

VOCAL IDENTITY QUESTIONNAIRE  
(BOLFAN – STOSIC, N., 2002.)

Introduction and explanation of results coding

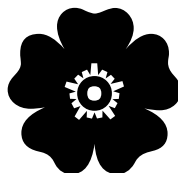
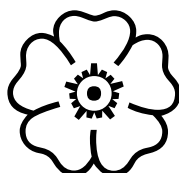
Emotions can change child’s voice timbre, loudness and pitch in possible stress situations as non-regular family, school or some other similar environment. Voice is a mirror of human emotional status, especially in very sensible period of life – childhood. I applied mixture of questions in this questionnaire. Answers on these questions show child’s awareness of his own voice status and feeling of excitement when child tend to vocal abuse. That could be: screaming, crying, too loud or too quiet speech, to fast or to slow speech, speech on the rest of breath etc. That happens mainly at home, in school or at the playground and it could influence on the voice characteristics.

|                             |
|-----------------------------|
| Possible coding:            |
| Female child – 1; male – 2. |
| False – 1; correct – 2      |

A. Group of questions - IDENTIFICATION OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN “BAD” OR “NICE” voice using pictures

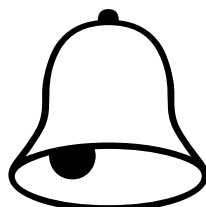
INSTRUCTIONS: I will sing and then point on some pictures. Listen carefully! (Voice teacher sings vowel “a” nicely, and then points on the WHITE FLOWER; voice teacher sings vowel “a” badly and then points on the BLACK FLOWER).

|   | Correct | False |
|---|---------|-------|
| 1. Now listen how I sing and show me the right picture! |         |       |

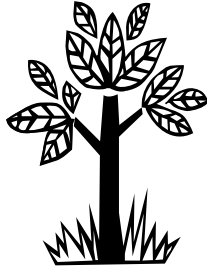


INSTRUCTIONS: I will sing again and then point on some pictures. Listen carefully! (Voice teacher sings or speaks too loud, and then points on the BIG BELL; voice teacher sings or speaks with appropriate loudness and then points on a MIDDLE sized BELL; voice teacher sings or speaks too quiet and then points on a SMALL BELL).

|   | Correct | False |
|---|---------|-------|
| 2. Now listen how I sing and show me the right picture! |         |       |



|   |         |       |
|---|---------|-------|
| INSTRUCTIONS: I will sing again and then point on some pictures. Listen carefully!<br>(Voice teacher sings or speaks too high and then points on a HIGH TREE; voice teacher sings or speaks with normal pitch and then points on a MIDDLE sized TREE; voice teacher sings or speaks too low and then points on SMALL TREE). |         |       |
|   | Correct | False |
| 3. Now listen how I sing and show me the right picture!   |         |       |



B. Group of questions - IDENTIFICATION OF VOCAL HABITS AT HOME situation.

|  |     |    |
|--|-----|----|
| INSTRUCTIONS: Answer my questions!<br>(Voice teacher asks child about voice habits AT HOME and about the type of possible vocal abuse) |     |    |
|  | Yes | No |
| 4. Is your favourite game loud game at home?   |     |    |
| 5. When you play at home, do you play more often alone?  |     |    |
| 6. If you play with friends, are you play loudly?  |     |    |
| 7. Do you like to scream or yell at home?  |     |    |
| 8. Do you often cry at home?   |     |    |
| 9. Do you often argue with your family members?  |     |    |
| 10. Do you watch TV more than you do other home activities?  |     |    |
| 11. Do you ever feel pain in your throat while you speak at home?  |     |    |



C. Group of questions - IDENTIFICATION OF VOCAL HABITS IN SCHOOL situation.

|  |     |    |
|--|-----|----|
| INSTRUCTIONS: Answer my questions!<br>(Voice teacher asks child about voice habits IN SCHOOL and about the type of possible vocal abuse) |     |    |
|  | Yes | No |
| 12. Is your favourite subject in school "verbal" one (like native tongue?)   |     |    |
| 13. Do you scream and yell during the breaks in school?  |     |    |
| 14. Do you like more loud activities in school like sports?  |     |    |
| 15. Are you loud in the classroom?   |     |    |
| 16. Are you active during the class hour?  |     |    |
| 17. Do you participate in out of school voice activities like singing, acting etc.   |     |    |
| 18. Are you a leader of some group in the school?  |     |    |
| 19. Do you ever feel pain in your throat while you speak in school?  |     |    |
| 20. Do you ever feel that you cannot speak normally after the school?  |     |    |



D. Group of questions - IDENTIFICATION OF VOCAL HABITS AT THE PLAYGROUND.

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer on my questions!  
 (Voice teacher asks child about his or her voice habits on the playground and about the type of possible vocal abuse)

|   | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| 21. Do you scream or yell during play?                    |     |    |
| 22. Do you like more loud games?                          |     |    |
| 23. Are you a leader in a game?                           |     |    |
| 24. Do you ever feel pain in your throat during the game? |     |    |
| 25. Do you ever feel pain in your throat after the game?  |     |    |



E. Group of questions – INSIGHT IN CHILD’S VOCAL BEHAVIOURAL PATTERN

|  | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| 26. If you ever feel pain in your throat, do you feel it in the morning?       |     |    |
| 27. If you ever feel pain in your throat, do you feel it in the evening?       |     |    |
| 28. Do you ever feel your voice is blocked like you cannot say something?      |     |    |
| 29. Are you often catch cold?  |     |    |
| 30. Do you ever feel that your nose closed?                                    |     |    |
| 31. Do you ever feel that you cannot say what you want in one breath?          |     |    |
| 32. Did you ever feel that people do not understand you because of your voice? |     |    |
| 33. Do you speak fast?   |     |    |
| 34. Do you speak slowly?   |     |    |
| 35. Do you speak with normal rate?   |     |    |
| 36. Do you like to imitate voices?   |     |    |
| 37. Do you like to sing, act, or do something similar?                         |     |    |



F. Group of questions – RECOGNITION of “NICE” AND “BAD” VOICES

|   | Nice | Bad |
|---|------|-----|
| 38. Whose voice you like to hear the most and put them in Nice or Bad category! |      |     |
| 39. Do you think your voice is comfortable, nice, good or unpleasant and bad?   |      |     |
| 40. Do you think your voice is too high (Bad category)?                         |      |     |
| 41. Do you think your voice is too low (Bad category)?                          |      |     |
| 42. What do you think that your voice has normal pitch (Nice category)?         |      |     |

Instrument is made by using aetiological, psychological and perceptual-acoustical aspects of voice. The reason for that kind of grouping the questions is in children's voice problems. They are largely fall into the category of vocal misuse and abuse, and into the category of emotional stress situations, often determined by child's environment. In the majority of cases, emotional factors play an important part in aetiology of voice disorders in children.

|  |
|--|
| Etiological aspect: risk situations for vocal abuse appearance.  |
| Psychological aspect: risk situations for emotional stress occurrence or increasing excitement in children.  |
| Perceptual-acoustical aspects: identification and recognition of their own or some other "good" or "bad" characteristics of voice (pitch, intensity and voice timber). |

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