

WAIS Report Write-Up Cheat Sheet

Reviewed by the BastionGPT Clinical Advisory Board · July 2026

The WAIS (Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale) is the adult intelligence battery for ages 16:0–90:11, and two editions legitimately circulate: the WAIS-5 (2024; five indexes, 7-subtest FSIQ, SEE-based CIs, new descriptor vocabulary) and the WAIS-IV (2008; four indexes, 10-subtest FSIQ, SEM-based CIs). Composites: mean 100, SD 15. The editions are not interchangeable: always name edition, norms, and format.

1 – Measures, edition, norms, format which ruler produced these scores?

Do: name the edition, norm set, subtests given, format (paper or digital), platform; add the one-line transition rationale.

Pitfall: "the WAIS" with nothing else; Canadian use of US norms carries a caveat that belongs in the report.

2 – Observations and validity before any score is reported

Do: describe effort, engagement, departures from procedure; address performance validity in disability and accommodation work.

Pitfall: boilerplate observations that contradict the interpretation you make later.

3 – Composite summary score, interval, percentile, descriptor

Do: report each composite with CI (state SEE or SEM basis once) and percentile; descriptors exactly as the platform prints them.

Pitfall: WAIS-IV vocabulary (Borderline, Superior, Very Superior) on WAIS-5 scores; bare standard scores.

4 – Index-by-index results VCI · VSI · FRI · WMI · PSI

Do: write what each result means functionally for this adult, in work, study, or daily life.

Pitfall: the score dump: a paragraph per subtest, in administration order, with no pattern.

5 – FSIQ, GAI, and the decision the contested move, made in the open

Do: report both; if indexes diverge, state which estimate anchors your conclusions and the rationale (GAI with CPI contrast).

Pitfall: silent substitution; the choice changes outcomes at cutoffs, so an unexplained GAI reads as score-shopping.

6 – Premorbid estimate and change decline referrals

Do: frame current scores against expected prior ability; treat cross-edition comparisons as different measurements.

Pitfall: the historical 3-points-per-decade Flynn adjustment on WAIS-5 scores; the edition's own data show about 1.2.

7 – Interpretive summary answer the referral question

Do: state what the data establish and what they do not; no single measure decides; note measurement error.

Pitfall: a verdict from a score; agencies and courts decide, the report informs.

8 – Recommendations linkage close the loop

Do: tie every recommendation to a finding; give the functional-impact rationale for each requested accommodation.

Pitfall: recommendations that could follow any profile.

Before you sign

- ☐ Edition, norms, and format named
- ☐ Interval basis stated; percentile beside every score
- ☐ One edition-correct descriptor vocabulary
- ☐ Table and prose numbers agree
- ☐ FSIQ-GAI choice stated with reason
- ☐ Accommodation asks tied to functional impact

Drafting with AI

Paste your composite summary: scores, CIs, percentiles. Not the items, not the record form, not software narrative.

"Draft a WAIS-5 results section from this summary: VCI 111, VSI 104, FRI 108, WMI 85, PSI 83, FSIQ 96, GAI 109; referral question: ..."

Never paste client-identifying information into consumer AI tools. BastionGPT is HIPAA-compliant with a signed BAA on every plan.

500–900 words
results section

45–60 minutes
WAIS-5 administration

Ages 16–90
adult battery

SSA · courts · reviewers
who reads it

WAIS Results Section Template

Copy or print for your practice · Adapt fields to your organization's, payer's and jurisdiction's documentation requirements.

Client (initials): _____ Age: _____ Testing date(s): _____

Edition / norms: _____ Format / scoring: _____ Referral question: _____

Measures and administration

Subtests given; administration format; scoring platform; edition rationale during the transition

Behavioral observations and validity

Effort, engagement, departures from procedure; performance validity addressed; validity statement

Composite summary

Each composite with standard score, CI (SEE or SEM basis stated), percentile, platform descriptor

Index-by-index results

Functional meaning per index for this adult, not a re-read of the table

FSIQ / GAI decision

Report both; state which estimate anchors conclusions and the rationale

Premorbid estimate and change (decline referrals)

Estimate basis; current versus expected; cross-edition comparisons as different measurements

Interpretive summary

Answer the referral question; single-measure limits; measurement error

Recommendations linkage

Each recommendation tied to a finding; functional-impact rationale per accommodation

Evaluator signature / credentials: _____ Date signed: _____

Supervisor signature, where required: _____ Date: _____