

Vineland-4 Examiner Submitted Questions

Thank you to all examiners who submitted questions about the Vineland-4 and the Field Research process. We reviewed the questions submitted and organized them below by topic to make it easier to find information and provide clear, consistent guidance.

If you have a question that is not addressed here, please submit it by emailing our team at FRExaminerSupport@pearson.com.

Vineland-4 Administration

1) When administering the Vineland-4, should examiners administer mandatory questions that fall within domains or sections that are not age-appropriate for the candidate (for example, Work for a 3-month-old)?

Examiners should only administer the mandatory items for subdomains that fall within the age requirements for the candidate. Then, for the mandatory items that are required, examiners must rate all of the items in that section, even if there are some that are far too difficult or too easy for the examinee.

Table 1.2 on Page 3 of the Vineland-4 Pilot Manual lists which subdomains are administered to which ages. The ages are also listed on the first page of the subdomain on the Interview Form.

FINE MOTOR (Ages 0:00–9:11)				MOTOR SKILLS DOMAIN			
INTERVIEW TOPICS							
A Handling Objects	D Using Writing Tools	G Coloring	J Precise Movements				
B Manipulating Things	E Hand Coordination	H Using Scissors	K Using Technology				
C Opening Doors	F Drawing	I Tying	* Mandatory Items				
				Performs independently:			
				usually	sometimes	never	✓ if guessed
0:00–0:11	A 1. Reaches for a toy or object.			U	S	N	
	A 2. Picks up objects. They may use both hands.			U	S	N	

For example, Fine Motor subdomain is only administered for Candidates ages 0:0–9:11. Therefore, Mandatory Items for Fine Motor on page 44 of the Interview Form should only be administered for Candidates ages 0:0–9:11. You would skip the whole subdomain (including the Mandatory items) for a Candidate who is older than 9:11. You would

administer the subdomain and every Mandatory item for a Candidate who is 9:11 and younger.

2) How should examiners proceed when an infant or young child does not meet the basal requirement and is already in the lowest available age range?

For the Vineland-4 Pilot, a basal is established when either six consecutive Usually/Yes ratings are obtained or Item 1 is reached. For candidates who run out of items on the subdomain, reaching Item 1 serves as an acceptable alternative to obtaining six consecutive Usually/Yes ratings.

3) When testing an adult, if the examiner begins at item K41 and proceeds through K42, K43, K44, and M45, and the candidate receives five consecutive "Usually" responses, but six consecutive "Usually" responses are required for the basal:

- **Should the examiner go back to J40 to obtain the sixth consecutive "Usually" response?**
- **Or should the examiner move to an earlier item within the same topic, such as K37?**
- **Should items such as J40, M39, and J38 be administered and scored, or should they be skipped?**
- **Does the basal require six consecutive "Usually" responses across all items, regardless of the alphabetical topic, or are the six responses required within the same topic?**

The situation in the question refers to administering the Expressive Subdomain for a candidate aged 3:0 and older. To clarify, For the Vineland-4 Pilot, a basal is established when either **six consecutive Usually/Yes ratings are obtained or Item 1 is reached** so the examiner must continue to administer topics until a basal is reached, regardless of the age-based start point.

In addition, items on the Vineland-4 Interview are to be **administered by topic, not by individual item**. Therefore, you should not simply read the questions needed to establish a basal and ceiling for the subdomain to the respondent. Instead, you should: 1) ask the first topic question, 2) listen to the information that the respondent provides, 3) ask additional questions in order to understand the Candidates' level of adaptive functioning on that topic, 4) rate the items you discussed. **This means that you will likely cover information about items that come later or earlier on the subdomain, so we encourage you to rate those as well since they may ultimately contribute to a basal and a ceiling. If you've**

already reached the basal or the ceiling, you are not required to circle ratings for the earlier or later items, but you will likely have discussed them as part of the interview.

For this situation (Expressive Subdomain administered for an adult candidate), the examiner would start with the Topic K question and rate the items in Topic K that were discussed. They would then move to the Topic M question and rate the Topic M items. Even if all items have been rated U, in order to satisfy the basal rule of 6 Us in a row, they would need to also ask the Topic J question and rate the Topic J items that were discussed.

See the example below. Note: Circles with dashed lines are not required for basal, but would have been rated as part of the topic-based discussion with the respondent during the interview.

EXPRESSIVE **COMMUNICATION DOMAIN**

INTERVIEW TOPICS

A Beginning Expression	E Communicating Names	I Asking Questions	M Giving Directions
B Beginning Word Use	F Basic Grammar Use	J Complex Grammar Use	* Mandatory Items
C Vocabulary Use	G Intermediate Grammar Use	K Expressing Ideas & Experiences	
D Using Gestures	H Using Pronouns	L Using Figurative Language	

		Performs independently:			
		usually	sometimes	never	✓ if guessed
I	34. Asks questions beginning with <i>when</i> . Grammar does not have to be correct. For example: "When is dinner," "When we go home?" One word questions (like, "When?") count if the person asks in a way that fits the meaning of the situation. For example: wanting to know what time a show is going to start.	U	S	N	
J	35. Uses <i>because</i> in phrases or sentences. For example: "Because I want to," "Kathy went home because she was sick." Using <i>because</i> as a one word response does not count.	U	S	N	
J	36. Uses past tense verbs in phrases or sentences. For example: "They walked," "He baked pie."	U	S	N	
K	37. Tells the basic parts of a familiar story, book, or movie plot. For example: the characters, what happens, how it ends. The person does not have to include great detail or perfect order, but the basic parts of the story must be told without prompting. Rate N if they do not describe details or only list one or two things, like a character's name.	U	S	N	
J	38. Uses <i>behind</i> , <i>in front of</i> , and <i>between</i> correctly in phrases or sentences. For example: "Terrell is behind you," "I walked in front of her," "The ball went between the cars."	U	S	N	
M	39. Gives simple directions with one or two steps. For example: how to make/find/do something. Examples include: "The bathroom's at the end of the hall." "Fold this over, then stand it up." "Look in the little green box under the bed." Directions can include pointing/demonstration plus words/signs. Rate N for directions that do not make sense.	U	S	N	
J	40. Uses compound sentences joined by <i>and</i> or <i>but</i> . For example: "She asked me, and I told her no," "Jerome wanted to go, but I didn't."	U	S	N	
K	41. Makes comments based on what they think about things. For example: "I think he's mad at her because she said mean things about him." Examples include: "Eric doesn't really like cartoons." "I think it might rain." "I think that dog is cute." "That movie might be too scary for you."	U	S	N	
K	42. Tells about everyday events in detail. For example: when asked what they did with a friend today, the person shares who was involved, what they did, where the activity took place. If there is ambiguity, rate based on how often the person provides at least three details. For example: when asked about their school day, they say "We had art this morning. I shared my lunch with Eric. Math was boring because I already knew how to do it." This example would be rated U.	U	S	N	
K	43. Tells about one-time events in detail. For example: when asked to describe a trip, the person shares who was involved, what they did, where the activity took place. If there is ambiguity, rate based on how often the person provides at least three details. For example: when asked about a recent vacation, they say, "We went on an airplane to visit my grandparents. We went to the beach, and I got to ride on a boat!" This example would be rated U.	U	S	N	

EXPRESSIVE **COMMUNICATION DOMAIN**

		Performs independently:			
		usually	sometimes	never	✓ if guessed
K	44. When not fully understood at first, they try to clarify. For example: restates, rephrases, adds detail, chooses different words/signs, slows down. To count, the person must express the thought in a different way. They can not simply repeat or nearly repeat the same words/signs.	U	S	N	
M	45. Gives complex directions with three or more steps. For example: to a distant location, for a recipe requiring many steps. Examples include: "Go to the end of this street, turn right, and go half a block until you see the two-story white building." "First cook the noodles, then toss them in a pan with the sauce, and then put the crumbs on top and bake for 10 minutes." Directions can include pointing/demonstration plus words/signs. Rate N for directions that do not make sense.	U	S	N	

4) The Q-global caregiver form indicates that the caregiver has 72 hours to complete the questionnaire. Does the same 72-hour completion window apply to the interview form?

No. The 72-hour completion window applies only to the digital Caregiver/Other Form administered through Q-global. Respondents must complete the Caregiver/Other Form within 72 hours (3 days) and the Q-global test link closes after 72 hours of inactivity.

The Interview Form is administered by the examiner using a paper form and does not have a 72-hour system expiration window. However, examiners should complete administrations using standardized procedures and avoid unnecessary delays.

5) Can the Vineland-4 interview be completed over two separate days, or must the interview be completed in one session?

The Vineland-4 Pilot interview should be completed in a single session whenever possible. However, if circumstances make this impractical (for example, respondent fatigue, scheduling constraints, or an unexpectedly long administration), the interview may be completed across two sessions. In these situations, examiners should resume the interview as soon as feasible, maintain the same respondent, and continue following all standardized administration procedures. If the interview must be paused, document the circumstances and resume with the same respondent as soon as practical to minimize the chance that changes in recall or circumstances affect responses.

6) The Vineland-3 online administration did not move from one domain to the next once the ceiling was met; the rater was required to complete all questions in each domain. This made online administration take longer than the paper protocol interview. Will the Vineland-4 online administration have this issue as well?

The Vineland-4 digital administration is designed to use adaptive routing with automated basal and ceiling rules, similar to the Vineland-3 digital interview. Under normal operation, respondents should not be required to answer every item within a domain once sufficient information has been collected to establish basal and ceiling points. If the system is continuing to administer all items within a domain despite a clear ceiling being reached, please document the administration and notify the project team, as this may indicate a technical issue.

Vineland-4 Interview Record Form Submission Checklist

Use this checklist before mailing your Interview Form to ensure that it will be usable for pilot data analysis.

Candidate and Respondent Information

- ☐ Report type is correct (Caregiver or Candidate).
- ☐ If Caregiver/Other, respondent relationship to candidate is documented.
- ☐ If Caregiver/Other, respondent contact frequency is documented.

Administration Information

- ☐ Start and stop times are documented.

Age-Based Administration Checks

- ☐ Only age-appropriate subdomains were administered.
- ☐ All required mandatory sections for age-appropriate subdomains were administered.

Basal and Ceiling Verification

For each administered subdomain in the Communication, Daily Living Skills, and Socialization domains:

- ☐ Basal was established (6 consecutive U's in a row or reach item 1).
- ☐ Ceiling was established (6 consecutive N's in a row or reach last item).
- ☐ No items required for establishing basal or ceiling were skipped.

Item Rating Completeness

For each administered subdomain:

- ☐ Every item between the basal and ceiling has a rating.
- ☐ Every mandatory item has a rating.
- ☐ Ratings are legible and clearly marked.

Field Research General Questions

- 1) For the ASD clinical study for candidates through age 65, is a potential candidate required to have a job or volunteer position for at least 10 hours per week?**

Yes. For the ASD clinical study, preference is given to candidates aged 16 to 65 who have either a paid job or a consistent volunteer role of at least 10 hours a week. If you have a candidate who may otherwise be a strong fit but does not meet this requirement, please enter the candidate and our Field Research team will review the candidate and provide guidance on eligibility.

- 2) If an examiner recruits an older clinical candidate but does not have access to the candidate's most recent evaluation records, what documentation is required to verify the candidate's diagnosis and eligibility?**

Evaluation records or scores are not required for the Vineland-4 Pilot clinical studies. Select the appropriate diagnosis and services within the candidate profile for your candidate to be considered for participation. The Field Research team will review the available information and determine whether the candidate can be considered for participation.

If scores are available, we recommend adding them to the candidate profile, as some of our future data collection projects may require scores to be entered.

- 3) The exclusionary criteria for clinical and typically developing candidates can be difficult to interpret when a potential candidate has multiple diagnoses or conditions. How should examiners determine whether a candidate with one or more additional diagnoses or conditions may be eligible?**

Our team is always happy to help you determine if your candidate meets eligibility criteria for a project. Enter candidates that are interested in participating and contact the Field Research team for eligibility guidance. In general, most of the clinical studies for our projects do not allow comorbidities. When in doubt, submit the candidate for review rather than excluding them yourself.

- 4) Can you provide a clear breakdown of the compensation provided for each participant in the Field Research process? Having this information clearly documented would help examiners accurately communicate payment information to potential candidates before recruitment.**

Based on feedback from previous projects, Pearson provides compensation not only for individuals who directly participate in testing or form completion, but also for candidates whose demographic information contributes to the study.

For candidates ages 4-65 participating in an in-person Caregiver Interview, the candidate/examinee will receive \$25, and the caregiver who completes the interview will receive between \$80 and \$100, depending on the assignment. For digital forms completed for candidates ages 0-65, the candidate will receive \$10, and the caregiver who completes the digital form will receive between \$50 and \$80, depending on the assignment.

Detailed compensation information for each form and candidate group is available on the Examiner Hub. If you have questions about a specific assignment or pay rate, please contact the Field Research Team at FRExaminerSupport@pearson.com, and we will be happy to assist.

5) Will I be selected to participate in the Vineland-4 project?

We are grateful for your interest in the Vineland-4 Pilot. This pilot is a small study so a limited number of examiners will be selected. To be selected, review our weekly candidate needs email and recruit candidates meeting the listed requirements. As our project moves forward, the candidates we need become more specific. If one of your candidates is selected, you will be contacted by the Field Research team with next steps.

6) What are the recommended ways for examiners to recruit candidates for the Vineland-4 research studies?

Examiners are encouraged to recruit through sources they already know and trust, including schools, clinics, private practices, therapy providers, community organizations, support groups, professional networks, current candidates, and personal community connections. The Examiner Hub and weekly needs emails help examiners by providing recruitment resources and project-specific recommendations for hard-to-find populations.

7) Does Pearson provide recruitment materials that examiners can use when contacting potential candidates?

Yes. Pearson provides recruitment resources to support examiner outreach efforts. Project-specific materials can be found on the Examiner Hub under the Candidate Recruitment Resources section. Examiners should regularly check the Examiner Hub for the most current recruitment materials and project updates.