

Revision in Progress

Report on update of the Manual

Brian North, Eurocentres

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Feedback on the Pilot Version

- ALTE (consolidated report)
- Asset Languages (Cambridge ESOL)
- Budapest Business School
- CITO
- Goethe Institute
- Polish Ministry of Education
- Taiwan Ministry of Education
- TestDaF
- University of Perugia
- Spiros Papageorgiou (Trinity College London)
- Claudia Harsch (DESI Project)

Feedback on the Pilot Version

- Good way to review a test. Some found forms A1-A21 time-consuming, others stressed awareness-raising.
- Difficult without calibrated samples and test items
- Some: CEFR ‘cannot be test specification; Some “Manual&Grids” should cover developing CEFR-ed tests.
- Internal Validation a prerequisite = come at the front
- Make shorter & user-friendly: chapter outlines, index; representation of different entry points and routes
- Split Standardisation training and Standard-setting Training with Illustrative examples in Familiarisation?
- Copy “didactic” approach of “Standardisation Training”
- Standard-setting techniques should cover data-based candidate-centred. (only example of external validation)

Philosophy of Revision

- Keep conceptual scheme:
 - Familiarisation, Specification, Standard., Validation
- Less polite editing (= more unitary style/approach)
- Strengthen need to cover all “Stages,” incl. ext. validation
- Remove descriptive text not essential to linking process
- Include CEFR “insider” info: e.g. plus levels; C2 problem
- Put pre-requisites up-front, but refer to Ref. Supplement
- Split Standardisation training and Standard-setting
- Make shorter & user-friendly: chapter outlines, index; representation of different entry points and routes

Chapters

1. Introduction
 2. Internal Validity
 3. Familiarisation
 4. Specification
 5. Standardisation Training
 6. Standard-setting
 7. External Validation
- Descriptive text in old Chapter 6 on test analysis methodologies goes to Reference Supplement

Issues

- Cross-language linking
 - Multilingual development panels
e.g. Asset languages
 - Cross-language benchmarking
Séminaire interlangues CIEP 23-25 June 2008
- Standard-setting methods
 - Manual “DIALANG” “basket” method
 - Treatment in Revised Manual (ST & NV)

Standard-setting

- Many methods:
 - test-centred, examinee-centred,
 - compromise (no best method)
- Proper procedures important
 - explore procedural validity of SS
- Internal validity needs to be ascertained
 - e.g. standard error of judgement
- External validity needs to be checked:
 - use of several methods
 - use of validated tests (if there are such)

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