

Williams, T.O., Jr., Cox, C., Eaves, R.C. (2000). The construct validity of the Visual Similes Test II, *Diagnostique*, 25, 111-128.

### Abstract

The Visual Similes Test II (VST II) was designed to measure arousal as it relates to affective and cognitive stimuli via an Affective and Cognitive Form. This study analyzed the factor structure of the VST II to determine whether or not the instrument measures these two factors. Principal-axis factor analyses with oblique rotations were used for two groups: 8 to 9 year old and 10 to 11 year old children. The scree test was used as the extraction rule and pattern coefficients equal to or greater than .30 were considered to be salient. Using these criteria, the VST II produced a robust unrotated first factor, which was interpreted as supporting the notion that the VST II measures a general trait, which we labeled arousal. When rotated obliquely, two distinct factors appeared, which corresponded to traits consistent with affective and cognitive arousal. Limitation of the research and alternative explanations for the results are discussed.