

**CCCCO Assessment Training
for Local Colleges: Day 1
October 19, 2022**

**Jessica L. Jonson, PhD
Maria Elena Oliveri, PhD**

Training Objectives

Requirements & expectations for local college assessment applications

- CCC Standards for Assessment Instrument Review: English as a Second Language (2022)

Criteria for review:

- Fairness
- Validity
- Reliability
- Accommodations
- Administration and Scoring

Agenda: Training Sessions

Assessment Standards Webinar

Day 1: Wed., Oct 19th 8:30 am – 12 pm

Content/Topic	Approx. Time	Lead Presenter
Welcome/Context setting	5 minutes	VC Lowe or Chantee
Application overview	25 minutes	Jessica
Validity overview & content validity	45 minutes	Jessica
Criterion validity	45 minutes	Jessica
Consequential validity	45 minutes	Jessica
Reliability	45 minutes	Malena

Session 2: Thur., Oct 20th 8:30 am – 12 pm

Content/Topic	Approx. Time	Lead Presenter
Fairness overview & panel reviews	45 minutes	Malena
Fairness – Disproportionate impact	45 minutes	Malena
Administration considerations	10 minutes	Jessica
Accommodations	10 minutes	Malena
Scoring considerations	10 minutes	Jessica
Setting cut scores	50 minutes	
Next steps	10 minutes	Malena

Training Structure

Conceptual overview of each criteria

Outline requirements/expectations for criteria from CCC Standards (2022)

Provide applied examples to provide further guidance

Application Overview

Application Types
Application Statuses
Approval Decisions Types

Application Types



SECOND-PARTY: TEST/ASSESSMENT
DEVELOPED AND MAINTAINED BY
EXTERNAL VENDOR
(COMMERCIALY-AVAILABLE)

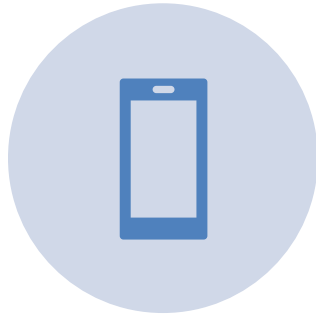


LOCALLY DEVELOPED:
TEST/ASSESSMENT DEVELOPED
LOCALLY FOR USE BY A SINGLE
COLLEGE OR MULTICOLLEGE
DISTRICT

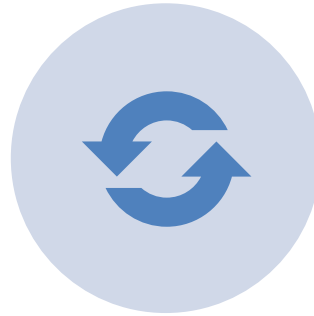


LOCALLY MANAGED: EXISTING
TEST/ASSESSMENT USED BY A LOCAL
COLLEGE OR MULTICOLLEGE
DISTRICT.

Application Status



NEW



RENEWAL



RESUBMISSION

Approval Decisions (Appendix D 2022 CCC Standards)

Full Approval: All standards met (6 Academic Years (AY) from initial approval)



Provisional Approval: Most standards met but lack some clarifying information (1AY + 2 AY at probationary)



Probationary Approval: Minimum standards met but missing critical info on other standards (New: 3 AY & Renewal: 2 AY)



Not Approved: Minimum standards not met (Cannot be used to inform decisions)

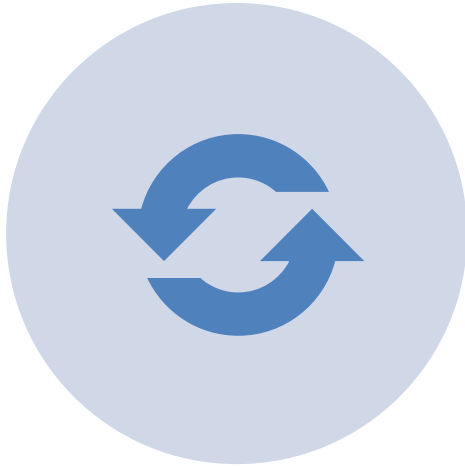
Types Of Application Status



NEW APPLICATION

- Test not previously reviewed
- Test previously approved but not renewed by 6 years
- Substantive changes to previously reviewed test

Types Of Application Status



RENEWAL APPLICATION

- Test previously approved in last 6 years
- No changes in test content, placement courses, or student demographics

Types Of Application Status



RESUBMISSION

- Previously provisional/probationary approvals seeking full approval
- Previously not approved seeking approval

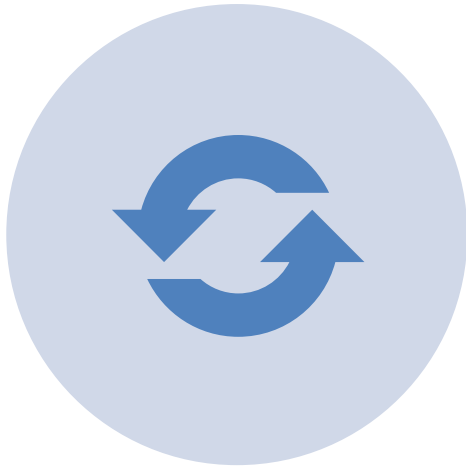
Minimum Standards By Application Status



NEW APPLICATIONS

- Fairness review
- Disproportionate impact study plan
- Content validation
- Criterion validation study plans
- Consequential validation study plan
- Reliability (at least one study)
- Accommodations plans
- Administration/Scoring documentation
- Cutscore setting study

Minimum Standards By Application Status

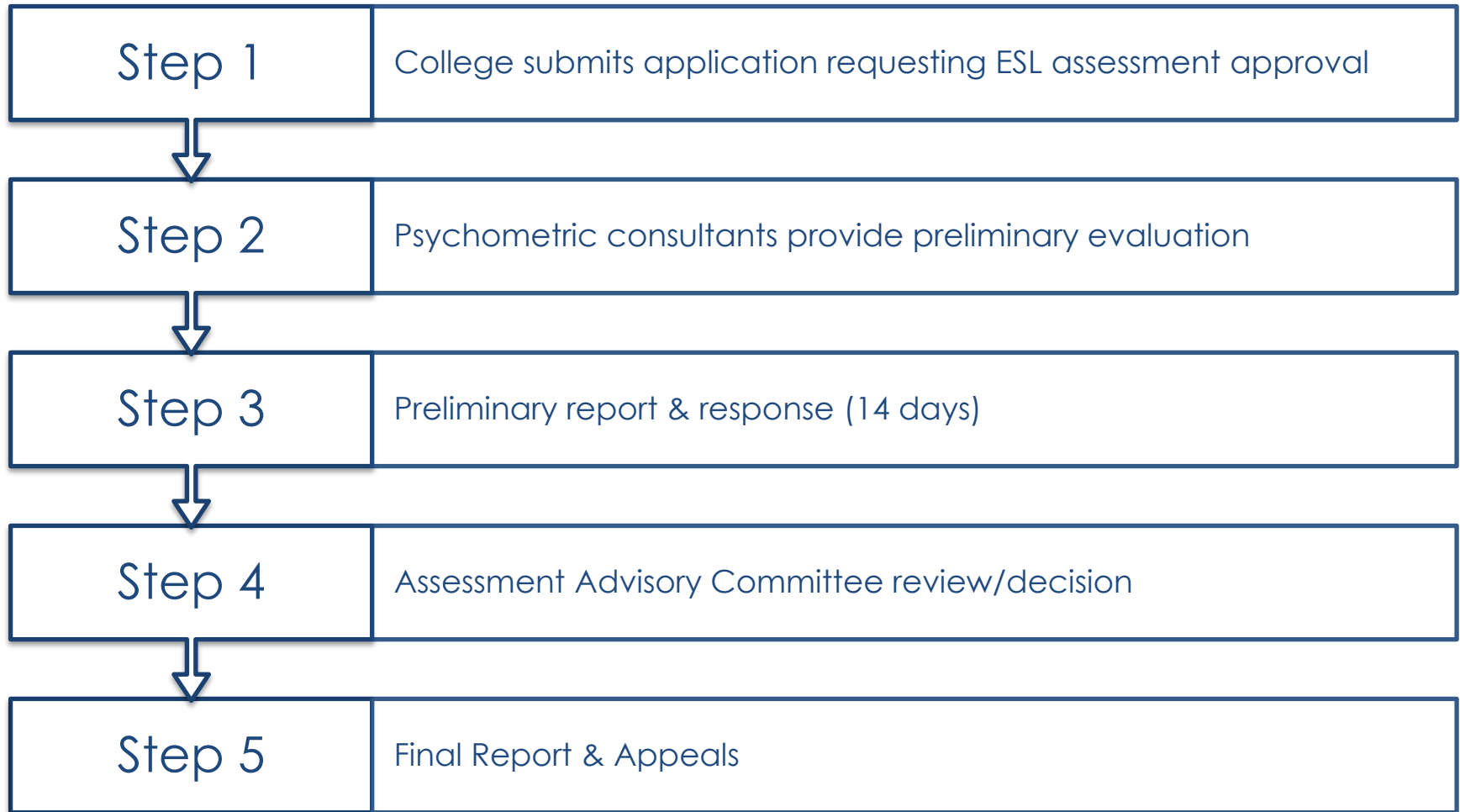


RENEWAL APPLICATIONS

- Disproportionate impact study
- Two criterion validation studies
- Consequential validation study
- Reliability (at least one study)
- Accommodation documentation
- Administration/Scoring documentation
- Cutscore adjustments

Application Review Cycle

(Appendix B 2022 CCC Standards)



Why Preliminary And Final Review?

Preliminary review: Psychometric review

Final review: Contextual review

Both are needed for a comprehensive review of quality, relevance, and appropriateness

QUESTIONS?

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Validity Overview

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What Is Validity?

Validity is....

Extent to which evidence shows that an instrument or procedure appropriately measures the construct of interest (e.g., construct = English language proficiency) for a particular interpretation and use (e.g., course placement)

Construct = related knowledge, skills, or other attributes a test is intended to measure

Validity: An Analogy

Provide a “snapshot not a film” of an individual’s functioning that “describes a moment frozen in time, described from the viewpoint of the psychologist” (p. 637).



Cates, J. A. (1999). The art of assessment in psychology: Ethics, expertise, and validity. *Journal of Clinical Psychology, 55*, 631-641.

Validity: An Analogy



- “Good photos” represent subjects as they are.
- Even good photos are more appropriate for some purposes than others.
- Good tools (tests) and good techniques (test givers, test administration) essential for a “good picture” of test takers.

Validity: What Is Being Validated?

Don't validate: instrument or its scores

- ESL test or Overall language score

Do validate: inferences for particular test uses or applications

- ESL placement decisions for students at CCC

CCC Standards: Five Types Of Validity Evidence

Test content: Analysis test content and measured construct

Response processes: Analysis of individual responses

Internal structure: Relationship test items and test components

Relations with other variables: Test score inference and important external variables and generalize to new situations

Consequences of testing: Soundness of proposed interpretations and intended uses and unintended consequence

Validity Evidence Expectations And Review

Evidence that supports the particular interpretation and use for which test will be used

Evidence described in detail and rationale for how supports interpretation/use

Is evidence sound and sufficient for the purposes in which will be used?

QUESTIONS?

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Content Validation

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Content Validation: Overview

Provide sufficient evidence that the test content is relevant and representative of the construct of interest (e.g., ESL knowledge and skills)

1. What content is covered on the test?
2. Does the test content align with ESL course expectations?

Content Validation: Documentation Requirements (p. 18-19)

1. Describe the test and the knowledge and skills it assesses
 - Format of the test and how it was developed
 - ESL competencies (KSAs) measured by the test (table of specifications/test blueprint)
 - Scores reported
 - Representative test form (e.g., items, prompts, tasks, scoring rubric)
2. Conduct an alignment study
 - Align assessment content with entry-level skills required for each ESL course (including transfer-level composition).
3. Evaluate and conclude if the test is representative and relevant for course placement decisions.

Content Validation: Submission Requirements

New submissions: Required

- Probationary:
 - content description
 - alignment study

Renewal submissions: only if changes to test or ESL curriculum

Content Validation: Test Format And Form

- Selected response (e.g., multiple-choice)
 - Items
- Performance assessment (e.g. writing)
 - Prompts/Tasks
 - Scoring rubrics/algorithms
- Computer-adapted
 - Describe item bank
 - CAT algorithms (rules/restrictions)

Content Validation:

Table of Specifications/Test Blueprint

Table of specifications/Test blueprint: List competencies measured and number of (or which) items measure each

Preferred practice: identify items measure different levels of ESL competency (beginning, intermediate, advanced)

If test format:

Performance assessment: scoring rubrics provide descriptions of different levels of performance for a list of characteristics

Item banks: specify not only how many items in the bank for each competency but also the number (or range) items each test take receives according to the item selection algorithm

Examples for Different Test Items

- Objective test Items: require students to provide or select the correct response
 - Multiple-choice, true/false, short answer
- Subjective test items: permit students to provide an original answer
 - Essay, performance, problem-solving
 - Often scored using criteria or rubric

Test Blueprint: Objective Test Item Example

General Competency	Knowledge/Skills	Number of items	Beginner	Intermediate	Advanced
Beginning Literacy/Phonics	1a. Ask for, give, follow, or clarify directions to a place or location, including reading signs	14	6	4	4
	1b. Identify different kinds of housing, areas of the home, and common household items	1	0	1	0
	1c. Interpret clock time	9	3	4	2
Vocabulary	2a. Understand or use appropriate language for informational purposes (e.g., to identify, describe, ask for information, state needs, agree or disagree)	8	4	2	2
	2b. Identify, evaluate and access schools and other learning resources	6	2	1	3
	2c. Identify safety measures that can prevent accidents and injuries	5	3	1	2

Test Blueprint: Scoring Rubric Example

Criteria	Score 5-6 (English 1A)	Score 4 (ESL 151)	Score 2-3 (ESL 101)	Score 1 (ESL 100)
a. Response to text and prompt	Exhibits an insightful response to the text; effectively addresses all tasks	Exhibits and adequate response to the text; addresses most aspects of the task	May not respond adequately to the text; may ignore some aspects of the task	Demonstrates a failure to comprehend the tasks at hand
b. Organization, development and support	Is well organized and substantially developed with effective examples and evidence	Is unevenly organized and generally developed with some effective examples and evidence	May lack coherent structure and effective examples	Lacks any structure or development; may be inappropriately brief
c. Style (diction and syntax)	Makes sophisticated syntactic choices and uses precise diction	May lack syntactic variety and exhibit inexact diction	Often lacks precise word choice and syntactic variety	Lacks control of syntax and vocabulary
d. Writing conventions	Usually employs correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling	Contains a few grammar errors, but generally observes conventions	Contains errors that interfere with meaning	Contains numerous grammatical errors that interfere with meaning

Content Alignment Study: Individuals And Materials Needed

Who:

Faculty teaching ESL courses (but were not involved in the development of the test)

What:

- Listing of entry-level skills needed for each ESL course and transfer-level composition
- Knowledge or skills measured by the test (blueprint/table of specifications)
- Test items, a representative sample of items (CAT), prompts/scoring rubric (Performance assessment)

Content Alignment Study: Process

Faculty review entry-level skills for each course

Faculty individually review and rate the match between test content and entry-level skills

Tally or summarize the ratings for entry-level skills for each course

Evaluate and conclude

Content Alignment Study – Multiple Items

Example

Test Item	ESL 1 (Entry-skills)			ESL 2 (Entry-skills)					Transfer Comp (Entry-skills)		
	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3
1	Y			Y							
2		Y			Y					Y	
3											
4			Y			Y	Y				
5	Y		Y	Y		Y		Y	Y		Y
6		Y			Y					Y	
7											
8	Y	Y		Y	Y				Y	Y	
9											
10	Y										
Total	4	3	2	3	3	2	1	1	2	3	1

Alignment Example: Scoring Rubric

Scoring Rubric	Congruent with...			
	ESL 100 entry skills	ESL 101 entry skills	ESL 151 entry skills	English 1A entry skills
Recommend ESL 100	5.0	4.0	2.0	1.0
Recommend ESL 101	3.4	5.0	4.0	3.6
Recommend ESL 151	2.6	3.6	5.0	4.0
Recommend English 1A	1.4	3.2	4.0	5.0

Scoring scale:

1= *no match* between the scoring rubric and the course entry skills

2= *little match* between the scoring rubric and the course entry skills

3= *moderate match* between the scoring rubric and the course entry skills

4= *good match* between the scoring rubric and the course entry skills

5= *strong match* between the scoring rubric and the course entry skills

Content Validation: Analysis Considerations

- Are all entry-level skills addressed?
- Are those entry-level skills sufficiently addressed (at least one item)?
 - If not, should new content be developed?
- Is there test content that does not align with entry-level skills?
 - If so, should it be removed?
- Is the test content representative and relevant for all ESL courses?
 - If not, which courses is it appropriate for and which is it not?
 - As a result, what is the local college's plan for using the test results in placement process?

Content Validation: Common Errors/Omissions

- No description of faculty, details about process, or summary of results
- Describes overall skills measured instead of item-level review
- Results not summarized for each course
- No interpretation or conclusions
- For performance assessment, no review aligning rubric criteria and entry-level skills

QUESTIONS?

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Criterion Validation Studies

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Criterion Validation: Overview

Extent to which inference from a test score relates to alternate measure of construct or an outcomes measure (AKA criterion variable).

- Criterion variable collected at the same time as the test (concurrent) or in the future (predictive)

Criterion Validation: Documentation Requirements (p. 20-21)

1. Describe the study sample
 - Demographically representative of ESL student population at local college (don't forget cultural/linguistic groups)
 - Representation from all ESL proficiency levels and cohorts
 - Census or random sample not a convenience sample
 - Sufficient size (n=10 per group, n=30 overall):
Gather over multiple years if population is small

Criterion Validation: Documentation Requirements (p. 20-21)

2. Describe study methods

- What, when, and how data was collected (recent data – last 3 years)
 - Test score and recommended placement level
 - Criterion variable: either score, recommended placement level, or both
 - Whether student initial course enrollment matched recommended placement by the test
- Rationale for selected criterion variables. Two different criterion variables are required.

1. One at the time of testing. Possibilities include:

- student self-assessment of proficiency
- other multiple measures used in placement decisions
- test scores from another ESL proficiency measure

2. One after initial enrollment. Possibilities include:

- instructor assessment of proficiency
- mid-term/final course grade
- mid-term/final course exam score

- How data was analyzed

Criterion Validation: Documentation Requirements(p. 20-21)

3. Summarize the results and actions taken

- Provide a demographic representation of the study sample
- Provide descriptive statistics and distribution of test scores/placement levels and criterion scores/levels in the data set
- Report results for all courses in the ESL sequence and the transfer-level composition
- If correlation coefficients must be .35 or higher (or comparable effect size if alternate statistical analysis)
- When sample sizes permit, report results separately for cultural/linguistic groups (minimum n=10 per group)

4. Evaluate and conclude

- Based on the results, make recommendations about the use of the test scores for the placement decisions of students from different demographic groups and for specific course/proficiency levels

CCC Standards:

Representing Cultural/Linguistic Groups

Representation of cultural/linguistic (C/L) groups that constitute 2% or more of your ESL student population

- If demographic data is unavailable, ask ESL faculty to identify the key C/L groups
- English language abilities can vary across C/L groups
- Minimum n=10 per C/L group (encourage census data when possible)
- Keep in mind: Language differences in cultural groups (e.g., Spanish speakers)

Criterion Validation: Submission Requirements

New submissions: Two studies are required

- Probationary: Detailed plan for conducting these studies

Renewal submissions: Two studies are required.

Criterion Validation: Types Of Comparisons

At the time of testing (concurrent)

Test variable	Criterion variable
Recommended course placement based on test score	Student self-assessment of placement based on survey of entry-level skills for courses
Recommended course placement based on test score	Recommended course placement based on another multiple measure used in the placement decision
Score from the test	Score from a test of another measure

Irvine Valley – Example Student Self-Assessment

Review the levels below and choose the best level that describes your English skills. Use the sentence “Today, I believe I can...”. Choose ONLY 1 box.

Proficient	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Write 5 to 7 page essays in academic English with little or no help<input type="checkbox"/> Read college level texts in English, including a 300-page novel or nonfiction with little or no dictionary help.<input type="checkbox"/> Fully understand a college lecture in English on academic topics such as Biology, History, or Sociology.
Advanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Write 2 to 3 page essays in academic English with some help.<input type="checkbox"/> Read short college- level texts in English, including a 200-page novel or nonfiction with dictionary help.<input type="checkbox"/> Understand most of a college lecture in English on academic topics such as Biology, History, and Sociology
Low Intermediate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Write a group of sentences in English with help.<input type="checkbox"/> Read a group of sentences in English, but sometimes I do not know all of the words.<input type="checkbox"/> Understand a slow-paced conversation in English on a familiar topic or in a practical everyday situations such as shopping or the weather.
Low Beginner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Write some words and a couple of sentences. I know my English ABCs, numbers, and some words, but I need a lot of help.<input type="checkbox"/> Read and understand some familiar words in simple sentences.<input type="checkbox"/> Understand some simple questions, directions, or greetings.

Criterion Validation: Types Of Comparisons

After initial enrollment (predictive)

Test variable	Criterion variable
Recommended course placement based on test score	Instructor assessment of student proficiency
Recommended course placement based on test score	Midterm/Final course grade
Recommended course placement based on test score	Midterm/Final course exam score

Criterion Validation: Process At Time Of Testing

Collect test and criterion data from all students tested

Assemble data into a single records for each student along with their identified cultural/linguistic group

Compare number/percentage of students when placement levels matched and did not match for each course OR compute a correlation coefficient if comparing scores from two continuous variable measures

Report, analyze, and evaluate the results.

Criterion Validation: Example At Time Of Testing

Results table for all students tested

		Student Self-Assessment		
		ESL 1 (n = #)	ESL 2 (n = #)	Transfer Comp (n = #)
Test Score	Placement Level			
	ESL 1 (n = #)	60%	30%	10%
	ESL 2 (n = #)	25%	70%	5%
	Transfer Comp (n=#)	0%	0%	100%

Criterion Validation: Example At Time of Testing

Results tables for different cultural/linguistic groups

Cultural/Linguistic Group 1		Student Self-Assessment		
Placement Level		ESL 1 (n=#)	ESL 2 (n=#)	Transfer Comp (n=#)
Test Score	ESL 1 (n=#)	70%	25%	5%
	ESL 2 (n=#)	15%	75%	10%
	Transfer Comp (n=#)	5%	5%	90%

Cultural/Linguistic Group 2		Student Self-Assessment		
Placement Level		ESL 1 (n=#)	ESL 2 (n=#)	Transfer Comp (n=#)
Test Score	ESL 1 (n=#)	80%	20%	0%
	ESL 2 (n=#)	20%	60%	20%
	Transfer Comp (n=#)	10%	15%	75%

Criterion Validation: Process After Initial Enrollment

Collect test and criterion data for all students after initial enrollment

Assemble data into a single record for each student along with their identified cultural/linguistic group and whether they enrolled in the course recommended by the test

Separate data for students who enrolled in the course recommended by the test separately from students who did not enroll in the course recommended by the test

Compare number/percentage of students who were or were not correctly placed in the course OR compute a correlation coefficient if data provides enough range for both variables to be considered continuous

Report, analyze, and evaluate the results.

Criterion Validation:

Example Instructor Assessment Of Proficiency

Instructor rating scale:

How prepared is the student related to your course prerequisite skills in order to succeed in your course?

1. Unprepared for the course. Student probably should have been placed into a lower level course.
2. Adequately prepared for the course. Student was placed into the appropriate level course.
3. Over-prepared for the course. Student probably should have been placed into a higher level course.

Reporting results:

Instructor Rating	ESL1 (n=#)	ESL2 (n=#)	Transfer Comp (n=#)
Over-prepared	22%	5%	4%
Adequately prepared	58%	85%	82%
Under-prepared	20%	10%	14%

Criterion Validation: Course/Exam Grades

Reporting results:

Course/Exam Grades	ESL1 (n=#)	ESL2 (n=#)	Transfer Comp (n=#)
A/B	22%	85%	82%
C	58%	5%	4%
D/F	20%	10%	14%

Criterion Validation: Analysis Considerations

- Discuss results instead of using hard and fast cutoffs (e.g., 75%)
- Results may lead to cautions about the use of the test for certain courses or students or reconsideration of cut scores
- Poor results could be due poor measurement of your criterion variable
- Only one source of validity – consider results along with other sources

Criterion Validation: Common Errors/Omissions

- Data for courses are combined rather than reported individually.
- Too few courses or students included, limit generalizability.
- Only data is reported with little to no attention as to whether cut scores should be revisited or use of the test should be reconsidered.

QUESTIONS?

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Consequential Validation

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Consequential Validity: Overview

Examination of the intended and unintended consequences of test use.

Key consequence for CCC: Students with a goal of transferring to a 4-year institution or an associates degree should enter and complete a transfer-level composition course or ESL course equivalent to transfer-level English composition within 3 years of declaring a transfer- or degree-seeking goal (title 5, 55522.5)

Consequential Validation: Documentation Requirements (p.21-23)

1. Describe the study sample

- Demographically representative of ESL student population at local college (don't forget cultural/linguistic groups)
- Representation from all ESL proficiency levels and cohorts
- Census or random sample, not a convenience sample
- Sufficient size (good rule of thumb $n=30$): Gather over multiple years if population is small

2. Describe study methods

- What, when, and how data was collected (recent data – last 3-5 years)
- How data was analyzed

Consequential Validation: Documentation Requirement (p.21-23)

3. Summarize the results and actions taken

- Provide a demographic representation of the study sample
- Provide descriptive statistics and distribution for all study variables:
 - across the entire sample,
 - for students who did and did not enroll in the initial course recommended by the test, and
 - for relevant cultural/linguistic groups.
- Report results for all courses in the ESL sequence and the transfer level composition
- When sample sizes permit, report results separately for cultural/linguistic groups

4. Evaluate and conclude

- Based on the results, make recommendations about the use of the test scores for the placement decisions of students from different demographic groups and for specific course/proficiency levels

Consequential Validation: Submission Requirements

New submissions: Study required for full approval

- Probationary: Detailed, appropriate plan for conducting study is provided.

Renewal submissions: Study is required

Consequential Validity: Study Variables

Key variables:

- test score and recommended placement level
- Whether the student successfully completed transfer-level composition 3 years after initial enrollment in ESL sequence

Other helpful data

1. If the student is degree seeking?
2. Cultural/linguistic group
3. ESL cohort
4. Final placement recommendation
5. Initial ESL course the student enrolled
6. Term and course grade for each enrolled ESL course culminating with transfer-level composition course

Consequential Validation: Process

Collect test, course, and demographic data from all students tested

Assemble data into a single records for each student along with their identified cultural/linguistic group

Report the percentage of students who completed the transfer level composition course within 3 years of initial enrollment

Analyze and evaluate the results.

Consequential Validity: Example Analyses

- Percentage of students who did and did not enroll in the course recommended by the test
 - Does this differ by cultural/linguistic group or another demographic?
- Percentage of students who have and have not successfully completed transfer level composition within 3 years times of declaring a transfer- or degree-seeking goal?
 - For each course level initially enrolled, report percentages for each cohort and cultural/linguistic group

Consequential Validation: Results Tables

% degree-seeking students completed transfer level composition in 3 years

		Initial Course Enrollment			
	% enrolled in course recommended by the test	ESL 1 (n=#)	ESL 2 (n=#)	ESL 3 (n=#)	Overall (n=#)
Cultural/linguistic group 1 (n= #)	80%	78%	85%	98%	79%
Cultural/linguistic group 2 (n= #)	65%	60%	75%	92%	70%

		Initial Course Enrollment			
	% enrolled in course recommended by the test	ESL 1 (n=#)	ESL 2 (n=#)	ESL 3 (n=#)	Overall (n=#)
Cohort – Year 1 (n= #)	82%	66%	92%	100%	85%
Cohort – Year 2 (n= #)	75%	75%	88%	93%	89%
Cohort – Year 3 (n= #)	80%	78%	90%	95%	90%



Consequential Validation: Analysis Considerations

- What differences are found between cultural/linguistic groups in terms of initial course enrollments & completion rates?
- Is there consistent results across cohorts? If not, why might those results have been different?
- Are completion rates a concern? What follow-up analyses should be done to determine if the concerns are a result of the validity of test score interpretation?
- If concerns about the validity of test score interpretation, should cut scores be revisited? Additional reliability, validity, or fairness analyses conducted for different cultural/linguistic groups or another demographic?

QUESTIONS?

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Reliability

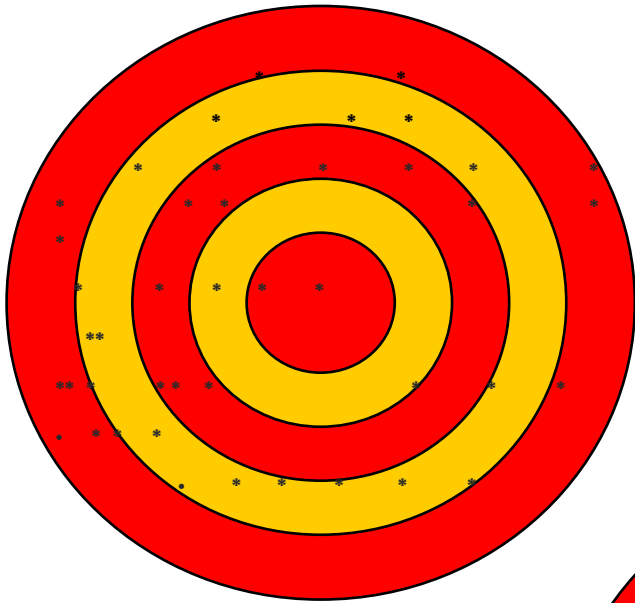
Maria Elena Oliveri, PhD

Reliability: Overview

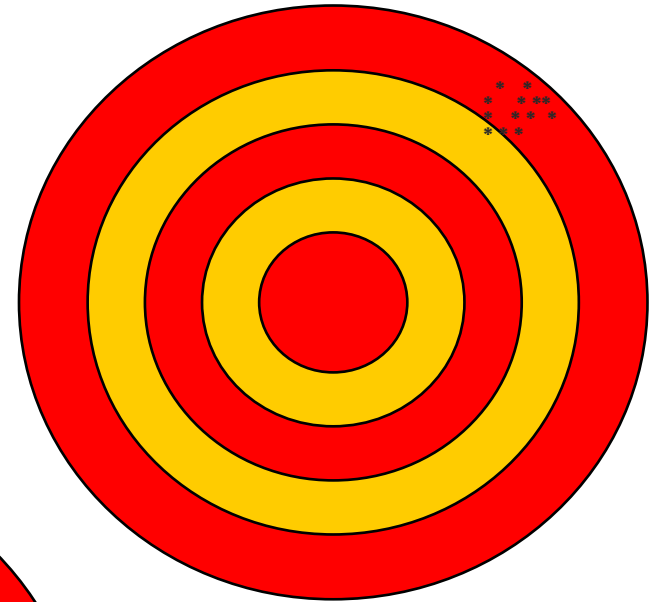
Reliability is...how consistently (accurately or precisely) a “test” measures a given construct.

Validity is ... degree of relevance of score-based inferences.

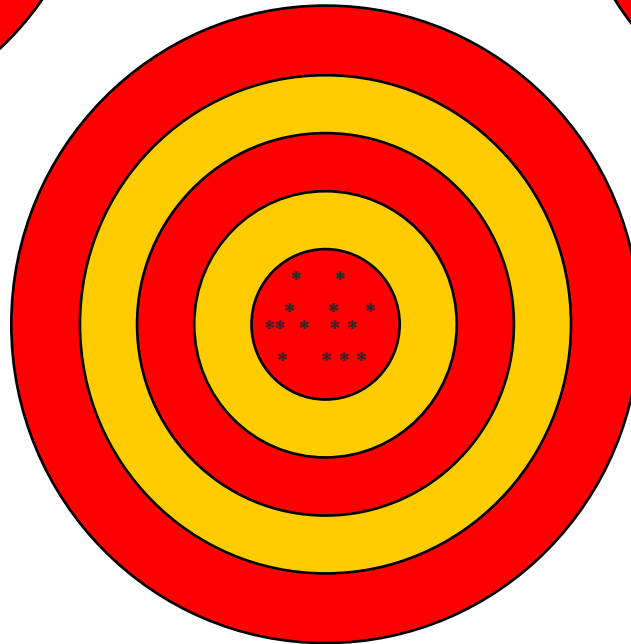
Consistency allows for confidence in score-based inferences.



NEITHER
Reliable nor Valid



Reliable
but NOT Valid



BOTH
Reliable and Valid

Tests Are Not Reliable

A test is not reliable – reliability evidence is attributable to the **scores** from the test

- Depends on circumstances test is given
- Also sample dependent

Ideally...

Looking for reliability evidence from a sample of students similar to EL population at CCCO in a context in which placement decisions will be made.

Reliability Overview - Continued

No assessment instrument is free of error, which requires that the reliability of the assessment instrument and the degree of error associated with test scores be documented.

Error can stem from multiple sources - the reliability evidence provided should consider the error sources that are most relevant and of greatest concern for the assessment instrument.

Report reliability estimate and standard error of measurement (SEM) for all reported scores. If corrected estimates are reported, uncorrected should be as well.

Reliability: Doc. Requirements (pp.23-24)

Reliability information is required.

- Report the percentage (or number) of students in the study sample and provide a demographic comparison of the study sample with the demographic representation of the local college ESL student population. Include a sufficient and representative sample of ESL students from cultural/linguistic groups that constitute approximately 2% or more of the ESL student population at the local college.
 - Encourage representation from full range ESL proficiency levels and from all available ESL cohorts
- Describe the study methods (for each type of relevant measurement error); describe what data were collected, when (in last 3 years), how data were collected & analyzed.
- Summarize the results and actions based on the results.
 - Report SEM across the score scale and confidence intervals at cut points.
- Provide conclusions and summarize recommendations.

Reliability: Submission Requirements

New submissions: Reliability information addressing is required. Including:

- Internal consistency
- Test-retest
- Any other relevant sources (inter-rater, inter-prompt, inter-form)

Probationary: At least one reliability study

Renewal submissions: Reliability information is required. Including:

- Internal consistency
- Any other relevant sources (inter-rater, inter-prompt, inter-form)

Types of Reliability Estimates

Test-Retest/Stability(1 form, 2 occasions)

Administer same test to same group across two time points and correlate scores

Internal consistency (1 form, 1 occasion)

Compare responses across items within test from 1 occasion

Equivalent forms (2 or more forms/prompts, 1 occasion)

Use one set of questions on same construct and divide into two equivalent sets administered to same sample and compare scores

Human scoring

Compare scores across multiple raters

Reliability: Process

- Conduct a reliability study:
 - administer the same test on two occasions (test-retest approach);
 - internal consistency.
- Subscores: Evaluate reliability of subtest scores if subtest scores are used to make placement decisions.

Reliability: Test-Retest

Test-Retest Reliability = Correlation between test scores



To calculate the test-retest reliability, you can use the [Pearson Correlation Coefficient](#), which takes on a value between -1 and 1 where:

- -1 indicates a perfectly negative linear correlation between two scores.
- 0 indicates no linear correlation between two scores.
- 1 indicates a perfectly positive linear correlation between two scores.

Test-Retest (Excel Example) and Spreadsheet

	TestScores_Time1	TestScores_Time2
John Doe	98	96
Jane Doe	87	91
Steve Sixpack	75	71
Sarah Sixpack	89	83
Emily Everyman	90	95
Ernie Everyman	72	72

Step 1) Collect test data from the same students at time 1 and time 2. The test at time 2 should be administered at least two weeks after the test at time 1.

Step 2) Pair the scores from students at time 1 and time 2.

Test-Retest (Excel Example) and Spreadsheet (cont.)

	TestScores_Time1	TestScores_Time2
John Doe	98	96
Jane Doe	87	91
Steve Sixpack	75	71
Sarah Sixpack	89	83
Emily Everyman	90	95
Ernie Everyman	72	72
	<code>=CORREL(B2:B7,C2:C7)</code>	

	TestScores_Time1	TestScores_Time2
John Doe	98	96
Jane Doe	87	91
Steve Sixpack	75	71
Sarah Sixpack	89	83
Emily Everyman	90	95
Ernie Everyman	72	72
	0.921471923	

Step 3) Use the CORREL function, calculate the correlation between the test scores at times 1 and 2.

Step 4) Interpret and report the results. **The threshold for acceptable test-retest reliability is .75.**

Reliability: Internal Consistency

	Response_Q1	Response_Q2	Response_Q3	Response_Q4
John Doe	1	2	2	1
Jane Doe	2	2	2	1
Steve Sixpack	3	2	2	2
Sarah Sixpack	1	3	3	2
Emily Everyman	3	4	3	5
Ernie Everyman	2	2	3	1

Step 1) Administer a test to a group of students and collect their response data. If necessary, convert the responses into a numerical format.

Reliability: Internal Consistency (cont.)

	Even		Odd	
	Response_Q2	Response_Q4	Response_Q1	Response_Q3
John Doe	2	1	1	2
Jane Doe	2	1	2	2
Steve Sixpack	2	2	3	2
Sarah Sixpack	3	2	1	3
Emily Everyman	4	5	3	3
Ernie Everyman	2	1	2	3

Step 2) Divide the test into two parts. For example, split the test by even and odd numbered items or at random.

Note. It is easier for later calculations if each half of the test has the same number of items.

Reliability: Internal Consistency (cont.)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1		Even			Odd		
2		Response_Q2	Response_Q4	Even Score	Response_Q1	Response_Q3	Odd Score
3	John Doe	2	1	3	1	2	3
4	Jane Doe	2	1	3	2	2	4
5	Steve Sixpack	2	2	4	3	2	5
6	Sarah Sixpack	3	2	5	1	3	4
7	Emily Everyman	4	5	9	3	3	6
8	Ernie Everyman	2	1	=SUM(B8:C8)	2	3	=SUM(E8:F8)

Step 3) Calculate the Even and Odd scores for each student using the SUM function.

Reliability: Internal Consistency (cont.)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1		Even			Odd		
2		Response_Q2	Response_Q4	Even Score	Response_Q1	Response_Q3	Odd Score
3	John Doe	2	1	3	1	2	3
4	Jane Doe	2	1	3	2	2	4
5	Steve Sixpack	2	2	4	3	2	5
6	Sarah Sixpack	3	2	5	1	3	4
7	Emily Everyman	4	5	9	3	3	6
8	Ernie Everyman	2	1	3	2	3	5
9							
10				=CORREL(D3:D8,G3:G8)			
11							

Step 4) Find the correlation between the even and odd scores using the CORREL function.

Reliability: Internal Consistency

	A	B	C	D	
1		Even			
2		Response_Q2	Response_Q4	Even Score	R
3	John Doe	2	1		3
4	Jane Doe	2	1		3
5	Steve Sixpack	2	2		4
6	Sarah Sixpack	3	2		5
7	Emily Everyman	4	5		9
8	Ernie Everyman	2	1		3
9					
10			Split half	0.691148284	
11			S-B correction	$= (2 * D10) / (1 + D10)$	
12					

Step 5) The reliability estimate will likely be lower than you were expecting. Reliability is a function of test length, and you just cut yours in half! You can correct for this by using the Spearman-Brown formula: $r_{\text{predicted}} = \frac{2r}{1+r}$, where r is the split-half reliability estimate.

Note. This version of the formula only works when your test was split into equal halves.

Reliability: Internal Consistency

Split half	0.691148284
S-B correction	0.817371594

Step 6) Interpret the corrected reliability. **The acceptable threshold for an estimate of internal-consistency reliability is .80.**

Reliability: Internal Consistency

α

- Cronbach alpha coefficient

	Response_Q1	Response_Q2	Response_Q3	Response_Q4
John Doe	1	2	2	1
Jane Doe	2	2	2	1
Steve Sixpack	3	2	2	2
Sarah Sixpack	1	3	3	2
Emily Everyman	3	4	3	5
Ernie Everyman	2	2	3	1

Step 1) For a single test, collect test takers' raw responses. If necessary, convert the responses into a numerical format.

Reliability: Internal Consistency (cont.)

α

	Response_Q1	Response_Q2	Response_Q3	Response_Q4
John Doe	1	2	2	1
Jane Doe	2	2	2	1
Steve Sixpack	3	2	2	2
Sarah Sixpack	1	3	3	2
Emily Everyman	3	4	3	5
Ernie Everyman	2	2	3	1
$k/(k-1)$	$=4/(4-1)$			

Step 2) Calculate $k/(k-1)$, where k is the total number of questions on the test.

Reliability: Internal Consistency (cont.)

α

	Response_Q1	Response_Q2	Response_Q3	Response_Q4	Total
John Doe	1	2	2	1	6
Jane Doe	2	2	2	1	7
Steve Sixpack	3	2	2	2	9
Sarah Sixpack	1	3	3	2	9
Emily Everyman	3	4	3	5	15
Ernie Everyman	2	2	3	1	=SUM(B7:E7)
k/(k-1)	1.333333333				

Step 3) Calculate each examinee's total score by summing their responses using the SUM function.

Reliability: Internal Consistency (cont.)

α

	Response_Q1	Response_Q2	Response_Q3	Response_Q4	Total
John Doe	1	2	2	1	6
Jane Doe	2	2	2	1	7
Steve Sixpack	3	2	2	2	9
Sarah Sixpack	1	3	3	2	9
Emily Everyman	3	4	3	5	15
Ernie Everyman	2	2	3	1	8
SD	0.894427191	0.836660027	0.547722558	1.549193338	=STDEV.S(F2:F7)
k/(k-1)	1.333333333				

Step 4) Calculate the standard deviation of the responses to each item and the total scores using the STDEV.S function.

Reliability: Internal Consistency (cont.)

α

	Response_Q1	Response_Q2	Response_Q3	Response_Q4	Total
John Doe	1	2	2	1	6
Jane Doe	2	2	2	1	7
Steve Sixpack	3	2	2	2	9
Sarah Sixpack	1	3	3	2	9
Emily Everyman	3	4	3	5	15
Ernie Everyman	2	2	3	1	8
SD	0.894427191	0.836660027	0.547722558	1.549193338	3.16227766
k/(k-1)	1.333333333				
sum(s_item^2)	=SUMSQ(B8:E8)				

Step 5) Calculate the sum of the squared standard deviations for the questions using the SUMSQ function.

Reliability: Internal Consistency (cont.)

α

A	B	C	D	E	F
	Response_Q1	Response_Q2	Response_Q3	Response_Q4	Total
John Doe	1	2	2	1	6
Jane Doe	2	2	2	1	7
Steve Sixpack	3	2	2	2	9
Sarah Sixpack	1	3	3	2	9
Emily Everyman	3	4	3	5	15
Ernie Everyman	2	2	3	1	8
SD	0.894427191	0.836660027	0.547722558	1.549193338	3.16227766
k/(k-1)	1.333333333				
sum(s_quest^2)	4.2				
s_total^2	=F8^2				

Step 6) Square the standard deviation of the total scores.

Reliability: Internal Consistency (cont.)

α

	A	B
1		Response_Q1
2	John Doe	1
3	Jane Doe	2
4	Steve Sixpack	3
5	Sarah Sixpack	1
6	Emily Everyman	3
7	Ernie Everyman	2
8	SD	0.894427191
9		
10	k/(k-1)	1.333333333
11	sum(s_quest^2)	4.2
12	s_total^2	10
13	alpha	=B10*(1-(B11/B12))

k/(k-1)	1.333333333	
sum(s_quest^2)	4.2	
s_total^2	10	
alpha	0.773333333	

Step 7) Combine all the parts. Use the equation:

$$\alpha = \left(\frac{k}{(k-1)} \right) * \left(1 - \left(\frac{\sum s_i^2}{s_t^2} \right) \right)$$

Step 8) Interpret the result. **The threshold for acceptable internal-consistency reliability is .80.**

CCC Standards: Reliability Estimate Minima

Internal consistency = .80 or higher

Equivalent form/inter-prompt = .75 or higher

Inter-rater (prefer methods correcting for chance)

- Intraclass correlation = .75+
- Interscorer correlation = .70+
- Percent agreement = 90% or higher (1 point difference)
- Cohens Kappa = .40 or higher
- Report how inconsistencies between scorers were resolved

Standard Error Of Measurement (SEM)

Estimate of how repeated measures of a person's score (SD) is distributed around their "true" score to determine the degree of test score precision.

- Lower values preferred (less error)

EXAMPLE: Student score = 30

- SEM 3.5 $30 \pm 3.5 = 26.5 \text{ to } 33.5$
- SEM 10 $30 \pm 10 = 20 \text{ to } 30$

Important to know SEM across score distribution especially at consequential cut points.

Reliability Studies: Rater Agreement

Train raters in the rating process.

Raters rate papers/tasks independently using scoring guidelines.

Calculate percentage of exact & adjacent agreement between the raters. Must have 90% agreement within 1 point.

Alternatively compute the correlation between the ratings from the two raters (Must be 0.70 or higher).

When other standards are not met, more training and/or revision of rubric scales are needed.

Reliability: Performance Tests

- Example – Percentage Agreement

	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	7	2	1	0	0	0
2	3	10	3	2	1	0
3	0	2	12	2	0	1
4	0	2	2	13	1	1
5	0	1	1	4	12	3
6	0	0	0	1	3	11

- A random sample of 100 papers were rated by the two independent readers.
- 90% agreement within one point difference between the two readers
- The CCC standard is met (>90% within one point on a 6-point scale)

Reliability: Percent Agreement

	A	B	C	D
1	Essay	Grader_1	Grader_2	Grader_3
2	1	5	5	5
3	2	5	4	5
4	3	3	3	1
5				

Step 1) Collect grader/rater ratings of a performance test (e.g., an essay or a presentation).

Reliability: Percent Agreement (cont.)

Exact						
Essay	Grader_1	Grader_2	Grader_3	G1-G2	G1-G3	G2-G3
1	5	5	5	1	1	1
2	5	4	5	0	1	0
3	3	3	1	1	0	0

Exact and Adjacent						
Essay	Grader_1	Grader_2	Grader_3	G1-G2	G1-G3	G2-G3
1	5	5	5	1	1	1
2	5	4	5	1	1	1
3	3	3	1	1	0	0

Step 2) For each combination of graders, make a new column. In each of these columns for each essay, add a 1 if the grader pair gave the same rating, or a 0 if the grader pair gave a different rating.

Note. This will calculate *Exact* percent agreement. Exact and Adjacent percent agreement can be calculated by determining if the grader pair selected the same rating or an *adjacent rating*. The bottom picture shows what exact and adjacent scoring would look like.

Reliability: Percent Agreement (cont.)

	Exact						
Essay	Grader_1	Grader_2	Grader_3	G1-G2	G1-G3	G2-G3	Total
1	5	5	5	1	1	1	3
2	5	4	5	0	1	0	1
3	3	3	1	1	0	0	=SUM(E5:G5)

Step 3) For each essay, calculate the total number of times the grader gave the same rating by using the SUM function.

Reliability: Percent Agreement (cont.)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	Exact								
2	Essay	Grader_1	Grader_2	Grader_3	G1-G2	G1-G3	G2-G3	Total	Proportion
3	1	5	5	5	1	1	1	3	1
4	2	5	4	5	0	1	0	1	0.3333333
5	3	3	3	1	1	0	0	1	=H5/3
6									

Step 4) Calculate the proportion of agreements across all grader pairs.

Reliability: Percent Agreement (cont.)

H	I
Total	Proportion
3	1
1	0.333333333
1	0.333333333
mean	=AVERAGE(I3:I5)

H	I
Total	Proportion
3	1
1	0.333333333
1	0.333333333
mean	0.555555556
Percent Agree	55.55555556

Step 5) Calculate the average of the proportion of agreements for all essays. Then, multiply the result by 100 to get the percent agreement.

Step 6) Interpret the results. A threshold of 90% is required for acceptable performance test reliability.

Reliability Studies: Rater Agreement

Students respond to 2 prompts in randomized, counterbalanced order.



Report the placement agreement rates for paired prompts.

Example

- Two faculty members were trained in the application of the writing rubric to consistently rate written essays for the English Written Sample Assessment. A random sample of 60 papers were taken and rated by two independent readers. Rater agreement was calculated by correlating the ratings from the two independent raters.
- The resulting correlation between the two raters was .73.

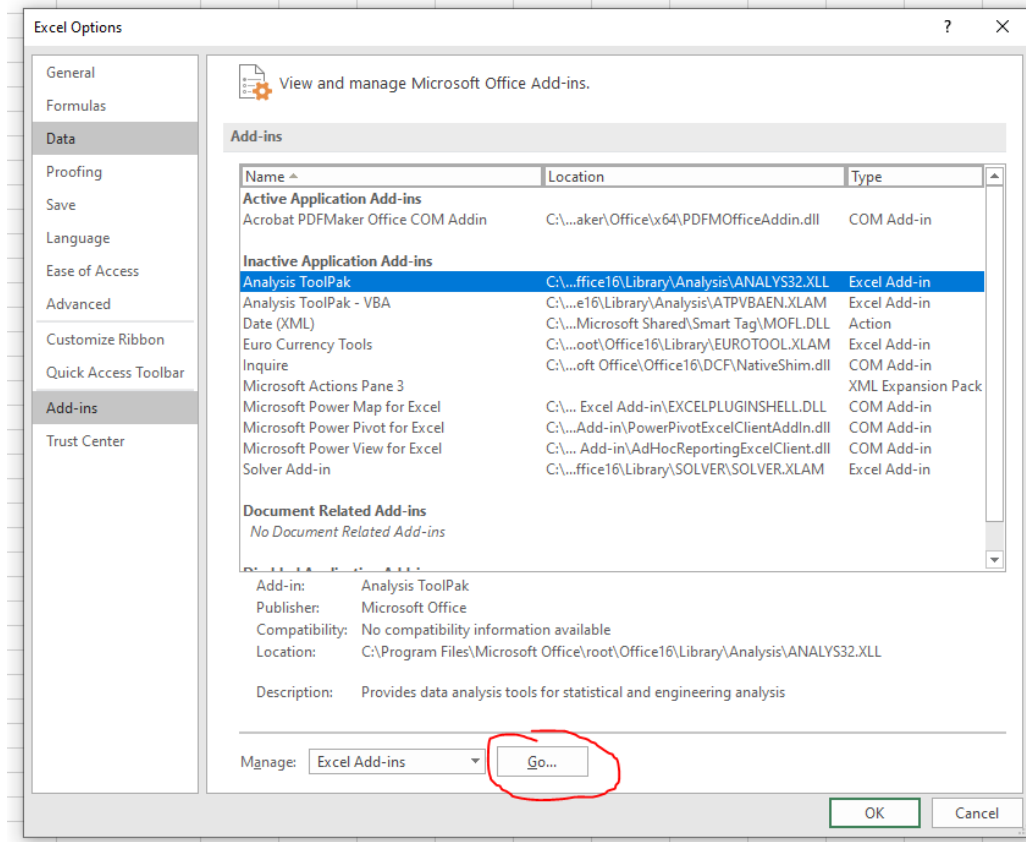
Reliability: Intraclass Correlation

	A	B	C	D
1	Essay	Grader_1	Grader_2	Grader_3
2	1	5	5	5
3	2	5	4	5
4	3	3	3	1
5				

Step 1) Collect Grader/rater ratings of a performance test (e.g., an essay or a presentation).

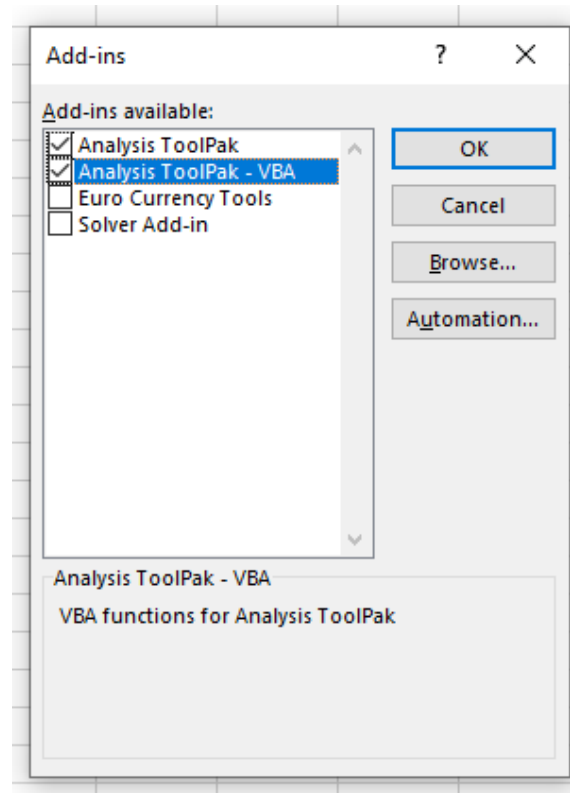
Reliability: Intraclass Correlation (cont.)

Step 2) First, you will need the *Analysis ToolPak* add in for Excel. Go to File --> Options --> Add-ins, then find Analysis ToolPak and click Go...

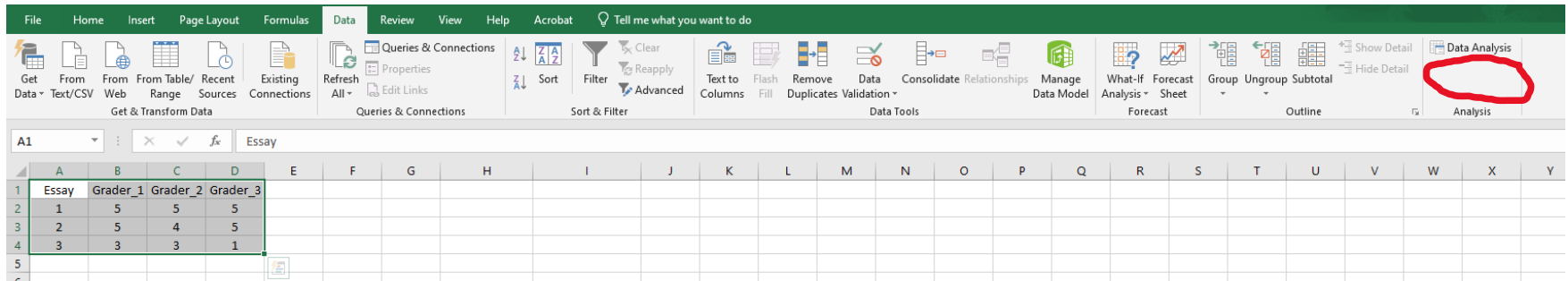


Reliability: Intraclass Correlation (cont.)

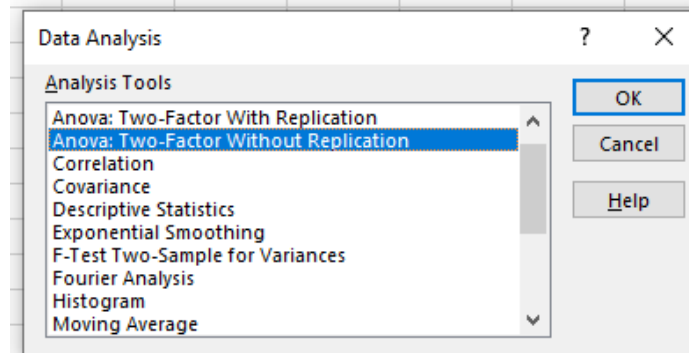
Step 3) Make sure Analysis ToolPak and Analysis ToolPak – VBA are select and click OK



Reliability: Intraclass Correlation (cont.)



Step 4) Navigate to the data tab then highlight your data. There is a new option in the data tab from the add-in: Data Analysis. Click it.



Step 5) Click Anova: Two-Factor Without Replication

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Reliability: Intraclass Correlation (cont.)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Essay	Grader_1	Grader_2	Grader_3			
2	1	5	5	5			
3	2	5	4	5			
4	3	3	3	1			
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							

Anova: Two-Factor Without Replication

Input
Input Range: SAS1:SD\$4
 Labels
Alpha: 0.05

Output options
 Output Range: SGS1:\$P\$34
 New Worksheet Ply:
 New Workbook

OK Cancel Help

Step 6) Select your data in the input range (if not there by default). Select where you want your output saved. Click OK.

Reliability: Intraclass Correlation (cont.)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	
1	Essay	Grader_1	Grader_2	Grader_3			Anova: Two-Factor Without Replication				
2	1	5	5	5							
3	2	5	4	5							
4	3	3	3	1							
5											
6											
7											
8											
9											
10											
11											
12											
13											
14											
15											
16											
17											
18											
19											
20											
21											
22											
23											

SUMMARY					
	Count	Sum	Average	Var	
1	3	15	5		
2	3	14	4.666667	0.3	
3	3	7	2.333333	1.3	
Grader_1	3	13	4.333333	1.3	
Grader_2	3	12	4		
Grader_3	3	11	3.666667	5.3	

ANOVA			
Source of Variation	SS	df	MS
Rows	12.66666667	2	6.333333
Columns	0.666666667	2	0.333333
Error	2.666666667	4	0.666667
Total	16	8	

icc	$= (J15 - J17) / (J15 + I16 * J17 + (I16 + 1) * (J16 - J17) / I15 + 1)$
-----	---

Step 7) From the resulting ANOVA table, you can calculate an ICC, as shown above.

Note. There are multiple types of ICCs.

Reliability: Intraclass Correlation (cont.)

icc	0.693877551
-----	-------------

Step 8) Interpret the results. **A threshold of .75 or higher is required for ICCs.**

Reliability Studies: Interprompt Agreement (Randomized=Alternate)

Each student responds to one prompt. Prompts are randomly assigned to students.

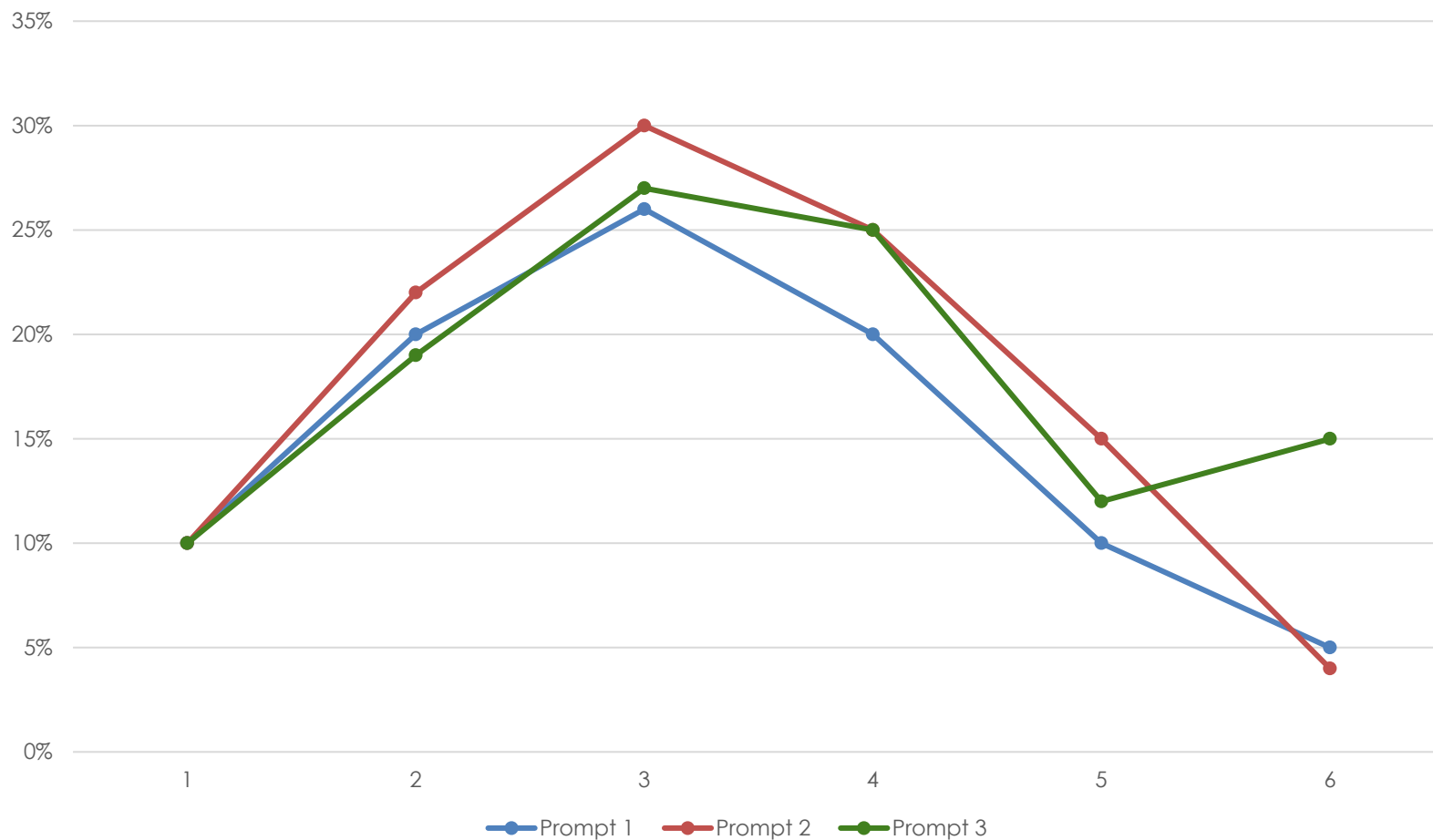


Graph the score distributions for different prompts across rubric score values.



Compare prompt distributions and look for overlaps.

Interprompt Example (Randomized)



Reliability: Analysis Considerations

- Practice effects
- Clarity in item writing
- Diversity (heterogeneity) among group members
- Objectivity in scoring
- Fatigue, differences in motivation
- Differences in test-taking environments (having distractors)

Reliability: Errors/Omissions

- Values reported do not meet minimal criteria stated in the Standards.
- Rubric scoring procedures or prompts change but a new study was not conducted
- Equivalency evidence for different prompts is not provided

QUESTIONS?

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Session 2 Training: Agenda

Thur, Oct 20th 8:30 am – 12 pm

- Fairness – Overview and panel reviews (45 minutes)
- Fairness – Disproportionate impact (45 min)
- Administration considerations (10 minutes)
- Accommodations (10 minutes)
- Scoring considerations (10 minutes)
 - Setting cut scores (50 minutes)
- Next steps (10 minutes)