Classroom Assessment for Language Teaching

Classroom Assessment for Language Teaching:

Challenges, Choices, and Consequences

Edited by

Eddy White and Tahnee Bucher

Cambridge Scholars Publishing



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Section 1 – Assessment and Emotions
Shelly Stoddard and Eric Moore
Section 2 – Assessment in Conversation Classes
Hale Kızılcık and Deniz Şallı-Çopur
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Section 3 – Assessing Writing
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Chapter Focus/Organization

> Eddy White, PhD Tahnee Bucher

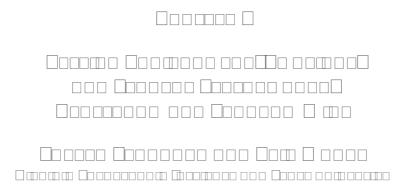


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Eddy White University of Arizona, USA

Tahnee Bucher *University of Arizona, USA*

SECTION 1 – ASSESSMENT AND EMOTIONS



Abstract

The testing environment is a critical aspect of student performance. Students who experience anxiety and other negative emotions when faced with an assessment generally perform at a lower level than their peers who feel confident and secure in their abilities. This chapter explores the relationship of emotional barriers on student achievement and provides strategies to mitigate them. Through a comprehensive literature review, the authors found evidence that test anxiety, previous assessment experiences, cultural background and self-efficacy beliefs, and the relationship between the student and instructor impact performance on assessments. The authors recommend several strategies to overcome these negative hurdles in order to improve performance and achievement as well as ensure reliability in classroom and program outcomes. Classroom strategies include building schema for testing vocabulary and protocols, using formative assessment to influence instruction, implementing constructive feedback and metacognitive habits, and creating strong relationships between the teacher and student. Program wide strategies focus on teacher training, standardization, and the use of authentic assessments. In addition to sharing strategies, the authors describe the challenges faced by administrators and teachers when implementing changes to assessment routines and the success achieved by students after these new strategies were realized

Introduction

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Challenges

Student Emotional Responses

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Impacts of Perception, Background, and Values

The Testing Environment, Program Assessment Protocols, and Standardization

Challenges: Conclusion

Choices

Authentic Speaking Interviews

Process-Based Timed Writing

Classroom Assessment

Formative assessment

Informal formative assessments

Table 1: Informal Formative Assessment Examples

Authentic and Performance Assessment

Table 2: Authentic, Experiential, and Performance Assessment

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