

**Sample List of concepts, questions, etc.**  
**that can be challenging to interpret in mental health settings**

*\*Not a comprehensive listing*

**GENERAL**

What day is it?

Informed consent

Explain \*this\* form to them...and have them sign it.....

Your rights

Do you feel that the current medication (dose and type) is working?

When did you start taking medication?

Please take ½ of a pill for 7days, and then take 1 pill until the medicine is gone.

How long have you been a consumer?

When you are angry how would I know?

When was the last time you ... (insert action verb)

**MSE**

Are there times when things you look at or listen to seem to change for no apparent reason?

Do you know where you are?

Do shadows frighten you?

Do you ever experience odd or unusual smells or tastes?

Do you ever have thoughts which are so loud that they sound like voices talking to you or about you?

Do you ever have unusual feelings in your body, like you are being touched?

Do you ever see things which are unusual, like people or animals that aren't there?

How many people/things do you see? Describe them (to assess whether consumer was really hallucinating or talking about someone actually there)

Do you feel people are watching you?

Do you hear voices?

How many voices do you hear? (Simple question but concept can be hard)

Do you often get the feeling that someone might be trying to harm you, might be out to get you?

Do you sometimes get the feeling that there is an outside force or person in control of your thoughts or body?

Do you sometimes have the feeling that others are putting thoughts into your head against your will?

Have you had the feeling that there is something going on in this room that is different from what we are telling you?

**FORENSIC/LEGAL**

(Note: many legal concepts do not have a direct interpretation)

Do you know what a jury is for?

Do you know who the judge is?

Tell me what happened at the time of the offense.

Where did you touch the child?

Do you know what "plea bargain" is?

Felony, misdemeanor, crime, etc.