

Language Assessment in Practice

Developing Language Assessments and
Justifying their Use in the Real World

LYLE BACHMAN AND ADRIAN PALMER

5

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Contents

Acknowledgments – vii

- 1 Objectives and expectations, or why we need another book about language testing – 1

PART I Conceptual foundations – 17

- 2 Issues and considerations – 19
- 3 Describing language use and language ability – 33
- 4 Describing characteristics of language use and language assessment tasks – 59
- 5 Justifying the use of language assessments – 85

PART II Constructing an Assessment Use Argument – 137

- 6 Overview of assessment development and use – 139
- 7 Initial planning – 146
- 8 Constructing an Assessment Use Argument for developing and justifying a language assessment – 156
- 9 The intended consequences of using language assessments – 177
- 10 The decisions to be made on the basis of language assessments – 193
- 11 Interpretations – 209
- 12 Assessment records – 242

PART III Developing and using language assessments in the real world – 247

- 13 Real world conditions and constraints on language assessment – 249
- 14 Developing a Design Statement – 269
- 15 Developing assessment tasks – 306
- 16 Recording and interpreting assessment performance – 321
- 17 Blueprints – 368
- 18 Preparing effective instructions – 383

vi *Contents*

- 19 Collecting feedback and backing – 394
- 20 Identifying, allocating, and managing resources – 411
- 21 Using language assessments responsibly – 428

Projects

- Project 1 Kindergarten ELL speaking and writing assessment in support of instruction and learning – 440
- Project 2 University ESL reading test for making placement/exemption decisions – 449
- Project 3 University Elementary Modern Chinese speaking assessment – 477

(Additional Projects available at <http://www.oup.com/LAIP>)

Bibliography – 486

Index – 495