It’s fun to be on wheels—whether you’re biking, roller-skating, or skateboarding. But learning to balance can be tricky. Your first time on wheels, you were probably wobbly and nervous. Maybe you even fell down and got hurt. But you kept getting up and trying again. With practice and effort (and a few bruises), you were soon zipping down the path with a breeze in your face. That’s perseverance!

Anyone can meet a goal that’s simple, such as finishing an easy homework assignment or making your bed. But sticking to a goal when it gets tough is a great virtue. The road of difficult challenges will be rough and rocky at times, but the ride will make you stronger, and it can lead you to new, exciting horizons.

Circle your answer for each statement, then add up your points.

1. If I set a goal, I keep working at it, even when it’s challenging.
   - Often = 3
   - Sometimes = 2
   - Rarely = 1

2. When I’m struggling with a tough school assignment, I ask for help and don’t give up until I understand it.
   - Often = 3
   - Sometimes = 2
   - Rarely = 1

3. When I have an important job to do, I stay away from things that can distract me, like TV or games.
   - Often = 3
   - Sometimes = 2
   - Rarely = 1

4. If I lose a game or get a bad grade, I figure out how to do better next time.
   - Often = 3
   - Sometimes = 2
   - Rarely = 1

5. When I join a team or group, I follow through and take care of what I’m responsible for, even if others don’t.
   - Often = 3
   - Sometimes = 2
   - Rarely = 1

6. If I have a disagreement with a friend, I try to see their point of view and work things through.
   - Often = 3
   - Sometimes = 2
   - Rarely = 1

7. If I’m doing a group project and everyone isn’t working well together, I help find a solution we can agree on.
   - Often = 3
   - Sometimes = 2
   - Rarely = 1

8. When my parents ask me to do something, they can count on me to get it done.
   - Often = 3
   - Sometimes = 2
   - Rarely = 1

9. When I have a lot of things to do, I make a list and do the most important ones first.
   - Often = 3
   - Sometimes = 2
   - Rarely = 1

10. If I’m practicing an instrument or sport and I start to doubt my ability, I keep going and do my best.
    - Often = 3
    - Sometimes = 2
    - Rarely = 1

11. I have goals for the future that excite me, and I believe I can accomplish them.
    - Often = 3
    - Sometimes = 2
    - Rarely = 1

My Total Points: ________

33–26 points: Your perseverance will take you far in life. You set goals and follow through. Stay on this great road to success.

25–18 points: You’re on a good path of sticking with things most of the time. Keep it up, and continue improving your perseverance.

17–11 points: Start on a route to developing more perseverance. Try the tips in the quiz, and you’ll find the path to success.