

Getting the most out of your college experience

College Student Inventory™ FORM A

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SAMPLE

*Part of the
Retention Management System™*

Noel-Levitz®

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Dear Student,

The COLLEGE STUDENT INVENTORY™ is part of a carefully designed program that can help your institution determine how you learn best. After completing the inventory, the results will be used in two ways.

First, you will receive a report of your results. Your advisor or someone from the student service offices will discuss these results with you and make you aware of follow-up activities that fit your interests and needs.

Second, staff will use the summary of all results for your class to plan a program of support services.

While completing the inventory and participating in the follow-up activities are voluntary, you are strongly encouraged to take advantage of these opportunities. They are likely to have a very beneficial effect on your entire educational experience.

The inventory has multiple sections, each with its own set of instructions. Complete each part as accurately as you can.

• **Answer every item.**

- If you change an answer, be sure to fully erase your initial response.
- Use a number 2 (medium) black lead pencil in answering all parts of this inventory.

By completing and returning this answer sheet, you give consent to its release to Noel-Levitz for the purpose of scoring, processing, and preparing reports.

Go now to Part A and read the next set of instructions.

Each of us learns in a different way. We focus attention on somewhat different dimensions of the world around us, we have somewhat different understandings of the world, and we strive for quite different kinds of personal growth. We can only achieve our full potential when these forces of individuality are meshed smoothly with the learning process.

Michael L. Stratil

PART A

Instructions. By completing and submitting this inventory, you give consent to its release to Noel-Levitz for the purpose of scoring, processing, and preparation of reports for yourself, your advisor, and your college or university.

Use a number 2 black lead pencil in answering all parts of this inventory. Do **not** use ink or ball point pen.

1. On the front of the answer sheet, find the area for your name. It looks like this example:

LAST NAME												FIRST NAME						MI

Print your last name in the 12 spaces provided. If your last name is too long, abbreviate it. Do not go past the line that divides the last and first name. Do the same for your **first name** and your **middle initial**.

2. **Blacken the circles** that represent the letters in each part of your name. Be sure to completely fill each of the appropriate circles. Erase any stray marks or errors.
3. Move down to the area marked "GROUP NUMBER." The examiner has written this number on the board (or will read it to you). **Print the number** in the spaces provided. Be sure to include any 0's that are in that number.
4. **Print your age** in the next section.
5. In the section designated for GENDER, **blacken one** of the circles (either "M" or "F").
6. In the last section, **print your student identification number**. This number will enable your institution to avoid misidentifications in cases where more than one person has the same name. If you do not wish to provide it, enter 123456789.
7. **Blacken the appropriate circles** under GROUP NUMBER, AGE, and IDENTIFICATION NUMBER.

GO TO PART B.

PART B

Instructions. The main body of the inventory contains 194 items. The items in Part B have up to seven multiple choice response options. For example, item 1 appears as follows on the answer sheet:

Item number

Options

1

① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦

Notice that the answer sheet always provides seven circles even though some items offer fewer than seven options. Ignore the extra circles.

Answer each item by selecting the option that best describes you. Blacken the circle that corresponds to the option you have selected.

If you have difficulty answering any of the items in this section see your examiner. Begin with the first item and continue to the end of Part B.

1. My graduating class in high school had:
- 1) less than 50 students
 - 2) 50 to 99 students
 - 3) 100 to 149 students
 - 4) 150 to 299 students
 - 5) 300 to 499 students
 - 6) 500 or more students
 - 7) none of the above, as I received a General Education Degree (GED)
2. The courses I took in high school were designed primarily to prepare me for:
- 1) **a manual trade** (auto mechanics, farming, plumbing, carpentry, manufacturing, etc.)
 - 2) **a technical trade** (electrical, electronics, data processing, commercial art, medical technician, nursing, etc.)
 - 3) **administrative support** (keyboarding, word processing, computer applications, etc.)
 - 4) **business education** (sales, purchasing, banking, bookkeeping, etc.)
 - 5) **a college education** leading to various occupations
 - 6) **other**
3. The **average** of all my grades during my **senior year in high school** was approximately:
- 1) A
 - 2) halfway between A and B
 - 3) B
 - 4) halfway between B and C
 - 5) C
 - 6) halfway between C and D
 - 7) D
4. Based on its general reputation, I would say that my high school's academic standards were:
- 1) far below the average high school
 - 2) somewhat below the average high school
 - 3) about equal to the average high school
 - 4) somewhat above the average high school
 - 5) far above the average high school
5. The following item is about your **current knowledge of college preparatory courses** (e.g., English, mathematics, science, and social studies). **Compared to the average high school graduating senior**, I consider my academic knowledge to be in the:
- 1) highest 20%
 - 2) next to the highest 20%
 - 3) middle 20%
 - 4) next to the lowest 20%
 - 5) lowest 20%
6. In college, I am currently (or will be when school starts) a:
- 1) freshman
 - 2) sophomore
 - 3) junior
 - 4) senior
 - 5) graduate student
 - 6) special (non-degree) student

Note: If your school did not use letter grades, do your best to translate your grades into the above system.

7. While attending college, I am living in (or plan to live in):
- 1) a residence hall
 - 2) my parents' home
 - 3) a relative's home
 - 4) my own off-campus apartment or house
 - 5) married student housing
 - 6) a fraternity or sorority
 - 7) other
8. The highest degree that I plan to pursue is:
- 1) none
 - 2) 1-year certificate
 - 3) a 2-year college degree (associate)
 - 4) a 4-year college degree (bachelor's)
 - 5) a master's degree
 - 6) a professional degree (medicine, dentistry, law, philosophy, or other similar degrees)
9. Academic ability is one's capacity to learn; its key ingredient is the ability to understand complex issues. In relation to the **general population** of our society, I consider my academic ability to be:
- 1) considerably below average
 - 2) slightly below average
 - 3) average
 - 4) slightly above average
 - 5) considerably above average (in the top 20%)
 - 6) extremely high (in the top 5%)
10. While attending college, the amount of time I expect to spend studying **outside of class** is approximately:
- 1) 3 hours or less per week
 - 2) 6 hours per week
 - 3) 9 hours per week
 - 4) 12 hours per week
 - 5) 15 hours per week
 - 6) 18 hours per week
 - 7) 21 hours or more per week
11. Based on the information I currently have, I feel that this college's academic standards and expectations are:
- 1) much too high for me
 - 2) somewhat too high for me
 - 3) slightly too high for me
 - 4) just right for me
 - 5) slightly too low for me
 - 6) somewhat too low for me
 - 7) much too low for me
12. My primary language is:
- 1) English
 - 2) Spanish
 - 3) French or Italian
 - 4) German or Slavic (Russian, Polish, Czech, Bulgarian, etc.)
 - 5) Arabic
 - 6) Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, or Japanese
 - 7) Other
13. I would describe my racial/ethnic origin as:
- 1) Black/African-American
 - 2) American Indian or Alaskan Native
 - 3) Asian or Pacific Islander
 - 4) White/Caucasian
 - 5) Hispanic or Latino
 - 6) Multiethnic or other ethnic origin
 - 7) Prefer not to respond
14. What is the highest level of education completed by your mother?
- 1) 8 years or less of elementary school
 - 2) some high school but no diploma
 - 3) a high school diploma or equivalent
 - 4) 1 to 3 years of college (including study at a technical, community, or junior college)
 - 5) a 4-year undergraduate college degree (bachelor's degree)
 - 6) a master's degree
 - 7) a professional degree (medicine, dentistry, law, philosophy, or other similar degrees)
15. What is the highest level of education completed by your father?
- 1) 8 years or less of elementary school
 - 2) some high school but no diploma
 - 3) a high school diploma or equivalent
 - 4) 1 to 3 years of college (including study at a technical, community, or junior college)
 - 5) a 4-year undergraduate college degree (bachelor's degree)
 - 6) a master's degree
 - 7) a professional degree (medicine, dentistry, law, philosophy, or other similar degrees)
16. My present marital status is:
- 1) single, never married
 - 2) unmarried, living with partner
 - 3) single, with dependents
 - 4) married, no dependents
 - 5) married, with dependents
 - 6) separated, divorced, or widowed, no dependents
 - 7) separated, divorced, or widowed, with dependents

17. The distance between this college and my family home (residence of parents, guardians, or spouse) is:
- 1) less than 10 miles
 - 2) 10 to 50 miles
 - 3) 51 to 100 miles
 - 4) 101 to 300 miles
 - 5) 301 to 600 miles
 - 6) more than 600 miles

Note: Complete the following item only if you have taken the ACT® test. If you have not taken the ACT, skip this item and go on to the next one.

18. My **composite score** on the ACT was:
- 1) 10 or less
 - 2) between 11 and 14
 - 3) between 15 and 18
 - 4) between 19 and 22
 - 5) between 23 and 26
 - 6) between 27 and 30
 - 7) 31 or higher

Note: Complete the following item only if you have taken the SAT® test. Calculate your combined SAT score (Critical Reading plus Mathematics). Do not include your score for the Writing section. If you have not taken the SAT, skip this item and go on to the next one.

19. My **combined SAT score** (Critical Reading plus Mathematics) was:
- 1) 600 or less
 - 2) between 601 and 720
 - 3) between 721 and 840
 - 4) between 841 and 960
 - 5) between 961 and 1080
 - 6) between 1081 and 1200
 - 7) 1201 or higher

Note: The following two items are the only ones in the inventory that allow for more than one response.

20. Before deciding to enroll, my familiarity with this college consisted of information from (select **all** options that apply):
- 1) family or friends
 - 2) college guide(s)
 - 3) catalogues and brochures
 - 4) college Web site
 - 5) college fair or high school visits
 - 6) campus visit or tour
 - 7) extensive contact over a period of time (e.g., attendance at activities sponsored by the school)
21. From the list below, indicate **each** type of voluntary, **non-credit** activity in which you participated during high school. Do not indicate activities for which you received course credit.
- 1) art exhibit or musical, theatrical, or dance production
 - 2) school newspaper, yearbook, literary magazine, or writing contest
 - 3) debate team, speech contest, or radio/TV production
 - 4) scientific research activities
 - 5) special interest, social, honorary, or service organization
 - 6) athletic team or intramural sports
 - 7) class officer, member of student council, team captain, or officer of any other type of school organization

COMPLETE ANY ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN LEFT BLANK, EXCEPT FOR THOSE THAT ALLOW FOR A BLANK ANSWER (ITEMS 18 AND 19).

THEN GO TO PART C.

PART C

Instructions: Items in Part C measure a variety of attitudes toward college.

Use the following rating scale to answer each item:

RATING SCALE								
NOT AT ALL TRUE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	COMPLETELY TRUE

If you agree completely with a statement, you should answer with a "7." Agreement that is fairly strong but not total is indicated by selecting a "5," while agreement that is fairly weak is indicated by "3." Total disagreement is indicated by selecting "1." Use any number between 1 and 7.

Keep in mind that there are no "right" or "wrong" answers. Simply select the answer that best fits you. In answering the items on study habits and teachers, you should draw primarily on your **pre-college experiences**.

Blacken the appropriate circle on the answer sheet. Give only **one** response to each item.

22. When I think about my career choice, I find that I have very little solid information to go on.
23. Most of my teachers have been very caring and dedicated.
24. Books have never gotten me very excited.
25. I study all of the assigned readings in my courses.
26. Enter a "2" for this item.
27. I have financial problems that are very distracting and troublesome.
28. It is wise to avoid people with extreme ideas.
29. Often I get so uptight about an exam that I can't concentrate on studying.
30. I would like to talk with someone about the qualifications needed for certain occupations.
31. I often rely on my own ideas when making a decision, and I'm prepared to make an unpopular decision if necessary.
32. I am having a hard time breaking away from my family, and attending college is going to make the situation worse.
33. My teachers did a very poor job of explaining the purpose of our studies.
34. I would like to receive some help in improving my study habits.
35. Of all the things I could do at this point in my life, going to college is definitely the most satisfying.
36. I try to avoid long conversations with people.

Note: The purpose of the next item is to confirm that you are putting your answers in the correct position on the answer sheet. When you encounter items like this, enter the number indicated.

RATING SCALE

**NOT AT
ALL TRUE**

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

**COMPLETELY
TRUE**

37. Most people have a lot of trust in my judgment and respect for my opinion.
38. I have family problems that interfere (or will interfere) with my studies.
39. I would like to talk with someone about a problem that I'm having (or expect to have) with a roommate.
40. I have a good memory of the information that teachers present in class.
41. I have explored several career possibilities and have weighed their advantages and disadvantages.
42. It is likely that even those with extremely different opinions from me have some good ideas.
43. I have great difficulty concentrating on school work.
44. I would like to talk to someone about getting a part-time job during the regular school year.
45. I often get confused when trying to reach major decisions, and I seek a lot of help with them.
46. I expect to make friends easily at college.
47. I have some serious concerns about my decision to come to college.
48. While I was growing up, I felt that the rest of my family was firmly behind me.
49. There are many sensitive subjects that people should never talk about.
50. I like to participate in large social gatherings.
51. Enter a "7" for this item.
52. Other people don't think of me as a leader.
53. I often have a hard time trying to imagine the people and actions described in a novel.
54. I would like to attend an informal gathering where I can meet some new friends.
55. I get a great deal of personal satisfaction from reading.
56. I would like some information or counseling on the best way to eliminate an unwanted habit (involving food, drugs, cigarettes, alcohol, etc.).
57. I have gathered information about the salaries, job openings, and working conditions for several occupations, and I'm taking this into account in trying to choose a career.
58. I have had (or expect to have) much difficulty adapting to my living arrangements while attending college.
59. I am strongly dedicated to finishing college—no matter what obstacles get in my way.
60. I take very clear notes during class, and I review them carefully before a test.
61. I resent the large amount of power that teachers have always had over me.
62. I have a lot of faith in my own reasoning, and I'm not discouraged when someone else disagrees with my conclusions.
63. I plan to transfer to another school before completing a degree at this college or university.
64. When faced with a tough decision, I consider many possible solutions.
65. I would like to talk with someone about the current job market for college graduates.
66. I would like to find out more about student government and the various student activities on campus.
67. I usually put off doing school assignments until it's too late.
68. I would like to receive some instruction in the most effective ways to take college exams.

RATING SCALE								
NOT AT ALL TRUE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	COMPLETELY TRUE

69. My parents have expressed little interest in my schooling, and they haven't done much to help me.
70. I am very confused about what occupation to go into.
71. I can think of many things I would rather do than go to college.
72. People with extreme political views should not be allowed to speak in public, as they tend to upset the community.
73. When I need to, I can work quickly on an exam without getting uptight.
74. Because I know very few people at my college, I expect my overall social situation to be very difficult during the coming term.
75. I would like to talk with a counselor about my general attitude toward school.
76. Enter a "1" for this item.
77. I often don't know what to say when I'm in a group of people, so I try to get away as soon as I can.
78. My teachers were very interesting and engaging, and they made the learning process quite enjoyable.
79. Over the years, I have frequently been selected as a spokesperson or group leader.
80. I feel comfortable discussing important issues with my parents.
81. I have the financial resources that I need to finish college.
82. I think a lot about the future, and I try to plan my current life around my long-range goals.
83. On controversial issues, my opinions are often strongly influenced by what other people think.
84. My vocabulary is fairly limited, and I have a hard time reading textbooks.
85. I spend a lot of time with other people.
86. I would like to receive some individual help in improving my writing skills.
87. Our ideas about life are far from perfect, and we can all benefit greatly from studying the beliefs and values of other societies.
88. I would like some help selecting an occupation that is well suited to my interests and abilities.
89. When studying, I am able to keep my attention clearly focused on the material.
90. I expect to get a lot out of college.
91. My family has one way of looking at me, and they do not understand my feelings.
92. I feel confident of my own opinions, and I'm willing to act on them.
93. Most teachers have a superior attitude that I find very annoying.
94. I seldom go to a bookstore or shop online for serious books.
95. I feel very comfortable with the changes in life style that going to college will require.
96. Most people either avoid me or take me for granted.
97. I have not talked with any knowledgeable individuals about the training required for the occupation that most interests me.
98. When one is unlikely to succeed, it's best to just quit and avoid a painful failure.
99. Studying is only a small part of my life, and I don't take it very seriously.
100. I would like to talk with a counselor about some emotional tensions that are bothering me.

RATING SCALE								
NOT AT ALL TRUE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	COMPLETELY TRUE

101. Enter a "4" for this item.
102. I find it very hard to get into the joking and casual conversation that goes on at social gatherings.
103. I am good at figuring out what material is most important for an exam.
104. I don't express unpopular opinions, even when something important is at stake.
105. I have spent a lot of time thinking about how best to prepare myself for a career.
106. I would like to talk with someone about getting a loan to help me through school.
107. In striving for an important goal, it is sometimes sensible to take a few calculated risks.
108. I would readily leave college if I found a well-paying job.
109. I know many of the students at my college, and I feel (or expect to feel) very much at home.
110. My parents have been very helpful in teaching me how to get along with people.
111. My studying is very irregular and unpredictable.
112. Books have broadened my horizons and stimulated my imagination.
113. I am in a bad financial position and the pressure to earn extra money will probably interfere with my studies.
114. I would like to receive some individual help with basic math.
115. Most teachers do a very good job of explaining their objectives.
116. I have no respect for people who openly reject the group and do things differently than everyone else.
117. Many people consider me an effective leader, and they look to me for direction.
118. During the coming term, I expect to feel somewhat lonely and to have a strong desire to see more of my friends and family.
119. I study hard for all my courses, even those I don't like.
120. I like to make my own decisions, and I have a lot of trust in my judgment.
121. I get so nervous during an exam that I tend to lose track of what I'm doing.
122. The total college experience—including both the studying and the social life—is very attractive to me.
123. Although school administrators may pretend to have their students' interest at heart, they really don't.
124. At this point, my college plans are not directed toward achieving any particular occupational goal.
125. There is too much tension and emotional turmoil in my family.
126. Enter a "5" for this item.
127. On those occasions when I've tried to lead other people, the outcomes have been disappointing.
128. I would like some help selecting a program of study that will prepare me to get a good job after I graduate.
129. I tend to be adventurous and outgoing.
130. I often wonder if a college education is really worth all the time, money, and effort that I'm being asked to spend on it.
131. I like to explore new ways of doing things—despite the occasional frustrations and disappointments.
132. I let my friends have too much influence on my life.

RATING SCALE								
NOT AT ALL TRUE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	COMPLETELY TRUE

133. When I try to study, I usually get bored and quit after a few minutes.
134. The teachers I had in school were very fair and objective in assigning grades.
135. I am able to grasp complicated ideas.
136. I would like to talk with a counselor about some family problems.
137. I have no desire to transfer to another school before finishing a degree at this college or university.
138. It has been (or will be) very easy for me to adapt to my living arrangements while attending college.
139. I would like to meet an experienced student who can show me around and give me some advice.
140. Our enemies have nothing valuable to say, and we should ignore them.
141. When I was a child, my parents usually understood me, respected my judgment, and treated me in ways that helped me grow.
142. I have found at least one occupation that seems to fit well with my personality and interests.
143. When I'm doing something with a group of people, they often turn to me as the group's natural leader.
144. I am quite confident that my decision to go to college was right for me.
145. I avoid most types of social activities.
146. I have developed some very effective study techniques.
147. In my opinion, many teachers are more concerned about themselves than they are about their students.
148. Listening to a candid discussion on some controversial issue can be very interesting.
149. I would like to find out more about the clubs and social organizations at my college.
150. Enter a "3" for this item.
151. I would like to receive some training to improve my reading skills.
152. I have done a lot of research about different occupations that interest me.
153. My life at college is (or will be) quite different from what I'm used to, and the adjustments will be very hard for me to make.
154. The notes I take during class are very rough and incomplete.
155. I get no enjoyment out of browsing for information in a library or online.
156. I would like to talk to someone about getting a scholarship.
157. I often take the initiative in solving my own problems.
158. I don't agree with many of the lessons that my parents tried to teach me.
159. I would like to talk with someone about the advantages and disadvantages of various occupations.
160. I dread the thought of going to school for several more years.
161. Some national problems are so hopeless that we should stop worrying about them.
162. I liked my teachers, and I feel they did a good job.
163. People show little regard for my views, and they hardly ever seek my advice.
164. I feel very good about my ability to adapt to my new social environment at college.

RATING SCALE								
NOT AT ALL TRUE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	COMPLETELY TRUE

165. When taking notes in class, I often get confused and can't keep up.

166. I have not yet found a potential career that strongly attracts me.

167. I enjoy activities that bring me into close contact with people.

168. I would like to receive tutoring in one or more of my courses.

169. My family and I communicate very well, and we understand each other's point of view.

170. I don't have any financial problems that will interfere with my school work.

171. I would like to talk with a counselor about some difficulties in my personal relationships or social life.

172. I have developed a solid system of self-discipline, which helps me keep up with my school work.

173. Enter a "6" for this item.

174. I often feel unsure of my opinions on important matters.

175. I would like to talk with someone about summer employment.

176. Our true feelings are often hidden, and it's healthy to explore them to gain a greater understanding of ourselves.

177. I like to spend some of my free time reading serious books and articles.

178. I have not talked with any knowledgeable people about the advantages and disadvantages of a particular occupation.

179. During an exam, I'm able to concentrate and keep my thoughts well organized.

CHECK TO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE COMPLETED EVERY ITEM IN THIS SECTION (ITEMS 22–179). COMPLETE ANY THAT HAVE BEEN LEFT BLANK.

THEN GO TO PART D.

CONTINUE 

*Turn page over
to complete
this inventory.*

PART D

Instructions: Part D measures your current impressions of this institution.

Each item describes a different characteristic. Use the following rating scale to indicate how you currently feel about your institution.

VERY DISSATISFIED	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	VERY SATISFIED
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Blacken the appropriate circle on the answer sheet. Give only one response for each item.

It is recognized that most of the students completing this questionnaire have had little or no direct contact with the institution, so they do not have well formed impressions. But everyone comes to college with at least some knowledge—which is acquired from the Web, catalogs, the institution's general reputation, the reports of friends, preliminary contacts, etc.

So if you are new to this institution, do not let this fact bother you. Just give your **initial impressions**.

180. The location of the institution.

191. The social life (both on- and off-campus).

181. The kinds of academic courses and majors available.

192. Shopping facilities at or near the institution.

182. The variety and quality of food available (both on- and off-campus).

193. My living arrangements while attending the institution (whether at home, in a residence hall, or in an apartment).

183. The cost of tuition, housing, and food.

184. The condition and appearance of buildings and grounds.

Note: The following is not a rating item. Select option 1 if you agree with the statement; select option 2 if you do not.

185. The general characteristics of the student body.

186. The entertainment available at or near the institution.

194. I authorize my institution to share results from this inventory with my advisor and appropriate student service offices, which will help me select courses and make other educational decisions:

187. The adequacy of financial aid.

1) YES

188. Enter a "2" for this item.

2) NO (If you select this option, all of your reports will be kept on file with the Coordinator of this program; as soon as the Student Report is available, you will be able to obtain it from the Coordinator).

189. The intercollegiate athletic program.

190. The faculty in general.

CHECK TO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE COMPLETED EVERY ITEM IN THIS SECTION (ITEMS 180–194). ANSWER ANY THAT HAVE BEEN LEFT BLANK.

THEN RETURN THE INVENTORY AND THE ANSWER SHEET TO THE EXAMINER.

THANK YOU!

Noel-Levitz®

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