

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Chapter 1: The Role of Tests and Measures in Psychology and Education | 1 |
| 1.1 What are Tests and Measurements? | 1 |
| 1.2 Why Tests and Other Measures are Important | 2 |
| 1.3 A Peek at the Past and a Fast Forward to the Future | 3 |
| 1.4 Let's Get Real: Shedding the Myths | 6 |
| 1.5 Useful Ways to Categorize Tests | 7 |
| 1.6 An Overview of What Lies Ahead | 8 |
| 1.7 Study Questions..... | 9 |
| Chapter 2: Basic Statistics and Their Role in Testing | 11 |
| 2.1 The Three Ms: Measures of Central Tendency | 11 |
| 2.2 Measures of Variability | 12 |
| 2.3 Understanding Relationships..... | 14 |
| 2.4 Factor Analysis Made Easy | 16 |
| 2.5 Item Analysis..... | 16 |
| 2.6 Differences are Real... Sometimes | 18 |
| 2.7 Study Questions..... | 19 |
| Chapter 3: How to Determine the Quality of a Test | 21 |
| 3.1 Reliability | 21 |
| 3.2 Validity | 24 |
| 3.3 Relationship Between Reliability and Validity | 25 |
| 3.4 Norms: Making Sense Out of Test Scores | 27 |
| 3.5 User-friendly Considerations | 32 |
| 3.6 Study Questions..... | 32 |
| 3.7 Computer exercises | 33 |
| Chapter 4: Designing Your Own Tests | 37 |
| 4.1 The Best Laid Plans..... | 37 |
| 4.2 Objective Test Items..... | 39 |
| 4.3 Subjective Test Items | 43 |
| 4.4 Survey Items... A Different Animal | 45 |
| 4.5 Final Thoughts About Writing Your Own Items | 47 |
| 4.6 Study Questions..... | 48 |
| Chapter 5: Tests and Measurements Go to School | 51 |
| 5.1 Achievement and Aptitude Tests | 51 |
| 5.2 Predicting College Performance..... | 54 |
| 5.3 Some Intelligent Thoughts (We hope) About the Nature of Intelligence | 56 |
| 5.4 The Individual Measurement of Intelligence | 59 |
| 5.5 Group Measures of Intelligence | 64 |
| 5.6 Out-of-the-Mainstream Measures in Education | 66 |
| 5.7 Practical Knowledge About Tests of Ability | 69 |
| 5.8 Study Questions..... | 70 |
| Chapter 6: Personality Testing | 73 |
| 6.1 The Definition Dilemma and its Implications for Testing | 73 |
| 6.2 Projective Tests: Promise Unfulfilled | 74 |
| 6.3 Objective Personality Measures | 77 |
| 6.4 Major Personality Measures | 79 |
| 6.5 Selected Narrow Focus Personality Tests | 87 |
| 6.6 Study Questions..... | 89 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Chapter 7: Some Intriguing Tests You Might Like to Take | 91 |
| 7.1 If You've Got an Attitude, We've Got a Scale..... | 91 |
| 7.2 Taking the Personal Practice Scale..... | 92 |
| 7.3 What's So Funny?..... | 95 |
| 7.4 If You're in a Hole, Don't Throw Dirt on Yourself!..... | 98 |
| 7.5 Don't Confuse Me With the Facts..... | 101 |
| 7.6 Some Additional Extraordinary Tests | 103 |
| 7.7 Tests or Scales With Unusual Names and/or Purposes | 106 |
| 7.8 Study Questions | 107 |
| 7.9 Computer Exercise..... | 108 |
| Chapter 8: Testing in the "Real" World | 111 |
| 8.1 Testing Helps Solve an "Out of this World" Problem..... | 111 |
| 8.2 What Kind of Career Suits You Best? | 113 |
| 8.3 Beethoven's Babies: Much Ado About Nothing? | 117 |
| 8.4 Are Athletes as Dumb as Some People Think? | 120 |
| 8.5 Answering the "Who am I" Question | 122 |
| 8.6 Do we Live in a "Just" World?..... | 124 |
| 8.7 Polls – Taking the Pulse of the Public | 126 |
| 8.8 The Emotional Intelligence (EQ) Controversy..... | 127 |
| 8.9 Study Questions | 128 |
| References | 131 |
| Index | 139 |