Glossary of Terms

<u>Achievement Test</u> - a test that measures the extent to which a person has acquired certain information or mastered certain skills.

<u>Age Norms</u> - originally, values representing typical or average performance for persons of various age groups. Most current usage refers to interpretive data for successive age groups.

<u>Aptitude</u> - a combination of abilities and other characteristics whether native or acquired, that are indicative of an individual's ability to learn or to develop proficiency in some particular area if appropriate education or training is provided.

<u>Grade Equivalent (GE)</u> - the GE of a given score on any text indicates the grade level at which the typical pupil makes this score. The GE should be regarded as an estimate of where the pupil is along a developmental continuum, not of where he should be placed in the graded organization of the school.

<u>Grade norms</u> - norms based upon the performance of pupils of a given grade placement.

<u>Group Test</u> - a test that may be administered to a number of individuals at the same time by one examiner.

<u>Individual Test</u> - a test that can be administered to only one person at a time, either because of the nature of the test and/or the maturity level of the examinee.

<u>Intelligence Quotient (IQ)</u> - originally, an index of brightness expressed as the ratio of a person's mental age to his chronological age (MA/CA times 100).

<u>Mental Age (MA)</u> - the age for which a given score on a mental ability test is average or normal.

<u>Norming Process</u> - in the norming process, a test is administered to a large number of persons who are thought to be representative of the persons with whom the test is to be used. This group, known as the standardization sample, serves to establish the test's norms. Such norms indicate the varying degrees of superior or inferior performance on the test in relation to the expected average or median performance.

<u>Percentile (P)</u> - a point (score) on a distribution of scores that reflects a particular student's score in relation to all students tested.

<u>Percentile Rank (PR)</u> - the PR indicates the status or relative standing of a pupil in comparison to other pupils. The percentile rank tells the percent of pupils in a particular norm group who obtain lower scores. A pupil who earns a percentile rank of 70 on a particular test scored better than 70% of pupils in the norm group, while 30% scored as well or better than this pupil.

<u>Performance Test</u> - a test involving motor/manual responses on the part of the examinee, generally a manipulation of equipment or materials. This is not usually a paper and pencil test.

Range - the difference between the highest and lowest obtained scores on a test.

Raw Score - the first quantitative result obtained in scoring a test.

Stanine - one of the steps in a nine-point scale of standard scores. The stanine scale has values from 1 to 9, with a mean of 5 and a standard deviation of 2.