

## **DIRECTED QUESTIONS SCALE**

The 7 items of the Directed Questions Scale (DQS) were individually embedded into blocks of questions from other self-report measures scattered across multiple pages in our online surveys. As a result, each item used slightly different response scales (corresponding to the measure in which it was embedded). These items either ask participants to skip the question entirely or to select a specific answer, rendering the exact response scale meaningless. Items may need to be modified slightly to match the response scale used and to appear similar in format to other items from the measures in which they are embedded.

### **ITEMS FROM THE DIRECTED QUESTIONS SCALE:**

I read instructions carefully. To show that you are reading these instructions, please leave this question blank.

Please skip this question

This is a control question. Leave this question blank.

Please skip this question

This is a control question. Mark “Mostly True” and move on.

This is an extra line. Leave this question blank.

This is a control question. Mark “Rarely” and move on.

### **SCORING:**

Items should be scored by calculating a sum of the number of items for which a participant made an incorrect response (e.g., selecting the wrong answer option or providing an answer to “Please skip this question” or similar items).

We identified cut-scores that yielded the greatest average gain in statistical power (across studies and analyses) when excluding participants exceeding the cut-score. This corresponded to a cut-score of  $> 2$  incorrect responses on the 7 directed questions (i.e., we considered participants highly inattentive if they provided more than 2 inattentive responses to these 7 items).

The cut-score may need to be adjusted if a different number of directed questions are used; however, we would recommend against excluding participants who miss only a single directed questions out of many, as this approach may identify an excessively high proportion of participants and reduce statistical power.