The Context Sensitivity Index (CSI)

Read the following short descriptions of situations that may arise in your everyday life. For each situation, first spend a few moments to try to imagine that you are actually in the situation, and then answer the questions that follow by circling the number that best corresponds with your response.

1. A friend calls and asks you to do a favor for their partner, whom you don’t like.
   a. How much control do you have over what happens next?  
      Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
   b. How much control do others have over what happens next?  
      Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
   c. How much cooperation do you need from others to respond to this situation  
      Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
   d. How threatening is this situation?  
      Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

2. Your partner is at risk for diabetes and has been told by his/her doctor to go on a diet. He/she is refusing.
   a. How much control do you have over what happens next?  
      Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
   b. How much control do others have over what happens next?  
      Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
   c. How much cooperation do you need from others to respond to this situation  
      Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
   d. How threatening is this situation?  
      Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

3. You are walking down a street when you see a person slip and fall. They hit their head when they land.
   a. How much control do you have over what happens next?  
      Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
   b. How urgently do you need to respond in this situation?  
      Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
   c. How much cooperation do you need from others to respond to this situation  
      Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

4. You take a medicine and it makes your nauseous. Your doctor tells you that it is not serious and that you just have to “wait it out”.
   a. How much control do others have over what happens next?  
      Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
   b. How urgently do you need to respond in this situation?  
      Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
   c. How much cooperation do you need from others to respond to this situation  
      Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
5. You are reading a book while you wait for a flight. When the plane begins to take off you realize you have left the book in the waiting area.

a. How much control do you have over what happens next?  
   Not at all | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
b. How urgently do you need to respond in this situation?  
   Not at all | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
c. How threatening is this situation?  
   Not at all | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

6. You see somebody on a street suddenly punch another person. They turn to you angrily saying “What are you looking at?”

a. How much control do others have over what happens next?  
   Not at all | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
b. How urgently do you need to respond in this situation?  
   Not at all | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
e. How threatening is this situation?  
   Not at all | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

**Scoring**

Each appraisal dimension is scored following the key below. Reverse coded items are indicated by capital “R” such that a response of 1 is scored as 7, a response of 2 is scored as 6, etc. Cue Presence scores, which represent sensitivity to the presence of cues, are created by totally the non-reversed items while Cue Absence scores, which represent sensitivity to the relative absence of cues, are created by totaling the reversed items.

Cue Presence (10 items):

\[(1a + 2b + 2c + 2d + 3a + 3b + 3c + 6a + 6b + 6c)\]

Cue Absence (10 items, all reversed coded):

\[(1bR + 1cR + 1dR + 2aR + 4aR + 4bR + 4cR + 5aR + 5bR + 5cR)\]