

A Test of Wisdom and Folly

Please answer the following items by indicating in the **Response** column *which of the two statements is truer for you*. A "1" indicates agreement with the statement on the left, while a "5" indicates agreement with the statement on the right. A "3" would mean you are torn between the two statements—each is equally true of you or you fall somewhere between the two extremes. "2" and "4" represent tendencies toward the statement on the left or right, respectively.

Item	Response	Proverb
1 I appreciate rebuke, correction, and discipline.	1--2--3--4--5	I do not learn much from criticism or correction. 9:7-10;12:1;13:1, 18; 15:5; etc.
2 I love to work.	1--2--3--4--5	I love to sleep and play. 10:5; 6:6-11; etc.
3 I know how to take orders.	1--2--3--4--5	I resent being told what to do. 10:8;13:13;19:16
4 I delight in wisdom and knowledge.	1--2--3--4--5	I seek my pleasures in other pursuits. 10:14, 23; 15:14; 17:24;18:2,15,etc
5 My words seem to bring healing and peace.	1--2--3--4--5	My words keep getting me in trouble. 10:21; 14:3;15:2, 28; 18:6-7, etc.
6 I am comfortable with silence.	1--2--3--4--5	I find it difficult to be quiet. 12:23; 17:27-28.
7 I strive to be humble.	1--2--3--4--5	Pride often gets in my way 11:2; 29:1, 23.
8 I seek the advice of others.	1--2--3--4--5	I follow my instincts. 12:15; 19:20.
9 I keep control of my temper.	1--2--3--4--5	I lose my temper frequently. 12:16;14:29;29:11
10 I try to choose wise friends.	1--2--3--4--5	I don't really 'choose' friends. 12:26;13:20; 18:2
11 I look before I leap.	1--2--3--4--5	I leap first and apologize later. 14:8, 15; 21:29.
12 To get my attention, a word is all that is needed.	1--2--3--4--5	I usually have to be hit in the head with a 2x4. 17:10; 19:25, 29; 21:11; 26:3.
13 I am quick to repent.	1--2--3--4--5	It is hard to say "I'm sorry." 14:9; 28:13.
14 I tend toward patience.	1--2--3--4--5	I tend toward recklessness. 14:16; 19:11.
15 I stay away from alcohol.	1--2--3--4--5	I need a drink sometimes. 20:1; 23:29-35.
16 I love peace.	1--2--3--4--5	I love to fight. 17:14, 19; 20:3.
17 I like to plan.	1--2--3--4--5	I like to 'go with the flow'. 19:2;21:5,20;29:2
18 I don't try to change fools.	1--2--3--4--5	Fools need special attention. 23:9; 26:4-5; 27:2
19 God knows better than me.	1--2--3--4--5	I know best. 3:5,7; 26:12; 28:2
20 I believe in sexual purity.	1--2--3--4--5	I believe in sexual freedom. 2:16-19; 5:3-23.

Total:

Add up your scores in the Response column. The following ranges should give you clues on your "Wisdom" rating:

- 20 You are a modern day Solomon
- 100 You are a fool.
- 60 You are either foolishly wise or a wise fool.
- <60 You are moving in the direction of wisdom.
- >60 You are moving in the direction of folly.

Disclaimer: Most fools—being self-justifying and prideful—would probably score well on this test. Many wise people—being humble and self-effacing—would score poorly.