Advising Script for SmarterMeasure Sub-scales

This document is prepared for institutions as a resource in interpreting the results of the sub-scale scores of the SmarterMeasure Learning Readiness Indicator. SmarterMeasure is an assessment that ***measures levels of non-cognitive indicators of student success. It is used to help students go into the learning experience with their "eyes wide open" about their traits, attributes, availability and skills.*** Seven of the eight sections from the assessment (Life Factors, Individual Attributes, Typing Speed and Accuracy, Reading Rate & Recall, LMS Competency, Technical Knowledge, and Technical Competency) are covered in this document.

Utilize the data from SmarterMeasure to enrich the conversation with students. Instead of "checking in" or "encouraging" the student, use the data to have a ***more meaningful, enriched conversation about their strengths and opportunities for improvement***.

This screen capture illustrates the view of the Grit Grid available in the Instructor Dashboard. In a conversation with a student, first compliment them on their strengths. In this example, the student is strongest in their typing accuracy and they have an opportunity for improvement in time availability. In addition to viewing sub-scales scores on the Grit Grid, student sub-scale scores are available on the student's individual score report and/or via the readiness ranges report.

The following table is a suggested guide for what to say for each sub-scale. The statements involve open-ended questions which are designed to prompt reflection and interaction from the student.

Grit Grid

The grid below indicates the student's scores for each of the sub-scales measured by the assessment. The scores are color coded at 25 point increments on a zero to one-hundred scale. Educators are encouraged to facilitate conversations with students about their scores.

Note that the Readiness Ranges above are on a color-coded, three-point scale and the Grit Grid is on a color-coded, four-point scale

Scale	Sub-Scale	Opportunity for Improvement			Strength
		0% to 25%	26% to 50%	51% to 75%	76% to 100%
Life Factors	Time		45%		
	Place			75%	
	Reason			75%	
	Resources			70%	
	Skills			60%	
Typing	Typing Accuracy				91%
Technical Knowledge	Technology Usage			52%	
	Technology in your Life			65%	

Life Factors Scale

Sub-Scale	Definition	Opportunity for Improvement	Strength
Time	Do they have an adequate amount of time each week for course related activities?	Since you have a limited amount of time to study, it is important that you identify the time that you do have and make use of even small units of time. Let's talk about the times during the week that you can find to study.	It is great that you have enough time during the week to study. To stay on track, you need to be sure to take advantage of the times available to you. Let's talk about the times during the week that you can find to study.
Place	Do they have an appropriate, available place to study?	It is very important to not be distracted while you study. Tell me about the place where you typically study and why it may not be the best possible place for studying. What other places are available to you for studying?	It is very important to not be distracted while you study. Tell me about the place where you typically study and why you feel that it is a good place to study. What other study locations might even be better?
Reason	It is really important that we understand why we are going to school. Do they have a compelling reason?	It is really important that we understand why we are going to school. How will your life be better after completion of this degree program? What has prompted you to continue your education at this point in life?	How will your life be better after completion of this degree program? What has prompted you to continue your education at this point in your life? How do you plan on rewarding yourself when you complete the degree?
Resources	Do they have adequate support/resources from their family, friends and employer?	Going to college can be a challenge. Most people need the support of others to be successful. What are the names of the persons you need support from to be able to stay in school? This may include your family, friends or employer.	It sounds like you have a good support system for going to school. When you graduate who are the people that you will want to thank for helping you through the process. This may include you family, friends or employer.
Skills	Do they perceive that they have adequate academic and technical skills to be successful?	Going back to school can be scary. Students often feel that they are lacking in the academic or technical skills needed to be in college. What types of courses do you feel are most difficult for you (math, writing, science, etc.)? Tell me about the support resources that you are aware of to help you in the areas.	Going back to school can be intimidating even for persons who have had academic success before. What types of courses do you feel are most difficult for you (math, writing, science, etc.)? Tell me about the support resources that you are aware of to help you in these areas.

Individual Attributes Scale

Sub-Scale	Definition	Opportunity for Improvement	Strength
Academic Attributes	Do they possess the study skills needed for academic success?	One of the secrets of successful students is that they know how to study. Tell me about your study habits. How do you prepare for an upcoming test? How good of a job do you do with taking notes and then reviewing them? Of what study skills tutorials are you aware?	Successful college students often have habits or study skills strategies that work for them. What are some of the methods of studying that have worked for you in the past? What are some strategies that you could improve on such as taking notes, memorization, or using a study group?
Help Seeking	Do they ask the instructor for help when they need it?	Many of us prefer to figure things out on our own. It can be intimidating or embarrassing to ask the instructor or someone at the school for help. What typically holds you back from seeking help? In addition to your faculty member, who at the school could you reach out to for help?	There is no reason to be embarrassed when you ask a faculty member or the school for help. In fact, most faculty members a glad to help their students that is what attracted them to teaching. In addition to your faculty members, who at the school could you reach out to if you needed help?
Persistence	Do they stick with a task until it is completed?	Things that happen in life can be really discouraging and make us want to quit. One of the secrets to success as a student is making up our mind early on that we will not give up no matter how hard it seems. Tell me about a time that you resisted the urge to quit something? Think about how good that felt!	It is a great feeling to make it through something that was challenging. School can be challenging and make even strong students want to quit. Tell me about a time that you hung in there through a difficult situation. Think about how good that felt!
Time Managem-ent	Do they make wise use of the time available to them to study?	Most people have busy lives. When you add going to school to other roles such as work and family, there just does not seek to be enough hours in the day to do all that you need to do. Let's talk about a typical week for you. When are some times during each day of the week that you can find time for school work?	There is a saying that "If you want to get something done, ask a busy person to do it." You seem to be that type of person who can find the time to get several things done. Adding school work to your already busy routine can be a challenge for many people. When are some times during each day of the week that you can find time for school work?

Sub-Scale	Definition	Opportunity for Improvement	Strength
Procrastin-ation	Do they put off until tomorrow what they could be doing today?	It is often really easy to put off until tomorrow what we could be doing today. Most of the time when you procrastinate is it because the chore itself was too hard/boring or that other things were too interesting? When you feel the urge to procrastinate remember that taking small steps can prompt you to bigger steps. For example, if you know you need to get out and exercise, start by just putting on your shoes.	Having control over procrastination is one of the keys to success as a student. What have been some of your successful strategies to get yourself started on an unpleasant task like studying? What would you say to another student who is struggling with procrastination?
Locus of Control	Do they feel that if they apply themselves that they will be successful?	What is something that you worked hard for in the past but in the end your hard was did not seem to be rewarded? To what degree do you feel that the same thing could happen with continuing your education? How can you make sure that your efforts as a student pay off in the short term in your courses and in the long term after you complete your degree?	Successful people feel that they are in control of their destiny. You seem like one of those persons who feels that if you work hard, anything is possible. What would you say to a student who feels like no matter how hard they try in their studies that they won't be successful?

Typing Skills Scale

Sub-Scale	Definition	Opportunity for Improvement	Strength
Typing Rate	How fast can the person type?	You school work is going to take lots of time. It will make it take even longer if you "hunt and peck" while typing. Have you considered using a typing tutorial or talk to text tools?	Where and when did you learn to type? Since then, have you ever tried any of the typing tutorials to get even better at typing?
Typing Accuracy	How error-free is the person's typing?	After you type something, regardless of how long it takes, make sure that you go back and proof read it for errors. How many errors to you typically find in material that you have typed?	As you are typing as part of your school work recognize that accuracy is more important than speed. Do you always proofread what you have typed for correctness?

Reading Scale

Sub-Scale	Definition	Opportunity for Improvement	Strength
Reading Recall	Do they remember information that they read on-screen?	Many students comment that one of the hardest things about going back to school is all of the reading. Is your challenge more with a low enjoyment of reading or lack of time to read carefully? When you are studying be sure to focus on what you are reading as you may be tested on the content and don't forget to take notes on what you read.	Sometimes even persons who consider themselves good readers are overwhelmed with the amount of reading required in a college course. If you have an assignment that involves about two hours' worth of reading, would you prefer to read it all at one time or break it up into sections? How do you feel about reading on-screen as opposed to reading from a hard copy?
Reading Rate	How quickly can the student read for comprehension content on a screen?	As you continue your education recognize that you will often be expected to read lots of content either online or from a textbook. Instead of focusing too much on how fast you are reading, focus more on understanding what you are reading. Practice taking notes on what you are reading as this has been shown to improve your ability to recall what you are reading.	The fact that you can quickly read content on screen is a skill that will help you as you continue your education. But recognize that reading for comprehension is different than reading for mere enjoyment. Take time to slow down and think about the content you are reading, maybe even take notes as you read.

LMS Competency

Sub-Scale	Definition	Opportunity for Improvement	Strength
LMS Competen-cy	To what degree, can the student perform expected tasks inside a learning management system?	What is an LMS? The Learning Management System is the online system the school uses for all of your coursework. Are you aware of the resources our school provides to train you on how to use our LMS?	How often have you used an LMS in your prior educational experience? Are you familiar with how to use the LMS that our school uses? Do you know where to find LMS tutorials if you experience a difficulty.

Technical Knowledge

Sub-Scale	Definition	Opportunity for Improvement	Strength
Technology Usage	To what degree can the person do basic computing tasks such as word processing, file management, presentations?	These days a person is expected to be good with computers to go to school. What computing tasks do you find most difficult (word processing, creating presentations, etc.)? Are you aware of the resources our school provides?	Can you imagine going to school now without the use of computers? What computing tasks will you use the most with your school work (word processing, creating presentations, etc.)? Are you aware of any tutorials that can help you be more efficient and effective with these tools?
Technology in Your Life	To what degree do they integrate various forms of technology into their life?	Technology is now all around us. People are constantly shopping online, banking online, social networking. What technology would you like to be better at?	Isn't it amazing how much we depend on technology? How many screen hours do you get per week? In what ways can you best use technology to help you with your school work?
Technology Vocabulary	To what degree are they familiar with terms that relate to the use of technology in education?	It is confusing when a word that you may not know such as netiquette, URL or browser is used in a course to describe something related to technology. If you come across a word that you do not understand, what would you do?	Technology is constantly changing and the terms that are used to describe it are rapidly evolving as well. How do you stay current with your knowledge of technology and the words that are used to describe it?

Technical Competency

Sub-Scale	Definition	Opportunity for Improvement	Strength
Computer Competency	To what degree can they complete basic computing tasks?	It can become very frustrating early in a course when you are expected to do something in your course using technology. If this were to happen to you, how would you reach out for support?	Consider it a strength that you are good with doing things on a computer such as emailing, word processing and discussion boards in your course. How do you keep current with technology?
Internet Competency	To what degree can they complete expected tasks online such as searching for information?	Even on-campus courses now expect you to know how to use the Internet correctly for tasks such as searching for information and uploading files. This is especially true for online courses. If you are asked to do a task online and you do not know how, how would you figure it out?	Think about how much using the Internet is different today than it was even just five years ago. What approach do you take to figuring out how to use a new technology?