

The Argumentative Scale

This questionnaire contains statements about arguing controversial issues. Indicate how often each statement is true for you personally by placing the appropriate number in the blank to the left of the statement. Use the following scale:

1 = almost always true 2 = rarely true 3 = occasionally true 4 = often true 5 = almost always true

___ 1. While in an argument, I worry that the person I am arguing with will form a negative impression of me.

___ 2. Arguing over controversial issues improves my intelligence.

___ 3. I enjoy avoiding arguments.

___ 4. I am energetic and enthusiastic when I argue.

___ 5. Once I finish an argument, I promise myself that I will not get into another.

___ 6. Arguing with a person creates more problems for me than it solves.

___ 7. I have a pleasant, good feeling when I win a point in an argument.

___ 8. When I finish arguing with someone, I feel nervous and upset.

___ 9. I enjoy a good argument over a controversial issue.

___ 10. I get an unpleasant feeling when I realize I am about to get into an argument.

___ 11. I enjoy defending my point of view on an issue.

___ 12. I am happy when I keep an argument from happening.

___ 13. I do not like to miss the opportunity to argue a controversial issue.

___ 14. I prefer being with people who rarely disagree with me.

___ 15. I consider an argument an exciting intellectual challenge

___ 16. I find myself unable to think of an effective intellectual challenge.

___ 17. I feel refreshed and satisfied after an argument with something controversial.

___ 18. I have ability do well in an argument.

___ 19. I try to avoid getting into arguments.

___ 20. I feel excitement when I expect that a conversation is leading to an argument.

Scoring

1. Add your score on items 2, 4, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 18, 20.

(A) Total = _____

2. Add your scores on items 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 19

(B) Total = _____

3. Subtract your (B) total from your (A) total.

(C) Total = _____

Score: If the result is any number between 14 and 40, you may have a high motivation to argue. If the result is any number between -4 and 13, you may have a moderate motivation to argue. If the result is any number between -5 and -25, you have a low motivation to argue.