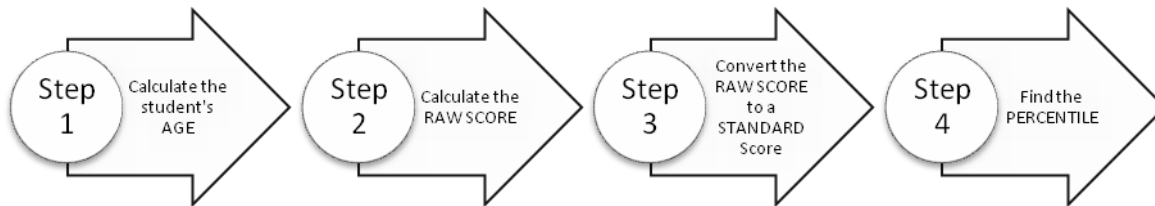


Scoring the Paper Version of the EVT-2 in Four Easy Steps



Step One: Calculate the student's chronological age

In order to score the EVT-2, you need to know a student's age in years and months (but not days) at the time of testing. To find the age, you need to subtract the birth date from the testing date. The days are left off.

| | Year | Month | Day |
|------------|-------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Test Date | <u>2009</u> | <u>05</u> | <u>11</u> |
| Birth Date | <u>2004</u> | <u>03</u> | <u>09</u> |
| Age | <u>5</u> | <u>2</u> | (Do not round up) |

Sounds easy, but there is a trick: calendar dates are not on a base-10 system, so when "borrowing" or "regrouping" you need to be careful. In the example below, a month needs to be borrowed to add to the "Day" column. Thus, 30 days (or one month) need to be added to the column.

| | Year | Month | Day |
|------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Test Date | <u>2009</u> | 05 <u>04</u> | 11 <u>41</u> |
| Birth Date | <u>2004</u> | <u>03</u> | <u>29</u> |
| Age | <u>5</u> | <u>1</u> | (Do not round up) |

30 days are added to the "Day" column when borrowing from the "Month" column, since 30 days = 1 month (11 + 30 = 41)

In the next example, a year needs to be borrowed, which means that 12 months have to be added to the “Month” column.

| | Year | Month | Day |
|------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Test Date | <u>2009</u> 2008 | <u>05</u> 17 | 11 |
| Birth Date | <u>2004</u> | <u>08</u> | <u>09</u> |
| Age | <u>4</u> | <u>9</u> | (Do not round up) |

12 months are added to the “Month” column when borrowing from the “Year” column, since 12 months = 1 year (5 + 12 = 17)

The final example requires the examiner to add both 30 days to the “Day” column and 12 months to the “Month” column.

| | Year | Month | Day |
|------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Test Date | <u>2009</u> 2008 | <u>05</u> <u>04</u> 16 | <u>11</u> 41 |
| Birth Date | <u>2004</u> | <u>08</u> | <u>12</u> |
| Age | <u>4</u> | <u>8</u> | (Do not round up) |

First, 30 days are borrowed from the “Month” column (11 + 30 = 41)

Second, 12 months are borrowed from the “Year” column (4 + 12 = 16)

Remember that you should not round up the months based on the days once you calculate the chronological age; otherwise, you will overestimate the child’s age, which will result in a lower score. In the example above the child is just one day shy of being 4 years and 9 months, yet she is still considered 4 years and 8 months old for scoring purposes.

Step Two: Calculate the raw score

The raw score is the total number of words the student answered correctly, with one small caveat: the test makers assume that a child would correctly answer all test items below their basal score. Instead of adding up correct answers, there is a simpler process that takes into account that students may have not answered the beginning test items (and most likely would have answered those items correctly if given the opportunity). For this process, you take the “ceiling item,” or the value of the highest item number that the student answered correctly, and subtract the total number of incorrect items. This calculation will provide the “Total Raw Score.” An example is below.

| Calculating the Raw Score | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Ceiling item | 87 |
| Total Number of Incorrect Items | - 16 |
| Total Raw Score (Maximum 190) | = 71 |

Step Three: Convert the RAW SCORE to a STANDARD SCORE

When converting a raw score into a standard score, the creators of the EVT-2 give you two options: you can either use a child’s age or his grade by semester (fall or spring). The option you pick will determine how the test is normed. What that means is that if you score by age, you will be comparing the child to other children who are the same chronological age, down to a two-month window; if you score by grade, you will be comparing the child to other children in, say, the spring of four-year-old kindergarten.

In general, it is far better to find the standard score using age rather than grade. Not only are age-normed scores more precise, they take into account the month-by-month developmental changes. This is especially important for young children because their vocabulary change considerably over short periods of time.

To convert a raw score to a standard score using age, you will need to use Table B.1 in the EVT-2 manual (this begins on page 96). You will find the age ranges on the top of the page in blue boxes. Find the page with the corresponding chronological age of the child, then look down the column of raw scores for “Form A” of the test. The standard score will be on the same row in the blue column.

Step Four: Find the percentile

The final step is the easiest. The EVT-2 allows many options for scoring students: you can find the percentile, the normal curve equivalent (NCE), the stanine, the age equivalent, or the grade equivalent. However, the one score that will provide the most information on a child's vocabulary in terms of later reading outcomes is the percentile score. There is a simple, one-page table that allows you to convert the standard score into a percentile: Table B.4 on page 191 of the EVT-2 manual. Match up the standard score with the corresponding percentile on the same row, and you have your student's percentile score.

Congratulations, you have now scored the EVT-2!