

# HSPT Score Explanation Guide

Scholastic's High School Placement Test (HSPT) consists of five subtests as an overall indicator of a student's cognitive aptitude and ability: Verbal, Quantitative, Reading, Mathematics and Language. When evaluating applicants, the Academy of the Holy Names focuses on the National Percentile (NP), Cognitive Skills Quotient (CSQ), and Composite scores. The National Percentile tells the percentage of students in the national norming group who received a lower score. Based on the sample below, the student's Verbal Skills score of a 67 was higher than 67 percent of those in the national norm sample.

## Sample HSPT Summary

| Subtests/Totals         | Scores |           |    |    |    |    |
|-------------------------|--------|-----------|----|----|----|----|
|                         | SS     |           | LP | LS | NP | NS |
| <b>Cognitive Skills</b> |        |           |    |    |    |    |
| Verbal Skills           | 537    |           | 83 | 7  | 67 | 6  |
| Quantitative Skills     | 700    |           | 89 | 8  | 95 | 8  |
| Total Cognitive Skills  | 609    | (CSQ) 121 | 94 | 8  | 86 | 7  |
| <b>Basic Skills</b>     |        |           |    |    |    |    |
| Reading                 | 632    | (GE) 11.7 | 94 | 8  | 93 | 8  |
| Mathematics             | 589    | (GE) 10.9 | 83 | 7  | 80 | 7  |
| Language                | 609    | (GE) 11.5 | 89 | 8  | 92 | 8  |
| Total Basic Skills      | 612    | (GE) 11.4 | 94 | 8  | 92 | 8  |
| Option:                 |        |           |    |    |    |    |
| <b>Composite</b>        | 611    |           | 94 | 8  | 90 | 8  |

## Cognitive Skills

The Verbal and Quantitative subtests measure the ability to understand and reason with words and numbers. Verbal skills include synonyms, antonyms, analogies and logic. Quantitative skills include number series, number manipulation, and geometric/non-geometric comparisons.

## Cognitive Skills Quotient (CSQ)

The CSQ is based upon the student's scores on both the Verbal and Quantitative subtests as well as her age at the time of testing. The score functions as a predictive indicator of a student's success in high school.

## Basic Skills

The Reading, Mathematics, and Language subtests assess learned skills. Reading consists of comprehension skills, to include main idea, inference, interpretation of literary elements, and vocabulary usage in context. Math consists of problem-solving, computation, algebra and geometry skills. Language consists of standard English conventions, to include spelling, grammar, punctuation, and composition.

## Composite

The Composite score is the total performance score over all five subtests: Verbal, Quantitative, Reading, Math, and Language. In order to calculate the Composite score, the raw scores are added together from the five subtests that comprise each composite score and are then converted to standard scores and national percentiles. Since the composite scores are scaled independently from its parts, the score is not simply the average of its parts.