

Directed Lie Protocol

DLC stands for directed lie comparison test. The existing DLC test protocols include:

- **DLC** – Original DLC method. Uses T/F statements. Very fast paced.
- **DLC2** – Second DLC method. Uses Y/N questions. Has a 22 second pause after each question.
- **Hybrid DLC (HDLC)** – Same format as DLC2 but includes physio tracker V2.

The DLC protocol includes questions the examinee will be directed or instructed to lie about. These questions are used to get a baseline reaction when the system knows the examinee is lying. All directed lie (DL) questions start with the same introductory phrase, such as “In your entire life.” This is done to prompt the examinee that the question is one to which they should lie. DL questions ask about actions or behaviors everyone has either done or not done (lying, breaking rules, making mistakes, etc.)

TRUE/FALSE EXAMPLES – (DLC)

Example: In my entire life, I have always been honest with everyone.

Correct answer (dishonest response): TRUE

Everyone has lied to someone, at least once. To lie to this question, the correct answer is True.

Example: In my entire life, I have always followed all laws or rules.

Correct answer (dishonest response): TRUE

Everyone has broken a rule, at least once. To lie to this question, the correct answer is True.

Example: In my entire life, I have made a mistake or error.

Correct answer (dishonest response): FALSE

Everyone has made a mistake. To lie to this question, the correct answer is False.

YES/NO EXAMPLES – (HDLC/DLC2)

Example: In your entire life, have you ever told a lie?

Correct answer (dishonest response): NO

Everyone has lied to someone, at least once. To lie to this question, the correct answer is No.

Example: In your entire life, have always followed all laws or rules?

Correct answer (dishonest response): YES

Everyone has broken a rule, at least once. To lie to this question, the correct answer is Yes.

Example: In your entire life, have you ever made a mistake?

Correct answer (dishonest response): NO

Everyone has made a mistake. To lie to this question, the correct answer is No.

The directed lie concept can be confusing. Some examinees are hesitant to lie on a lie detection test and do not understand the purpose. Before administering a DLC test, ensure the examinee understands that if they do not lie on the DL questions, they might fail the test. Lying on the DL questions is essential for the system to establish a base line reaction.

The examinee's reactions to the DL questions are compared to the reactions to the relevant questions. If the examinee reacts more to the relevant question, they are likely guilty of that behavior. If the examinee reacts more to the DL questions, they are likely innocent to the relevant question.

It is important that the examinee's brain and body react to the DL questions. If not, they might fail the test. To ensure a good reaction or response, the examinee should think of a time when they engaged in a behavior they have lied about. For example, when asked if they have ever told a lie, the examinee should answer "no" but think of a time when they did lie. When asked if they have always followed the rules, the examinee should answer "yes" but think of a time when they did break a rule.

We recommend rehearsing a few DL questions with an examinee prior to a test to evaluate comprehension of the concept. The following pretest checklists include suggested language for test proctors to use to explain the DL concept to an examinee prior to testing.

[DLC Pretest Checklist](#)

[DLC2 Pretest Checklist](#)

[HDLC Pretest Checklist](#)

Please note: the practice test on all DLC tests asks DL questions. This gives the examinee additional practice prior to taking the real test. If the examinee does not lie to enough on DL practice test questions, the test will not advance. If an examinee does not comprehend how to lie on the DL questions, we recommend administering an MCT or RCT format test where the comparison question is a comparison topic, not directed lie.