Psyc 465 Neuropsychological Assessment Report Assignment
Due Date: see website

Overview
In this assignment you will write a *Neuropsychological Assessment Report* on an individual patient. You will watch a video of a real patient in which you learn about the patient's history and symptoms from the patient's behavior and reports from family members. You will also be given simulated neuropsychological test data. Your job is to process & calculate the test data, interpret all information, make a diagnosis, and make recommendations for treatment and follow-up.

Length: approximately 2500 words (I will measure the word count. Don't worry about font size, but please double-space it). For each sub-section, the suggested length is a guide, not a hard limit.

Format & Style: Use APA format. Graphs and tables may be located within the text, or in an appendix at the end. Grammar, style, and organization are important: please write in full sentences. Please proofread your paper and consider getting help from the CSUSM writing center if needed.

Grading
The assignment is worth 70 points.
        20%   Overall Grammar, Style & Organization, APA format.
        80%   Each of the 8 sections is worth 10%.

Outline
Please use the following outline for your paper. Each section is explained in detail, below. Some sections have additional information in the appendix. Refer to the Week 10 lecture notes as well.
  • **Identifying Information & Presenting Problem**
  • **Background**
  • **Symptoms & History**
  • **Clinical Interview and Mental Status Exam**
  • **Neuropsychological Test Results**
  • **Interpretations & Diagnosis**
  • **Recommendations**
  • **References**

Identifying Information and Presenting Problem (Length: about ½ page) [See appendix for additional information]
Carefully describe the patient (including demographic / socioeconomic variables) and explain why they were referred to you for evaluation. What do the patient and family hope to gain from this referral?

Background (Length: about 1 page) [See appendix for additional information]
Summarize the important events that led up the patient's present condition. Include the following sub-sections:
  • Family History
        o Others with similar symptoms
        o Genetic issues
        o Responses to treatment
  • Developmental Issues
  • Educational attainment
  • Social milestones

Symptoms & History (Length: about 1-2 pages)
Summarize the development of symptoms relevant to the current assessment. Include the following sub-sections:
  • Course & Development of Symptoms
  • Current Symptoms
  • Impact of Symptoms on current Functioning
  • Treatments & Compensations tried
  • Consequences

Clinical Interview and Mental Status Exam (Length: 1 page)
Using the written material and the video, write a detailed mental status exam. Include the following sections:
  • Appearance

- Behavior
- Speech
- Thought Form
- Thought Content
- Mood
- Affect
- Cognition
- Consciousness & Orientation

Neuropsychological Test Results (Length: about 1-2 pages) [See appendix for additional information]
    For each test:
- Name each test and give a brief (1-2 sentence) description of the test and *what ability area(s) it measures*.
- Quantitative: Provide the raw and Z score for each subtest.

Table of results – include a table showing the calculated scores (see appendix).

Profile Graph: Using the raw test scores provided, convert them to Z scores, and create a profile graph that is similar to the example below.   (Note: these are not the correct Z scores. Your graph should include all tests. Variations in the graph style are fine as long as the information is presented clearly.   This graph was made with GraphPad Prism, which is available for free for CSUSM students – see the website).
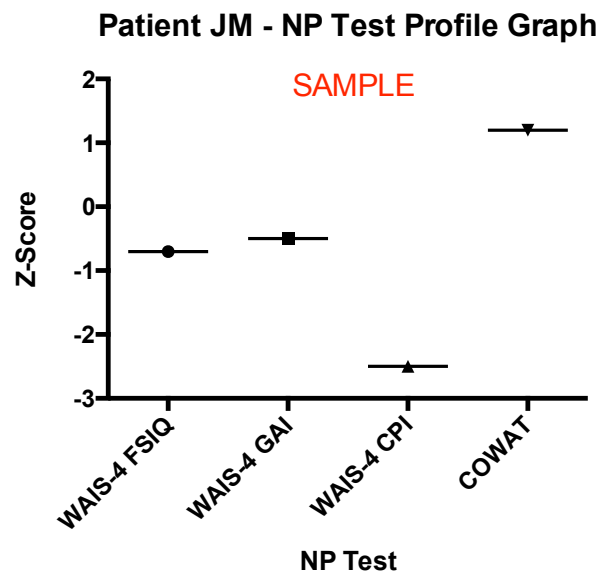

Figure 1: Sample Profile Graph

Interpretation & Diagnosis (Length: about 1-2 pages)
Estimate of Premorbid IQ : provide two estimates : a Quantitative one (using the NART formula) and a Qualitative one based on the patient's vocational and educational background using Hauser (1998). Comment on whether these two estimates are consistent.

Compare the NP profile with estimated premorbid ability and describe the changes seen. What does the pattern of scores suggest?

Diagnosis: describe what is the most likely diagnosis, based on your overall interpretation of the information you have at hand. Be specific and use DSM-IV criteria.

Alternative Diagnoses: could another diagnosis fit the data? If so, what additional information would you need to have to rule-in or rule-out this diagnosis? Be specific.

Limitations: are there any issues that limit your confidence in this assessment?

Recommendations (Length: about 1-2 page)
Prognosis
      Immediate
      Recovery (sort and long-term)
      Impacts on Social and Occupational functioning
Clinical Interventions
      Medical/Pharmaceutical
      Psychological
      Rehabilitation
Further Assessment
Referral to other specialists

Additional Questions
Please make sure you have addressed these issues in your report:
1. We are told that she could have Alzheimer's disease. She could, however, have another disease.   Is there a particular disease we might be concerned about given her family history?
2. The DSM-IV diagnosis for Alzheimer's disease can be made using only her history, symptoms, and mental status exam, without using a single Neuropsychological tests. However, since you do have the NP testing, and you are (pretending to be) a Clinical Neuropsychologist, be sure to discuss whether the quantitative NP test results are (or are not) consistent with the qualitative observations.
3. A pathognomonic sign is a behavior or symptom that is extremely serious and suggestive of a particular disorder – did you see any?

References
Include APA-format bibliography of sources cited. Include the textbook(s), the 3 reference articles, and any other sources of information used.

Appendix : Additional Information
> *Note: if you search the web, you will find other information about the patient and her family. That real-life information conflicts with some of the <u>simulated</u> information in this assignment and should not be used. Please only use the information presented in this assignment, the class notes & reference papers, and the patient video.*

The main source of information is the ABC News Video (about 10 minutes In length). You may re-watch as many times as needed. Take notes and use the information you see/hear to flesh out the details below. You will also need reference articles. See the course website for the video. Additional information follows:

Identifying Information & Presenting Problem
Patient: Dr. Janet Mitchell. Age: 57. Gender: F. Education: Medical school. Family: One younger sister named Blanche, niece Dana. Pt has no children.   Goals: Dx the patient. Family asks to determine ability to care for self. For the court case, the court asks that you determine her legal responsibility for selling her house (was she competent to make the transaction?) For the patient: Recommend treatment(s).

Background
- Family History
  - Others with similar symptoms: *patient's aunt was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease at age 59*
  - Genetic issues: *no known genetic risks*
  - Responses to treatment: *no prior treatment*
- Developmental Issues: *normal*.
- Educational attainment: *use her medical degree as an indication of her educational history.*
- Social milestones: *discuss her marriage*

Symptoms & History
Use the video as a source of information.

Clinical Interview and Mental Status Exam
For writing this section, pretend that Dr. Mitchell has come to your office for an evaluation. Use her behavior during the video as your source of information. Write in first-person past-tense (e.g. "When I asked her if … she shook her head and responded "…")

Neuropsychological Test Results Worksheet
Instructions:
1. *For WAIS-4 tests, convert the IQ score to a Z score using equations we learned in class.*
2. *For Trails, convert Raw score to demographically corrected Z score, using the procedures in Tombaugh, et. al (2003)*
3. *For COWAT, convert Raw score to a Scaled score, then to a demographically-corrected T score using procedures in Gladsjo et al (1999), then convert T score to Z score*
4. *For NAART, convert Raw score to WAIS-R Vocabulary Scaled score according to procedures in Uttl (2002), then convert the scaled score to both an IQ score and Z score.*
5. *Include a version of this table in your paper as "Table 1" using proper APA formatting with descriptive title.*

Test Name	Subtest Name	Raw Score	Scaled Score	IQ Score	T Score	Z Score
WAIS-4	Full Scale IQ Score			81		
WAIS-4	GAI			86		
WAIS-4	CPI			78		
Trail Making	Trails A	34 seconds				
Trail Making	Trails B	110 seconds				
COWAT	FAS (Letter)	28 words				
COWAT	Animals (Category)	12 words				
NAART	# correct	54 words				

The End.