

## INFORMATION ON LANGUAGE SUPPORT

The language support is run in small groups at the child day-care facility. The aim is to help children further develop their linguistic skills in the best way possible before they start school. The teachers at your local day-care centre are the people to contact if you have any queries.

The Cito language test is not a medical or logopaedics diagnosis capable of determining the need for speech therapy. Please therefore note that language support provided where necessary cannot substitute targeted logopaedics speech therapy.

## INFORMATION ON THE CITO LANGUAGE TEST

The Cito Language Test examines three specific language skills areas:

### 1. Understanding Words (Passive Vocabulary)

Objects, activities and characteristics are read to the student who is then asked to select the appropriate picture from a group of pictures. This is to be able to assess knowledge and understanding of words.

A word can only be used correctly when its meaning has been comprehended; hence understanding words is the prerequisite to using them (active vocabulary). There is a strong link between the active and passive vocabularies.

### 2. Understanding Word Meanings (Cognitive Terms)

Spatial ability (e.g., in front of/behind) as well as chronological processes (e.g., before/after) and comparative adjectives (e.g., bigger/smaller) are tested together with the child's understanding of colors and shapes. Responses are given by selecting the appropriate picture.

### 3. Phoneme Discrimination Test (Phonological Awareness)

Each test task consists of two words that either sound similar (e.g., needle and noodle) or are the same (e.g., roof and roof). The point of the exercise is for the student to make the correct distinction (same/not the same).

The phoneme discretion ability is considered an important prerequisite to learning reading and writing at a later time in the pupil's life.

The number of questions that need to be answered correctly has been specified for each section of The Cito Language Test. A below-average score, predetermined for a specific age group, reflects a need for language development support. Language training takes place in small groups during day care, the goal being to offer children the best possible support in developing their language skills before they enroll in school.

Language proficiency assessment test sections and age limits for both age groups:

Test Section	Maximum Score	Age Limits	
		4 years, 3 months, to 4 years, 9 months	4 years, 10 months, to 5 years, 9 months
Passive Vocabulary	45	25	28
Cognitive Terms	46	24	28
Phonological Awareness	20	9	9