



5. Diff.: Difference between your student percent correct and the national average

## SCORING THE IAAT<sup>™</sup>

After completing the test:

- Ensure that all responses have heavy dark marks.
- Tear the perforated strip at the edge of the answer sheet.
- Open the answer sheet to page 4 and read the Directions for Scoring.
- For Step 7 in the Directions for Scoring, use the enclosed IAAT<sup>™</sup> Score Conversion Table.
- To convert the raw score (number correct) for a subtest to a percentile rank, locate the raw score on the left-hand side and read across to the right.
- Similarly, to convert the composite (total) raw score to a standard score, percentile rank, normal curve equivalent, or stanine, locate the raw score on the left-hand side and read across to the right.
- Record these derived scores on the Individual Score Report, located on page 5 of the answer sheet.

## **INTERPRETING DERIVED SCORES**

- Read the Definitions of Derived Scores on page 4 of the answer sheet.
- Understand that these scores are most useful when combined with other information about the mathematical abilities of a student. These test scores should only be one of several factors considered when deciding which math classes a student should take.
- The four IAAT<sup>™</sup> subtest scores can indicate strengths and/or weaknesses a student would bring to algebra class. Together, these scores provide a quick profile of a student's algebra readiness skills. Teachers or parents might wish, therefore, to investigate unusually high or low subtest scores.
- How do I determine a student's areas of weakness and strength?
  - A percentile rank below (above) 50 indicates that the student is below (above) average in comparison to other students.
  - A particularly low (high) percentile rank in comparison to the other three subtests, would indicate that the student is *relatively* weak (strong) in that particular skill.

## GENERAL SCORING DEFINITIONS for Achievement Tests

- Number Correct (Raw Score)—Its interpretation depends on the difficulty and number of test questions (Maximum Points).
- Percent Correct-Like Number Correct, it has little meaning by itself.
- **Percentile Rank (PR)**—PR is a norm-referenced score that ranges from 1 to 99. It indicates the relative standing of a student in comparison to other students in the same grade in the norm group who took the test around the same time of year. For instance, a PR of 72 indicates that the student scored higher than 72% of the students in the national norm group. Conversely, 28% of the norm group scored higher than the student.
- **Stanine**—a norm-referenced score that ranges from 1 to 9. Stanines are equal units of achievement when compared to a reference group as below average (1–3), average (4–6), or above average (7–9).
- Grade Equivalent (GE)—GEs are useful to measure individual growth from one year to the next. Typically a student progresses one grade level (1.0) each year. This score is represented by a decimal number. If a sixth-grade student obtained a GE of 7.8 in math, then an instructor would compare that to the student's fifth grade math GE score to evaluate if it increased by 1.0.

*Caution:* Do NOT use GEs for grade placement decisions. They do not indicate that the student has mastered all material up to that grade level.

## GENERAL SCORING DEFINITIONS for CogAT<sub>®</sub> Ability Tests

- Age-Based Scores (CogAT<sub>®</sub> only)—Ability tests provide both grade-based and age-based scores. Age Percentile Ranks (APR) and Age Stanines (AS) are the most commonly used age-based scores. Unlike grade-based scores, age-based scores compare a student's score to the norm groups in reference to the student's age, not grade level. When a student's age is typical for the grade, the student's age and grade scores will be identical or nearly so. However, if students are very young (old) for the grade, their age scores will be higher (lower) than their grade scores. For individuals who are younger or older than the typical student in a grade, grade norms (rather than age norms) are more appropriate to use when trying to understand the students' academic performance.
- Predicted Achievement Score (The lowa Tests®/CogAT® only)—Utilizes the student's ability score (generated from the CogAT®) to generate a prediction of how the student should score on The lowa Tests®. A significant discrepancy between the Predicted Achievement Score and the actual achievement score may indicate "over-" or "under-" achievement, in relation to ability.