

**This assessment review was compiled by our students and is intended to be used as a guide in assisting clinicians. We encourage you to review the evaluations and assessments for yourself to guarantee the most accurate and updated information.*

I. General Information

Title of the test: Multiple Errands Test--Simplified Version (MET-SV)
& Hospital Version (MET-HV)

Author: Shallice, T. & Burgess, P.W. (1991).

Publisher: Public Domain

Time required to administer: Approximately 40 minutes (20 minutes for the timed portion—if the client completes test on time, 15 minutes for pretest briefing and 5 minutes for posttest debriefing.)

Cost of the Test: Free--public domain--however, a nominal amount of money is spent during the shopping exercise.

II. Description of Test

Type/Purpose of Test: A simple performance-based test done in real-life contexts. Participants are given a set of shopping activities that must be completed in real time in a shopping area. Administered to assess the degree to which executive impairments due to frontal lobe damage affect every day functioning—like during shopping tasks. Provides a standard way of categorizing executive performance errors in a naturalistic environment. For use in both inpatient (MET-HV) and outpatient (MET-SV) settings.

Population: People with impairments in executive functioning due to frontal lobe damage in both inpatient (MET-HV) and outpatient (MET-SV) settings.

Focus of measurement:

Organic systems Abilities Participation/life habits Environmental Factors

III. Practical Administration

Ease of Administration: The test is generally easy to administer and only a few items are needed (2 pens/pencils, stopwatch, pad of paper for notes, instructions on a clipboard for participant, money and a carrying bag.) There are many rules to the assessment however, that may complicate its administration. Also, having the examiner observe from a distance during the test, but not allowing the participant to interact with her may be confuse some clients and further complicate the exercise. Additionally the test requires the participant to purchase items in a store or hospital gift shop; so the context cannot be limited to the client's room, treatment areas or home.

Clarity of Directions: Though there are only three tasks that are explained very clearly, there are many rules to this assessment. Obeying all of these rules while carrying out the exercise within 20 minutes seems like a challenge even for people who are not impaired.

Scoring Procedures: Scores are based on total number of errors during performance as reviewed by at least two assessors. There are five different errors that can be made during performance. They are: 1) *inefficiencies*—the use of poor strategies, 2) *rule breaks*—violations in rules during performance, 3) *interpretation failure*—a misunderstanding in what is being asked, 4) *task failure*—incomplete task performance, 5) *asking for help*—a violation of the rules.

Examiner Qualification & Training: Not specified

IV. Technical Considerations

Standardization: **Norms** **Criterion Referenced** **Other**

Reliability: Has good interrater reliability; internal consistency was satisfactory (Cronbach's $\alpha = .77$).

Validity: Has construct, criterion and ecological validity.

Manual: **Excellent** **Adequate** **Poor** **None Available**

What is (are) the setting/s that you would anticipate using this assessment? Hospitals—in public areas such as the gift shop, and outpatient settings—in pedestrian areas such as a shopping mall.

Summary of strengths and weaknesses:

Weaknesses:

- Difficult to use with patients who have mobility problems, behavioral problems or who are being legally detained while being treated.
- Time constraints may make this test impractical.
- Familiarity with context of the test—shopping center or hospital could skew the results of the test.
- There are many rules that complicate this otherwise simple test.
- Getting everything done within 20 minutes might be difficult for those with mobility impairments.
- Having the examiner observe from a distance but not allowing the participant to interact with her may be confusing for some clients.
- Money is needed and must be spent during this assessment.
- Test requires the participant to purchase items in a store or hospital gift shop; so the context cannot be limited to the client's room, treatment areas or home.

Strengths:

- Simple to administer.
- Can be administered within a hospital or in pedestrian settings.
- Demonstrates how executive dysfunction impacts everyday activities.
- Demonstrates how executive dysfunction is a more consistent indicator of functional performance than I.Q, memory or language dysfunctions.
- Demonstrates how people with frontal lobe damage may be specifically impaired in everyday situations which require planning and multitasking.
- Evaluates function in a range of real-life activities and contexts from Western culture.
- Results are generalizable to other Western contexts.
- Easily links results of assessment with rehab goals due to its real life contexts.
- Can be used in both inpatient and outpatient settings