

YOUR FINAL SCORES

Now, add all the numbers by columns, from top to bottom, so you have *ten* separate subtotals. None of these subtotals should be higher than 56; nor should any be lower than seven (7). For FINAL SCORES, combine the subtotals from the columns on the Scoring Matrix, as indicated below. Note: Final scores should be no higher than 105, nor lower than 15.

$$L (a + v) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad B (c + w) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad P (d + x) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$H (f + y) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad R (h + z) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

WHAT YOUR SCORES MEAN

Each of your scores reflects a particular Philosophy of Adult Education, as follows:

- L = LIBERAL (ARTS) ADULT EDUCATION
(Education for Intellectual Development)
- B = BEHAVIORIST ADULT EDUCATION
(Education for Behavioral Change)
- P = PROGRESSIVE ADULT EDUCATION
(Education for Practical Problem-Solving)
- H = HUMANISTIC ADULT EDUCATION
(Education for Self-Actualization)
- R = RADICAL ADULT EDUCATION
(Education for Major Social Change)

* NOTE: "Liberal" Adult Education does not necessarily reflect "liberal" political viewpoints; the label is derived from the "Liberal Arts" approach to education.

On the next page, you will find brief descriptions of these five Philosophies of Adult Education.* You may want to write your score for each Philosophy above the column that describes it. Your *highest* score reflects the Philosophy that is *closest* to your own beliefs; your *lowest* score reflects a Philosophy that is *least* like yours. For example, a score of 95-105 indicates that you *strongly agree* with that Philosophy; a score of 15-25 indicates that you *strongly disagree* with a given Philosophy. If you find your scores fairly equal among all of the Philosophies, or spread among three or more, you may want to spend some time clarifying your beliefs and values and looking for possible contradictions among them.

Most educators have a clear primary philosophical orientation, or share two that are stronger than others. Typical combinations are: *LIBERAL AND BEHAVIORIST*, *PROGRESSIVE and HUMANISTIC*, *PROGRESSIVE and RADICAL*, or *HUMANISTIC and RADICAL*. On the other hand, it is quite unlikely that you would have high scores in both *LIBERAL and RADICAL*, or *BEHAVIORIST and HUMANISTIC* Philosophies. These philosophies have key underlying assumptions that are inherently contradictory. (For example, the primary purpose of Behaviorist Education is to ensure compliance with expectations or standards set by others, whereas Humanistic Education is intended to enhance individual self-development—which may or may not meet anyone else's expectations or standards.)

There is no "right" or "wrong" Philosophy of Education.

The Inventory is designed to reflect back to you some of your own beliefs, not to make judgments about those beliefs. It is up to you to decide how your beliefs may influence your decisions and actions as an educator, and how your personal educational philosophy may be well-suited, or perhaps not the best match, for the educational setting in which you work.

* Descriptions adapted from J. Elias and S. Merriam (1980), *Philosophical Foundations of Adult Education*, Malabar, FL: Krieger Publishing Company.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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[NOTE: Reflects LIBERAL ARTS Philosophy of Adult Education]
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