange place confusing? □  □
3) Do you dislike reading aloud? □  □
4) Do you take longer than you should to read a page of a book? □  □
5) Do you find it difficult to remember the sense of what you have read? □  □
6) Do you dislike reading long books? □  □
7) Is your spelling poor? □  □
8) Is your writing difficult to read? □  □
9) Do you get confused if you have to speak in public? □  □
10) Do you find it difficult to take messages on the telephone and pass them on correctly? □  □
11) When you have to say a long word, do you sometime find it difficult to get all the sounds in the right order? □  □
12) Do you find it difficult to do sums in your head without using your fingers or paper? □  □
13) When using the telephone, do you tend to get the numbers mixed up when you dial? □  □
14) Do you find it difficult to say the months of the year forwards in a fluent manner? □  □
15) Do you find it difficult to say the months of the year backwards? □  □
16) Do you mix up dates and times and miss appointments? □  □
17) When writing cheques, do you frequently find yourself making mistakes? □  □
18) Do you find forms difficult and confusing? □  □
19) Do you mix up bus numbers like 95 and 59? □  □
20) Did you find it hard to learn your multiplication tables at school? □  □
This questionnaire was completed by 679 adults divided into the following groups:-

Students enrolled on BA & BSc degree courses  57%
Students enrolled on Certificated and Access courses    7%
A-Level students        15%
Non-student adults       21%

The age range was 18 to 68 and the proportion of men and women was approximately equal.

The sample contained 32 known dyslexic individuals. A statistical procedure involving discriminant function analysis, a factor analysis and a series of t-tests was carried out. The objective was to identify those items on the questionnaire that best discriminated between dyslexic and non-dyslexic individuals.

The 12 best items in order of importance are:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Q17</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Q19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Q13</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Q14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Q7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Q20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Q16</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Q18</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Q1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Q10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Q11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the majority of these items are ticked, this is a strong indication of dyslexia.

On the questionnaire as a whole (i.e. all 20 items):-

60% of people gave no more than four ‘yes’ responses
90% of people gave no more than eight ‘yes’ responses

Nine or more ‘yes’ responses on the questionnaire, as a whole is therefore a powerful indicator of a difficulty. The items ticked should be compared with the ‘best twelve’ shown above.

For further information contact: Dr Michael Vinegrad, 0208 699 9545
Reference: A Revised Adult Dyslexia Checklist. Educare, No. 48, March 1994