

STEC Guidance on Expressive Vocabulary Test 3rd Edition (EVT3)

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Publisher:	Pearson
Date of Standardisation:	2019
Age Range:	2.6 – 90+
Access:	Range of educational backgrounds, as it is used as a screener too.
Cost	£480. Also available digitally.

Test Content: what tests are included and what are they designed to measure/evaluate?

EVT3 is administered individually. It assesses expressive vocabulary knowledge and word-retrieval. It contains a stimulus book, 25 forms and the examiner's manual and includes 2 parallel forms (A and B). There are 3 training items followed by 190 test items, in order of increasing difficulty (the start point depends on the age).

For each item, the examiner presents a picture from the stimulus book and reads a question from the stimulus book. The examinee must respond with:

- One word that provides an acceptable label for the picture, or
- One word that answers a specific question about the picture or
- One word that is a synonym for a word that fits the picture

10 second time limit for starting response to each item. The examiner records the response in the response booklet.

Manual states that EVT3 can be used for:

- Screening for expressive language disorders
- Screening expressive language schools of pre-school children
- Measuring word retrieval
- Evaluating acquisition of English words
- Re-evaluating acquisition of English words (using parallel forms).

Manual also states that this information can be used

- to inform understanding of literacy difficulties
- as a qualitative evaluation of EAL acquisition of English vocabulary

The publisher notes the test helps discriminate between typically developing individuals and those with language delay, specific language impairment, SpLD and ASD.

Strengths

- Easy to score. Can be scored manually or digitally.
- Easy to administer. Offers alternative ways of wording questions if the question is not understood.
- The requirement for answers to be a single word makes this a demanding test which can also give insights into an individual's potential to convey meaning precisely and succinctly.
- Offers additional analysis and comparison of vocabulary acquisition in
 - Vocabulary typically learned at home and through conversation
 - Vocabulary learned through oral instructions and curriculum at school
 - Vocabulary that is representative of an enriched verbal environment and/or specific subject knowledge (particularly STEM).
 - Vocabulary knowledge by parts of speech
- Some initial research into use of EVT3 by telepractice is available from the publisher.

Issues to consider

- Some questions are more related to numeracy skills and might not have been covered in the maths curriculum
- A few pictures are not clearly related to the questions, or did not match the required word clearly. A few items are statements and it is not clear what the examinee is being asked to do.
- Occasional Americanisms would make some test items difficult to administer and some American cultural items would also be difficult for British children to access.
- A few test items are very similar to the WRIT verbal reasoning task, so if this test was administered after the WRIT verbal reasoning task this might skew the results as the examinee had already thought about it.
- In comparison to the WRIT, there are many more items to administer for an expressive vocabulary task. It can take quite long to administer. Manual says average time taken is 11 – 21 minutes (11 minutes for 2.6 years olds, to 21 minutes for 14 and over) but there are 105 questions in the section for adults (14:0 – 90:11)
- EVT3 has been co-normed with PPVT5, in order to be able to compare expressive and receptive vocabulary, but PPVT5 is not available in UK.