BASIC SKILLS SELF-ASSESSMENT

Name: ________________________________ Date: __________

Completing this form will give Program Coordinator for the Ronald E. McNair Program a better understanding of the number and type of academic issues our students face. The form may be used to help decide if you need additional help in any of the areas listed here.

In the blank to the left of each item, insert the number from the rating table below that best describes how well you are able to perform the described action. Please rate yourself as accurately as you can.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>I’m below average at doing most of this activity</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>I’m about average at most of this activity</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>I’m above average at most of this activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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Reading
1. ____ read, understand, and summarize, in my own words, the main and supporting ideas in a paragraph
2. ____ "figure out" the meaning of unfamiliar words, understand new words from context, and use a dictionary
3. ____ recognize different organizational styles, identify the writer's point of view and tone, and identify main points
4. ____ use the features of textbooks: table of contents, introduction, index, and glossary
5. ____ change the focus of my reading according to my purpose (survey, skim, review, master)

Writing
1. ____ produce a good topic for the purpose of writing an essay of 300-500 words
2. ____ select appropriate ideas, organize them, and present them in a paragraph
3. ____ write standard English sentences free from errors in:
   a. _____ sentence structure
   b. _____ verb tense and agreement
   c. _____ spelling, capitalization, punctuation, possessives
   d. _____ word choice
4. ____ write a research paper of 1,500 to 2,000 words, based on reading or original investigation
5. ____ analyze my own writing, and improve upon it by rewriting
Speaking
1. ____ ask and answer questions coherently and concisely
2. ____ join constructively in class discussion
3. ____ produce a good topic for a 7-10 minute speech, choose and organize related ideas, and present them coherently to an audience of classmates
4. ____ develop and present speeches for various purposes, including explanation, analysis, and persuasion

Computing
1. ____ perform the four basic operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.)
2. ____ understand and use measurements and make rapid estimates of correct values
3. _____ solve problems that involve:
   a. _____ whole numbers, decimals, fractions
   b. _____ rates, ratios, percents
   c. _____ scientific notation
   d. _____ algebraic functions
   e. _____ two-dimensional, three-dimensional, and spherical geometry
   f. _____ probability and statistics
   g. _____ paper and pencil algorithms
4. ____ use a hand calculator in solving problems (and understand when not to use calculators)

Drawing Conclusions From Data
1. ____ collect, organize, report, and interpret data from charts, graphs, tables, etc.
2. ____ understand and develop mathematical models of physical phenomena
3. ____ understand and use definitions, assumptions, logic, and proofs
4. ____ use a computer, enter and retrieve information, and operate preset programs

Studying
1. ____ develop and use an expanding vocabulary
2. ____ use standard library resources for gathering information and citing sources
3. ____ identify, understand, summarize, and interpret the main points and supporting ideas from lectures, discussions, and reading
4. ____ take accurate and useful notes from reading and lectures
5. ____ set study goals, select surroundings that encourage concentration and effective study habits, and set and follow a schedule that accounts for work on both short and long-term projects and for recreation
6. ____ accept and use instructor's comments and criticism on examinations and papers, and in personal conferences

Taking Examinations
1. ____ prepare for examinations with a combination of reading, review, and rest
2. ____ understand and follow written and spoken directions
3. ____ survey an examination and decide on an appropriate pace, a plan for attempting or omitting items, etc
4. ____ understand and do what is called for when asked to compare, contrast, criticize, define, describe, diagram, discuss, evaluate, and summarize
5. ____ in essay examinations, divide my time effectively among thinking and organizing, writing in coherent paragraphs, and editing

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