

Appendix F

SAPA Personality Inventory Forms

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Several forms have been developed for personality assessment using the 135 items identified as part of the SAPA Personality Inventory. For recommendations about personality assessment and comparisons of the SPI forms, see Appendix A. In order, this appendix includes the following six forms:

- 1. SPI-135-27&5 version 1.1 - A 135-item measure for assessment of the 27-factor and 5-factor scales.** Everyone wants you to use this version — your clients and your boss and your advisor and your collaborators and your mother. The best reason not to use all 135 of these items is because you intend to use the computer adaptive version of them.
- 2. SPI-81-27&5 version 1.1 - A 81-item measure for assessment of the 27-factor and 5-factor scales.** This is an excellent general purpose measure because it balances length with reasonable measurement at both the 5 factor and 27 factor levels.
- 3. SPI-70-5 version 1.0 - A 70-item measure for assessment of the 5-factor scales.** The Big Five are important! If you are mainly interested in Big Five scores, use these but note that these items are not recommended for assessment of the 27 factor solution.
- 4. SPI-45-5 version 1.0 - A 45-item measure for assessment of the 5-factor scales.** This measure is highly correlated with other Big Five measures of the same approximate length (yawn) but does not provide facet level scores. Are you sure you can't use the 81-item measure (or a CAT)? What about using the 20-item Big Five measure plus more in-depth measures of key constructs?
- 5. SPI-20-5 version 1.0 - A 20-item measure for assessment of the 5-factor scales.** This 20-item measure only takes about 3 min and produces scores with reasonable psychometric properties for the Big Five. It's generally not a good idea to use a Big Five measure shorter than this one.
- 6. SPI-27-27 version 1.1 - 27 “signal” items.** An appropriate use of this 27-item set would be to gauge the need for further follow-up or to conduct exploratory analyses. I do not recommend this item set as a substitute for more lengthy assessment of the 27 factor solution. These items can also be scored on the 5-factor level but the internal consistencies are poor.
- 7. SPI-35-27&5 version 1.0 - A 35-item measure that represents the shortest possible form for hierarchical assessment.** The 27 signal items have been supplemented by 8 additional items to allow for assessment at both the 27- and 5-factor levels. The 5-factor scales have reasonably good internal consistency — in fact, it is tempting to argue that these scales are *better* than those in the 20- or even 45-item measures (based on the unidimensionality values) but they are less valid because they measure very narrow interpretations of the 5 factors.

The most updated versions of these forms are available in electronic formats (useful for copying and pasting into other applications) at sapa-project.org/SPIforms/

*This document is an appendix to *The SAPA Personality Inventory*. Correspondence should be directed to david-condon@northwestern.edu, Department of Medical Social Sciences, Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois. Please use the following citation information: Condon, D.M. (2017). The SAPA Personality Inventory: an empirically-derived, hierarchically-organized self-report personality assessment model.