the adult criteria were given a general outline of the purpose of the study, a consent form, a personal data sheet, and verbal explanation of the assessment procedures. Approval for the use of human subjects in this study was granted from the University of Florida Institutional Review Board.

Instrumentation

Two instruments were used in this study: the Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE), which were developed by CTB/McGraw-Hill Publishers (TABE, 1995a, 1995b), and the Computer Anxiety Rating Scale (CARS), which was developed by Brooke (1989). Study subjects were administered the Test of Adult Basic Education forms 7 and 8. According to developers, the Test of Adult Basic Education 7 and 8 was designed to measure achievement of basic skills commonly found in adult basic education curricula and taught in high school and adult instructional programs. Reading, language, mathematics are the content areas measured. The reading subtest measures basic reading skills of adult and their ability construct meaning from a variety of written stimuli. The content highlights numerous overlapping objectives, ranging from word-meaning skills to critical-thinking skills. Vocabulary is measured as a part of the reading process. Numerous facets of the reading process are measured using familiar documents and forms, as well as excerpts from published fiction and nonfiction reflecting cultural diversity. Items are also included which test the examinee’s ability to find and use information in reference and consumer sources.

The mathematics computation subtest assesses the core computational skills required in any basic mathematics program. The test measures the examinees’ understanding of the operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of