

# COMMON COMPARSION TOPICS

## WHAT IS A COMPARISON TOPIC?

A comparison topic is a low base rate act or target behavior. It is used to measure and record a baseline reaction of the examinee when there is a very high likelihood the examinee is truthful about the topic.

Comparison questions should meet the following requirements:

- 1) Have a **low prior probability** of the examinee having committed the act (preferably less than 3% probability)
- 2) Have the **most severe** consequences when compared to the relevant question(s)
- 3) Be salient or of notable significance to the examinee, and also a topic of interest to the test administrator
- 4) Be plausible such that the examinee believes the question is feasible or conceivable that they could have participated in the act or target behavior

Below is a list of common comparison topics based on the following testing market. Please note that these are examples and not a comprehensive list.

- Pre-employment Screening (Law Enforcement/Security)
- Pre-employment Screening (Commercial)
- Employee Screening/Investigations
- PCSOT Maintenance/Monitoring
- Infidelity/Sex Addiction Therapy
- Investigations

## PRE-EMPLOYMENT SCREENING (LAW ENFORCEMENT/SECURITY)

- Ties to domestic or foreign terrorists
- Ties to gangs, cartels, or organized crime
- Arms trafficking
- Human trafficking
- Sabotage
- Espionage
- Exchanging counterfeit money

## PRE-EMPLOYMENT SCREENING (COMMERCIAL)

- Exchanging counterfeit money at work
- Human trafficking
- Ties to a gang, cartel, or organized crime

- Committing a violent crime
- Identity theft

## EMPLOYEE SCREENING/INVESTIGATIONS

**\*SPECIFIC OR CORRELATED TO THE JOB. OFTEN SIMILAR TO PRE-EMPLOYMENT SCREENING, BUT THE TIME FRAMES ARE MORE SPECIFIC TO THEIR TIME AT THE COMPANY.**

- Exchanging counterfeit money at work
- Human trafficking
- Committing a violent crime
- Identity theft
- Ties to a gang, cartel, or organized crime
- Ties to domestic or foreign terrorists
- Arms trafficking
- Selling or distributing illegal drugs
- Stealing any of the [insert name] reported missing... (something possibly stolen and of greater value than any item reported missing in the relevant question)

## PCSOT MAINTENANCE/MONITORING

**\*ADD TIME FRAME SUCH AS – IN THE PAST? WHILE ON PROBATION/PAROLE, ETC.**

- Using a deadly weapon to commit a sex act
- Using a date rape drug to commit a a sex act
- Having sexual contact with a minor as an adult (best applied to newly released offenders)
- Producing and distribution child pornography
- Having sex with a corpse (Necrophilia)
- Having sex with an animal (Bestiality)
- Prostitution
- Participating in sex trafficking

## INFIDELITY/SEX ADDICTION THERAPY

### *Male examinee's*

- Using a date rape drug to commit a sex act
- Using a weapon to commit a sex act
- Having sexual contact with a minor as an adult (if low probability)
- Having sexual contact with a child (child = someone younger than 16)
- Viewing or possessing child pornography
- Creating or distributing child pornography
- Participating in sex trafficking

### *Female examinee's*

- Prostitution
- Selling sexually explicit images of yourself online
- Maintaining a "fans only" web page
- Committing sex acts in a commercial movie (porn star)

## INVESTIGATIONS

**\*OFTEN INVENT A FAKE CRIME THAT MEETS THE COMPARISON TOPIC REQUIREMENTS OR USE A CRIME THAT IS PLAUSIBLE/BELIEVABLE WHEN GROUPED WITH THE RELEVANT TOPICS**

- Pointing a gun at your *ex-wife's* head
- Pulling the trigger on the gun that shot *that man*
- Giving *that woman* a date rape drug
- Creating or distributing sexually explicit images of *that girl*
- Stealing any of the [name of item] reported missing.... (something possibly stolen and of greater value than any item reported missing in the relevant question)