Assessment And ESL An Alternative Approach
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This volume focuses on the decision-making potential provided by second language performance assessments. The authors first situate performance assessment within a broader discussion of alternatives in language assessment and in educational assessment in general. They then discuss issues in performance assessment design, implementation, reliability, and validity. Finally, they present a prototype framework for second language performance assessment based on the integration of theoretical underpinnings and research findings from the task-based language teaching literature, the language testing literature, and the educational measurement literature. The authors outline test and item specifications, and they present numerous examples of prototypical language tasks. They also propose a research agenda focusing on the operationalization of second language performance assessments.

The revised and expanded edition of this bestseller is a comprehensive, easy-to-read resource that explores the theory and practice of ESL assessment. Written for anyone working with English-language learners (elementary and secondary, mainstream and ESL), this new edition of Assessment and ESL presents ideas and tools for alternative assessment. The authors offer methods of documenting the learning and progress of second-language learners/learning and progress that may not always be apparent at first glance. Like the previous edition, the new edition is filled with real stories about students who take baby steps, progress in leaps and bounds toward proficiency, and eventually learn to fly on their own.

"The Cambridge Guide to Second Language Assessment aims to present in one volume an up-to-date guide to the central areas of assessing the second language performance of English by speakers of other languages. This volume provides snapshots of significant issues and trends that have shaped language assessment in the past and highlights the current state of our understanding of these issues"

Assessment and evaluation have always been an integral part of educational process. Quality and purposeful assessment can assist in students' learning and their achievement. While there has been a rapid growth in international, standardized student assessments in the past few decades, a large number of education systems participating in these assessments are now focusing their attention on developing new national, within-country assessments to evaluate educational standards and to modify the curriculum to better suit the demands of the 21st century. Education systems that are successful in linking the national curriculum and assessments directly to international standards are performing better on international standardized assessments of reading, mathematics, and science. This book covers studies related to educational assessment in addressing quality of education and performance improvement. The book presents the distinguished and exemplary works by educators and researchers in the field highlighting the contemporary trends and issues, creative and unique approaches, innovative methods, frameworks, pedagogies and theoretical and practical aspects in assessment processes in various educational settings.

"A 'must read' for all teachers of ELLs in mainstream and ESL classrooms The book presents step-by-step ways to implement innovative methods and activities, emphasizing the importance of carefully planning instruction and creating a culture of collaboration in a school. I found the cross-cultural information about writing very important for understanding the interaction of native language and writing development in English."--Carla Paciottio, EdD, Western Illinois University --

Quantitative Data Analysis for Language Assessment Volume I: Fundamental Techniques is a resource book that presents the most fundamental techniques of quantitative data analysis in the field of language assessment. Each chapter provides an accessible explanation of the selected technique, a review of language assessment studies that have used the technique, and finally, an example of an authentic study that uses the technique. Readers also get a taste of how to apply each technique through the help of supplementary online resources that include sample data sets and guided instructions. Language assessment students, test designers, and researchers should find this a unique reference as it consolidates theory and
application of quantitative data analysis in language assessment.

This volume of the yearbook includes articles and reports from the 10th International Scientific Conference Educational Management: Effective Practices, 22-25th September 2014, International University College, Dobrich, Bulgaria.

This book examines acknowledged practices and demonstrates to teachers how to make the most out of their assessment practices. It also explores different assessment methods for skills such as reading, writing, listening and speaking. Forecasting the future of assessment and where concepts like alternative assessment and dynamic assessment are heading, it also shows how relatively new teaching methods such as communicative methodologies and problem-based learning are reflected in assessment. This book represents a forum where contributors have presented their research and innovative ideas and practices on the important topic of assessment and opened a fresh debate on it. It offers an excellent reference guide for EFL teachers, practitioners, researchers and testing and assessment specialists. Each chapter examines central issues in assessment and their connection with teaching and learning in EFL contexts.

This book presents an overview of revisiting the assessment of language abilities. It also showcases how the measurement of such constructs can result in negative or positive washback and how outcomes might be conducive to repercussions that decide on the future of many stakeholders. The 23 chapters were selected among tens of chapters received from different contexts that addressed the issue of revisiting the assessment of language abilities, such as Tunisia, Ukraine, Algeria, Russia, KSA, Sudan, Egypt, Canada, Kurdistan, UK, USA, Iran, Turkey, etc. These contexts have highlighted the necessity to revisit the different constructs which should be assessed with a clear and straightforward foundation on students’ learning objectives and their actual language ability. To do so, most of the chapters present hands-on use of relevant statistical tests that might serve in revisiting the construct definition both theoretically and operationally. Perhaps the sole and intricate question that the authors of these contributions ask is what it means to revisit the assessment of the construct of individualized language ability and how. In addition, the book accentuates the momentousness and significance of reflecting on test fairness and validation as the mainspring and backbone for democratization of assessment. This book appeals to a broad readership, such as English Language Teaching (ELT) practitioners, language teachers, students, testing organizations, policy-makers, test designers, writers of test specifications, testing experts, researchers, program evaluators, especially in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) as well as other international contexts.

This book provides pragmatic strategies and models for student assessment and ameliorates the heightened sense of confusion that too many educators and leaders experience around the complexities associated with assessment. In particular, it offers guidance to school and district personnel charged with fair and appropriate assessment of students who represent a wide variety of abilities and cultures. Chapters focus on issues that directly impact the educational lives of teachers, students, parents, and caregivers. Importantly, the confluence of assessment practices and community expectations also are highlighted. Assessment is highly politicised in contemporary society and this book will both confirm and challenge readers’ beliefs and practices. Indeed, discerning readers will understand that the chapters offer them a bridge from many established assessment paradigms to pragmatic, ethical solutions that align with current expectations for schools and districts. In Part One, readers engage with concepts and skills needed by school learning leaders to guide optimal assessment practices. Part Two delves into student assessment within and across disciplines. Part Three provides pragmatic approaches that address assessment in the context of inclusive intercultural education, pluralism, and globalisation.

Research Informing Practice: Practice Informing Research: Innovative Teaching Methodologies for World Language Educators is an edited volume that focuses on innovative, nontraditional methods of teaching and learning world languages. Using teacher-research projects, each author in the volume guides readers through their own personal journey and exploration of teaching methods, novelty, risk-taking, and reflection. Chapters include guiding questions, vignettes, and thick descriptions of classroom-based research in an assortment of instructional settings. Theoretical issues and an array of practical applications are presented, as well as additional research opportunities and guidelines for implementation in a variety of teaching and learning venues. While not professing to be a panacea for world language learning, this book provides various lines of theory, research, and practice as they interact with each other through teacher-research narratives. As a well-known African proverb asserts, “It takes a village to raise a child.” Similarly, it takes a village to develop a master teacher, and it takes a community to create an exceptional classroom. Throughout this volume, authors share their voices, experiences, and expertise as a means of strengthening the village. They then invite readers to embark on their own methodological journeys. The text thus serves as a stimulus for further discussion and pedagogical development in world language settings. Teachers and researchers are challenged to think critically and reflectively about world language education, encouraged to design innovative methods, approaches, and techniques for their world language classes, and ultimately asked to share their findings with students, parents, peers, communities, and the village.

Classroom-based Evaluation in Second Language Education has been written to help foreign and second language educators in planning and carrying out effective and comprehensive evaluations in their classrooms. The book emphasizes the value of classroom-based assessment as a tool for improving both teaching and learning. The presentation is non-technical and does not require a specialized background in psychometrics, statistics, or research. The suggested assessment procedures are useful for a broad range of proficiency levels, teaching situations, and instructional approaches. Preview questions and follow-up activities assist the reader in applying the material discussed in each chapter.
Each vol. a compilation of ERIC digests.

The ELT & Linguistics Dictionary is a companion to the English language as a second / foreign language study. The Dictionary is more likely a reference/guide book for ELT professionals and students who have been taking up EFL/ESL courses at their graduate and post graduate education. So it is; Comprehensive: almost 2321 entries covering all integrated skills in English language training, linguistic terms closely related to ELT, EFL, ELL, ESL, ESOL, FLL, FLT, TEFL, TESL, & TESOL ; Informative: it provides bibliographies for most of the entries and a wide range of cross-referencing for more conceptual headwords; Referential: it gives a hand to the ELT professionals to understand the concepts more specifically used in ELT literature with the original definitions from the prolific writers in the ELT world.

Whether you're new to teaching English language learners or an old hand, here's a guide that provides you with a firm baseline and can't-miss strategies for boosting the achievement of these students. A teacher with 26 years of experience uses familiar scenarios from actual classrooms to illustrate ideas and advice you can use right away: (1) Six key concepts and six common myths of second language acquisition; (2) Five stages of language acquisition and what to do at each; (3) Four stages of culture shock that newcomers go through before they become comfortable with the language; (4) How to know when an ell student is ready to speak; (5) How to match instruction to ell learning styles and thinking skills; (6) Main challenges that ell students face in learning reading, writing, math, science, and social studies; (7) How to use differentiated instruction, flexible grouping, and other essential practices for ell students; and (8) What to do for ell students during the first weeks of school. School leaders should buy this book in bulk for wide distribution or use the book's professional development activities to create workshops and teacher induction programs.

This book is about teaching in classrooms where some or all of the students are learning English, at the same time as they are working to learn the mainstream curriculum.

Offers teachers practical and proven methods of instruction for working with a wide variety of learners in their classrooms.

With new forms, techniques, and checklists, this second edition provides 101 strategies for using learners’ prior knowledge.

Explores the process of assessment as it relates to non-English speaking students, providing an overview of research on alternative assessment, literacy development, and second-language acquisition; looking at how the research applies to speaking, reading, and writing in English as a second language; and including activities.

Provides information on programs, research, publications, and services of ERIC, as well as critical and current education information.

English Language Proficiency Assessments for Young Learners provides both theoretical and empirical information about assessing the English language proficiency of young learners. Using large-scale standardized English language proficiency assessments developed for international or U.S. contexts as concrete examples, this volume illustrates rigorous processes of developing and validating assessments with considerations of young learners: unique characteristics. In this volume, young learners are defined as school-age children from approximately 5 to 13 years old, learning English as a foreign language (EFL) or a second language (ESL). This volume also discusses innovative ways to assess young learners: English language abilities based on empirical studies, with each chapter offering stimulating ideas for future research and development work to improve English language assessment practices with young learners. English Language Proficiency Assessments for Young Learners is a useful resource for students, test developers, educators, and researchers in the area of language testing and assessment.

International Schools have developed since their inception from a largely native English-speaking student body to schools such as the author’s, the Vienna International School (VIS), where there are students of 90 nationalities with 65 mother tongues. Maurice Carder proposes a “three-programme model” for addressing the language and curricula needs of these students: a content-based second language programme; a programme of cultural and linguistic training for all staff; and a mother tongue programme for minority students. The model is based on research findings and practice: at the VIS every year approximately 1/3 of the graduating students gain an IB Diploma (International Baccalaureate) because they are able to take their mother tongue (other than English or German) as Language A1. The book contains insightful chapters not only for school leaders, programme designers and teachers, but also for parents. Inserted boxes of student responses give an authentic voice to the needs of second language learners, and many useful resources and websites are given.

This book explores an area that has been somewhat overlooked in the literature to date—the current status and future trends of English education in Oman. It offers a variety of theoretical and methodological approaches to the subject and explores areas of English education in Oman that have, until now, been little investigated. It explores these issues from a variety of perspectives: the professionalization of English teachers in the country; the implementation of novel teaching methodologies, curricula, and assessment approaches, into what are, in many ways, still very traditional education settings; the integration of learner identity into English language instruction; country- and culture-specific concerns with conducting research with Omani participants; the strategic demands of building stronger links between education and workforce needs; and developing learner autonomy and motivation.
Saudi Arabia is witnessing unprecedented progress in the field of higher education. Even though the country opened its first university in 1957, so far there seems to be little English scholarly writing about Saudi education in general and higher education in particular. The current expansion of Saudi Arabia's higher-education system has put a spotlight on this serious gap in the international literature. This book helps to fill this lacuna through the work of 16 scholars who have contributed to the development of the Saudi education system. In so doing, the book reveals areas where more research is required and thus provides a useful starting point for education scholars. This anthology is unique in that it is the first to offer a comprehensive perspective on the current knowledge base pertaining to Saudi higher education as well as to the ongoing efforts to introduce reforms.

This text outlines relevant theoretical background and provides detailed practical advice and suggestions for educators in schools serving culturally and linguistically diverse communities. Some chapters focus on the needs of students from immigrant communities, especially those who are learning the language of instruction, while others include historical minority groups as well.

Practical and concise, this introductory text for language teaching professionals is a guide to ESL assessment and to fulfilling the testing component of TESOL programs in the U.S. and around the world. Covering the fundamental descriptive and quantitative facets of effective language testing, it explicates key technical aspects in an accessible, non-technical manner. Each chapter includes relevant practical examples and is augmented by a partnered project that provides practical opportunities for readers to apply the concepts presented in real testing situations. Measurement and Evaluation in Post-Secondary ESL: Discusses effective methods of evaluating the language proficiency of college-bound English language learners in various skills areas such as reading, oral proficiency, and writing. Takes a fresh look at accepted assessment concepts and issues such as validity and reliability, construct definition, authenticity, washback, reliable scoring, rater training, holistic and analytic rubrics, standardized tests, and statistical concepts. Places special emphasis on innovative methods and alternative forms of assessment, such as self and portfolio assessment, as an adjunct to traditional methods. Reviews the changes in the new internet-based Test of English a Second Language launched in 2005. Addresses the role and responsibilities of assessors.

Literacy Instruction for English Language Learners turns hundreds of ELL studies into dozens of strategies for regular classroom instruction. Nancy Cloud, Fred Genesee, and Else Hamayan have examined the research evidence to determine what works for ELLs. They recommend best practices for teaching English learners to read and write from emergent literacy to primary school and on through middle school and include helpful features that make the research directly accessible to all teachers.

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