



PROJECT MUSE®

## Language Testing Reconsidered

Fox, Janna, Wesche, Mari, Bayliss, Doreen, Cheng, Liying

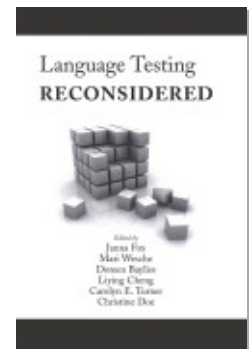
Published by University of Ottawa Press

Fox, Janna & Wesche, Mari & Bayliss, Doreen & Cheng, Liying.

Language Testing Reconsidered.

Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press, 2007.

Project MUSE., <https://muse.jhu.edu/>.



➔ For additional information about this book

<https://muse.jhu.edu/book/4459>

## CONTENTS

Abbreviations and Acronyms	viii
About the Editors	x
Introduction	1
<i>Janna Fox</i>	

### SECTION I

#### WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO KNOW A LANGUAGE?

The International Language Testing Association (ILTA) The UCLES/ILTA Lifetime Achievement Award	8
1. On Second Thoughts <i>Bernard Spolsky</i>	9

### SECTION II

#### WHAT ARE WE MEASURING?

2. The Challenge of (Diagnostic) Testing: Do We Know What We Are Measuring? <i>J. Charles Alderson</i>	21
3. What Is the Construct? The Dialectic of Abilities and Contexts in Defining Constructs in Language Assessment <i>Lyle F. Bachman</i>	41
4. Assessing Academic English Language Proficiency: 40+ years of U.K. Language Tests <i>Alan Davies</i>	73

**SECTION III**

**LANGUAGE TESTING RESEARCH:  
POINTS OF DEPARTURE**

5. The Coming of Age for Research on Test-Taking Strategies 89  
*Andrew D. Cohen*
6. Qualitative Research Methods in Language Test Development  
and Validation 113  
*Anne Lazaraton and Lynda Taylor*
7. Language Testing:  
A Question of Context 131  
*Tim McNamara*

**SECTION IV**

**ANTECEDENTS AND PROSPECTS**

8. Tests as Power Tools:  
Looking Back, Looking Forward 141  
*Elana Shohamy*
- The Goals of ILTA 153
- Language Testing Research Colloquia (LTRC), 1979–2007 154
- Notes on Contributors 155
- References 157
- Index 175

## LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES

### TABLES

4.1 English Proficiency Test Battery (EPTB), in operation from 1965 to 1980	79
4.2 English Language Testing Service (ELTS) test, in operation from 1980 to 1990	80
4.3 International English Language Testing Service (IELTS) test, in operation since 1989	81
6.1 Coding categories	123

### FIGURES

3.1 Approaches to defining the construct in language testing, 1960 to the present	44
8.1 Ninth-grade Hebrew standard grades, according to years of residence	146
8.2 Eleventh-grade math standard grades, according to years of residence	147
8.3 Math grades in monolingual vs. bilingual test versions	148