

Student: _____

Period: _____

STUDENT SURVEY – GERONTOLOGY IN THE SCHOOLS (PRE-TEST)

At the beginning of each line is a word describing a person. At the end of the line is the opposite word. The numbers in the middle represent the range between the two opposites. Please circle the number that you think best describes the “average” person over 65 years old.

1.	Idle	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Busy
2.	Strong	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Weak
3.	Ignorant	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Intelligent
4.	Wise	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Foolish
5.	Dirty	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Clean
6.	Unhealthy	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Healthy
7.	Active	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Passive
8.	Sad	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Happy
9.	Rich	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Poor
10.	Cold	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Warm
11.	Liberal	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Conservative
12.	Worthless	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Valuable
13.	Safe	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Dangerous
14.	Aggressive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Defensive
15.	Old fashioned	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Progressive
16.	Unproductive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Productive
17.	Effective	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Ineffective
18.	Bad	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Good
19.	Trustworthy	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Untrustworthy
20.	Tense	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Relaxed

The following statements refer to careers working with adults over 65. Please read each statement and put an X in the box that describes your opinion.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
21. People who work with adults over 65 have interesting jobs.				
22. Working with adults over 65 is depressing.				
23. Working with adults over 65 is a very worthwhile occupation.				
24. A problem with having a job working with adults over 65 is that it is hard to make enough money.				
25. I have the ability to work successfully with adults over 65.				

Please finish the sentences below. There are no right or wrong answers; just write your first reaction.

26. When I am with a person over 65, I _____

27. Younger people in our society have an obligation to older people to _____

28. To live a long and healthy life I should _____

29. When I think of getting old, I feel _____

30. When I am old, I want to be _____

Read each statement and put an X in the box that describes your opinion.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
31. No matter how much people earned during their working years, society should provide them with enough to live comfortably in retirement.				
32. A healthy diet and regular exercise will have little effect on the length of a person's life.				
33. To the extent they are able, children should provide for their aged parents.				
34. I will probably be lonely when I'm old.				
35. Length of life is determined almost entirely by the genes that people receive from their parents.				
36. There should be a given chronological age at which people must surrender their driver's licenses.				
37. Young people can begin now to influence how long they will live.				
38. Older people should retire to give younger people better job opportunities.				
39. I expect to feel good about life when I am old.				
40. Older people have too much power in the formulation of public policy.				

Name: _____

Teacher: _____

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Myths & Facts About Aging (Pre-Test)

Please circle the correct answer. All statements refer to people in the United States.

41. The proportion of people over 65 who are able to do their normal activities is about:

- a) one-tenth
- b) one-quarter
- c) one-half
- d) three-fourths

42. The percentage of people over 65 in long-stay institutions (such as nursing homes, mental hospitals and homes for the aged) is about:

- a) 5%
- b) 10%
- b) 25%
- c) 50%

43. The majority of old couples

- a) have little or no interest in sex
- b) are not able to have sexual relations
- c) continue to enjoy sexual relations
- d) think sex is only for the young

44. Happiness among old people is:

- a) rare
- b) less common than among younger people
- c) about as common as among younger people
- d) more common than among younger people

45. The senses that tend to weaken in old age are:

- a) sight and hearing
- b) taste and smell
- c) sight, hearing and touch
- d) all five senses

46. The proportion of the U.S. population now age 65 or over is:

- a) 3%
- b) 13%
- c) 23%
- d) 33%

47. The proportion of the U.S. population that will be age 65 or over in 2030 is:

- a) 20%
- b) 5%
- c) 15%
- d) 33%

(OVER)

48. Most old people say
- they are seldom bored
 - they are sometimes bored
 - they are often bored
 - life is monotonous
49. The accident rate per driver over age 65 is:
- higher than for those under 65
 - about the same as for those under 65
 - lower than for those under 65
 - unknown
50. As for old people learning new things:
- most are unable to learn at any speed
 - most are able to learn, but at a slower speed
 - most are able to learn as fast as younger people
 - learning speed is unrelated to age
51. The proportion of people over 65 who are senile (have impaired memory, disorientation, or dementia) is:
- about 1 in 100
 - about 1 in 10
 - about 1 in 2
 - the majority
52. The percentage of older Americans who vote is:
- greater than that of people under 65
 - The same as people under 65
 - less than people under 65
 - not something that has been measured

About You. Please circle the words that describe you.

53. **Gender:** Male Female
54. **Race/Ethnicity:** Caucasian African American Hispanic Asian Other Multi-Racial
55. **Have you ever worked (paid or volunteer) with people over 65?** yes no
56. **Have you ever lived in the same house as your grandparent(s)?** yes no
57. **How often do you spend time with other older people?** daily sometimes almost never never