Psychological Testing
An Introduction

George Domino
University of Arizona

Marla L. Domino
Department of Mental Health, State of South Carolina
Contents

Preface ix
Acknowledgments xi

PART ONE. BASIC ISSUES

1 The Nature of Tests 1
Aim, 1 • Introduction, 1 • Categories of Tests, 5 • Ethical Standards, 9 • Information about Tests, 11 • Summary, 12 • Suggested Readings, 14 • Discussion Questions, 14

2 Test Construction, Administration, and Interpretation 15
Aim, 15 • Constructing a Test, 15 • Test Items, 18 • Philosophical Issues, 22 • Administering a Test, 25 • Interpreting Test Scores, 25 • Item Characteristics, 28 • Norms, 34 • Combining Test Scores, 38 • Summary, 40 • Suggested Readings, 41 • Discussion Questions, 41

3 Reliability and Validity 42
Aim, 42 • Introduction, 42 • Reliability, 42 • Types of Reliability, 43 • Validity, 52 • Aspects of Validity, 57 • Summary, 65 • Suggested Readings, 66 • Discussion Questions, 66

PART TWO. DIMENSIONS OF TESTING

4 Personality 67
Aim, 67 • Introduction, 67 • Some Basic Issues, 68 • Types of Personality Tests, 70 • Examples of Specific Tests, 72 • The Big Five, 88 • Summary, 91 • Suggested Readings, 91 • Discussion Questions, 91

5 Cognition 92
Aim, 92 • Introduction, 92 • Theories of Intelligence, 94 • Other Aspects, 97 • The Binet Tests, 100 • The Wechsler Tests, 105 • Other Tests, 116 • Summary, 125 • Suggested Readings, 126 • Discussion Questions, 126

6 Attitudes, Values, and Interests 127
Aim, 127 • Attitudes, 127 • Values, 141 • Interests, 148 • Summary, 160 • Suggested Readings, 160 • Discussion Questions, 160
7 Psychopathology ............................................. 161
Aim, 161 • Introduction, 161 • Measures, 163 • The Minnesota
Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI) and MMPI-2, 170 • The
Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory (MCMI), 179 • Other Measures,
185 • Summary, 196 • Suggested Readings, 196 • Discussion
Questions, 196

8 Normal Positive Functioning ............................. 197
Aim, 197 • Self-Concept, 197 • Locus of Control, 202 • Sexuality,
204 • Creativity, 205 • Imagery, 213 • Competitiveness, 215 •
Hope, 216 • Hassles, 218 • Loneliness, 218 • Death Anxiety, 219 •
Summary, 220 • Suggested Readings, 220 • Discussion Questions, 221

PART THREE. APPLICATIONS OF TESTING

9 Special Children .............................................. 223
Aim, 223 • Some Issues Regarding Testing, 223 • Categories of Special
Children, 234 • Some General Issues About Tests, 246 • Summary,
255 • Suggested Readings, 255 • Discussion Questions, 256

10 Older Persons ............................................... 257
Aim, 257 • Some Overall Issues, 257 • Attitudes Toward the Elderly,
260 • Anxiety About Aging, 261 • Life Satisfaction, 261 • Marital
Satisfaction, 263 • Morale, 264 • Coping or Adaptation, 265 • Death
and Dying, 265 • Neuropsychological Assessment, 266 • Depression,
269 • Summary, 270 • Suggested Readings, 270 • Discussion
Questions, 271

11 Testing in a Cross-Cultural Context .................... 272
Aim, 272 • Introduction, 272 • Measurement Bias, 272 •
Cross-Cultural Assessment, 282 • Measurement of Acculturation, 284 •
Some Culture-Fair Tests and Findings, 287 • Standardized Tests, 293 •
Summary, 295 • Suggested Readings, 295 • Discussion Questions, 296

12 Disability and Rehabilitation ............................ 297
Aim, 297 • Some General Concerns, 297 • Modified Testing, 300 •
Some General Results, 301 • Legal Issues, 304 • The Visually Impaired,
307 • Hearing Impaired, 312 • Physical-Motor Disabilities, 321 •
Summary, 323 • Suggested Readings, 323 • Discussion Questions, 324

PART FOUR. THE SETTINGS

13 Testing in the Schools ...................................... 325
Aim, 325 • Preschool Assessment, 325 • Assessment in the Primary
Grades, 328 • High School, 331 • Admission into College, 334 • The
Graduate Record Examination, 342 • Entrance into Professional
Training, 348 • Tests for Licensure and Certification, 352 • Summary,
354 • Suggested Readings, 355 • Discussion Questions, 355

14 Occupational Settings .................................... 356
Aim, 356 • Some Basic Issues, 356 • Some Basic Findings, 356 •
Ratings, 359 • The Role of Personality, 360 • Biographical Data
(Biodata), 363 • Assessment Centers, 365 • Illustrative Industrial
Concerns, 371 • Testing in the Military, 373 • Prediction of Police
Performance, 376 · Examples of Specific Tests, 377 · Integrity Tests, 379 · Summary, 384 · Suggested Readings, 388 · Discussion Questions, 389

15 Clinical and Forensic Settings .......................... 390
Aim, 390 · Clinical Psychology: Neuropsychological Testing, 390 · Projective Techniques, 392 · Some Clinical Issues and Syndromes, 406 · Health Psychology, 409 · Forensic Psychology, 419 · Legal Standards, 422 · Legal Cases, 422 · Summary, 426 · Suggested Readings, 426 · Discussion Questions, 426

PART FIVE. CHALLENGES TO TESTING

16 The Issue of Faking ...................................... 427
Aim, 427 · Some Basic Issues, 427 · Some Psychometric Issues, 432 · Techniques to Discourage Faking, 434 · Related Issues, 435 · The MMPI and Faking, 437 · The CPI and Faking, 443 · Social Desirability and Assessment Issues, 444 · Acquiescence, 448 · Other Issues, 449 · Test Anxiety, 456 · Testwiseness, 457 · Summary, 458 · Suggested Readings, 458 · Discussion Questions, 459

17 The Role of Computers ................................. 460
Aim, 460 · Historical Perspective, 460 · Computer Scoring of Tests, 461 · Computer Administration of Tests, 462 · Computer-Based Test Interpretations (CBTI), 467 · Some Specific Tests, 471 · Adaptive Testing and Computers, 473 · Ethical Issues Involving Computer Use, 476 · Other Issues and Computer Use, 477 · A Look at Other Tests and Computer Use, 478 · The Future of Computerized Psychological Testing, 481 · Summary, 481 · Suggested Readings, 482 · Discussion Questions, 482

18 Testing Behavior and Environments ................. 483
Aim, 483 · Traditional Assessment, 483 · Behavioral Assessment, 484 · Traditional vs. Behavioral Assessment, 488 · Validity of Behavioral Assessment, 488 · Behavioral Checklists, 490 · Behavioral Questionnaires, 492 · Program Evaluation, 501 · Assessment of Environments, 502 · Assessment of Family Functioning, 506 · Broad-Based Instruments, 510 · Summary, 515 · Suggested Readings, 515 · Discussion Questions, 516

19 The History of Psychological Testing ................. 517
Aim, 517 · Introduction, 517 · The French Clinical Tradition, 518 · The German Nomothetic Approach, 519 · The British Idiographic Approach, 520 · The American Applied Orientation, 522 · Some Recent Developments, 530 · Summary, 533 · Suggested Readings, 533 · Discussion Questions, 533

Appendix: Table to Translate Difficulty Level of a Test Item into a z Score ........................................ 535
References .................................................. 537
Test Index ................................................... 623
Index of Acronyms ........................................ 627
Subject Index .............................................. 629