Appendix 2
Section I
Approaches to Studying Inventory

In this section we would like you to show whether you agree or disagree with each of the statements listed below. We are concerned here with your approaches to studying in general. If your answer would be different for different subjects, however, you should reply in relation to your main course or subject.

Please encircle the number beside each statement which best conforms with your view.

4 (VV) means Definitely agree
3 (V) means Agree with reservations
1 (x) means Disagree with reservations
0 (xx) means Definitely disagree
2 (?) is only to be used if the item doesn’t apply to you or if you find it impossible to give a definite answer.

1. I find it difficult to organise my study time effectively.
2. I try to relate ideas in one subject to those in others, whenever possible.
3. Although I have a fairly good general idea of many things, my knowledge of the details is rather weak.
4. I enjoy competition; I find it stimulating.
5. I usually set out to understand thoroughly the meaning of what I am asked to read.
6. Ideas in books often set me off on long chains of thought of my own, only tenuously related to what I was reading.
7. I chose my present courses mainly to give me a chance of a really good job afterwards.
8. Continuing my education was something which happened to me, rather than something I really wanted for myself.
9. I like to be told precisely what to do in essays or other assignments.
10. I often find myself questioning things that I hear in lectures or read in books.

11. I generally prefer to tackle each part of a topic or problem in order, working out one at a time. The continual pressure of work-assignments, deadlines, and competition often makes me tense and depressed.

12. I find it difficult to "switch tracks" when working on a problem; I prefer to follow each line of thought as far as it will go.

13. My habit of putting off work leaves me with far too much to do at the end of term.

14. It's important to me to do really well in the courses here.

15. Lectures seem to delight in making simple truth unnecessarily complicated.

16. Distractions make it difficult for me to do much effective work in the evenings.

17. When I'm doing a piece of work, I try to bear in mind exactly what that particular lecturer seems to want.

18. I usually don't have time to think about the implications of what I have read.

19. Lectures sometimes give indications of what is likely to come up in exam, so I look out for what may be hints.

20. In trying to understand a puzzling idea, I let my imagination wander freely to begin with, even if I don't seem to be much nearer a solution.

21. My main reason for being here is that it will help me to get a better job.

22. Often I find myself wondering whether the work I am doing here is really worthwhile.

23. I generally put a lot of effort into trying to understand things which initially seem difficult.
25. I prefer courses to be clearly structured and highly organised.

26. A poor first answer in an exam makes me panic.

27. I prefer to follow well tried approaches to problems rather than anything too adventurous.

28. I'm rather slow at starting work in the evenings.

29. In trying to understand new ideas, I often try to relate them to real life situations to which they might apply.

30. When I'm reading I try to memorize important facts which may come in useful later.

31. I like to play around with ideas of my own even if they don't get me very far.

32. I generally choose courses more from the way they fit in with career plans than from my own interests.

33. I am usually cautious in drawing conclusions unless they are well supported by evidence.

34. When I'm tackling a new topic, I often ask myself questions about it which the new information should answer.

35. I suppose I am more interested in the qualifications I'll get than in the courses I'm taking.

36. Often I find I have to read things without having a chance to really understand them.

37. If conditions aren't right for me to study, I generally manage to do something to change them.

38. In reporting practical work, I like to try to work out several alternative ways of interpreting the findings.

39. My main reason for being here is so that I can learn more about the subjects which really interest me.

40. In trying to understand new topics, I often explain them to myself in ways that other people don't seem to follow.
41. I find I have to concentrate on memorising a good deal of what we have to learn.
42. It is important to me to do things better than my friends, if I possibly can.
43. I find it better to start straight away with the details of a new topic and build up an overall picture in that way.
44. Often when I'm reading books, the ideas produce vivid images which sometimes take on a life of their own.
45. One way or another I manage to get hold of the books I need for studying.
46. I often get criticised for introducing irrelevant material into my essays or tutorials.
47. I find that studying academic topics can often be really exciting and gripping.
48. The best way for me to understand what technical terms mean is to remember the text-book definitions.
49. I certainly want to pass the next set of exams, but it doesn't really matter if I only just scrape through.
50. I need to read around a subject pretty widely before I'm ready to put my ideas down on paper.
51. Although I generally remember facts and details, I find it difficult to fit them together into an overall picture.
52. I tend to read very little beyond what's required for completing assignments.
53. Having a speak in tutorials is quite an ordeal for me.
54. Puzzles or problems fascinate me, particularly where you have to work through the material to reach a logical conclusion.
55. I spend a good deal of my spare time in finding out more about interesting topics which have been discussed in classes.
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>56. I find it helpful to 'map out' a new topic for myself by seeing how the ideas fit together.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>71</td>
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<td>57. I seem to be a bit too ready to jump to conclusions without waiting for all the evidence.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>72</td>
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<td>58. I hate admitting defeat even in matters.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>73</td>
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<td>59. I think it is important to look at problems rationally and logically without making intuitive jumps.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>60. I find I tend to remember things best if I concentrate on the order in which the lecturer presented them.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>61. When I'm reading an article or research report, I generally examine the evidence carefully to decide whether the conclusion is justified.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>76</td>
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<td>62. Tutors seem to want me to be more adventurous in making use of my own ideas.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>77</td>
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<td>63. When I look back, I sometimes wonder if I ever decided to come here.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>78</td>
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<td>64. I find academic topics so interesting, I should like to continue with them after I finish this course.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>79</td>
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