

## 1997 Version of ESS

<http://epworthsleepinessscale.com/1997-version-ess/>

The original version of the ESS was first published in 1991. However, it soon became clear that some people did not answer all the questions, for whatever reason. They may not have had much experience in some of the situations described in ESS items, and they may not have been able to provide an accurate assessment of their dozing behaviour in those situations. However, if one question is not answered, the whole questionnaire is invalid. It is not possible to interpolate answers, and hence item-scores, for individual items. This meant that up to about 5 % of ESS scores were invalid in some series.

In 1997, an extra sentence of instructions was added to the ESS, as follows:

‘‘It is important that you answer each question as best you can’.

With this exhortation, nearly everyone was able to give an estimate of their dozing behaviour in all ESS situations. As a result, the frequency of invalid ESS scores because of missed item-responses was reduced to much less than 1%.

The 1997 version of the ESS is now the standard one for use in English or any other language. It is available in pdf [here](#).

## Epworth Sleepiness Scale

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's date: \_\_\_\_\_

Your age (Yrs): \_\_\_\_\_ Your sex (Male = M, Female = F): \_\_\_\_\_

How likely are you to doze off or fall asleep in the following situations, in contrast to feeling just tired?

This refers to your usual way of life in recent times.

Even if you haven't done some of these things recently try to work out how they would have affected you.

Use the following scale to choose the **most appropriate number** for each situation:

- 0 = would **never** doze
- 1 = **slight chance** of dozing
- 2 = **moderate chance** of dozing
- 3 = **high chance** of dozing

*It is important that you answer each question as best you can.*

Situation	Chance of Dozing (0-3)
Sitting and reading _____	—
Watching TV _____	—
Sitting, inactive in a public place (e.g. a theatre or a meeting) _____	—
As a passenger in a car for an hour without a break _____	—
Lying down to rest in the afternoon when circumstances permit _____	—
Sitting and talking to someone _____	—
Sitting quietly after a lunch without alcohol _____	—
In a car, while stopped for a few minutes in the traffic _____	—

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION**

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Sample Only