

# Language assessment resources

A toolkit for teacher development



## Overview

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The resources suggested in these materials come from a range of sources including:

- free websites
- books
- subscription-based journals
- examination boards
- organisations and networks.



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## Learning objectives



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By the end of the materials you will be able to:

- find key sources of information on the topic of language testing and assessment.

## Websites

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- The first section of these materials provides details of websites dedicated to language assessment.
- The websites are free to use and no subscription is required.



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## The British Council

- The British Council's Language Assessment Literacy project provides information and training for anyone who is interested in issues of language assessment.
- Their resources include animated introductions which give you an insight in to the main topics in Language Assessment.
- The animations are quick and easy to follow and cover a range of topics including: test development, validity, assessing each of the skills and assessing young learners.
- You can access the materials on the project [web pages](#).

## Language Testing Resources website

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- The Language Testing Resources website is designed and maintained by Professor Glenn Fulcher from the University of Leicester.
- The site contains a huge range of resources on language assessment and includes video, podcasts, reading lists, information about relevant journals and links to many online articles.
- This site is particularly useful for those undertaking an academic course of study.
- Visit the Language Testing Resources [website](#).

## CEFTTrain project

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- [The CEFTTrain Project](#) is an excellent site for those interested in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).
- It provides an overview of the CEFR and a training area in which you can look at samples of students' work and try to assess them against CEFR levels. A commentary is then provided by the CEFTTrain team.



## Books

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- In the next few slides we recommend some useful books on testing and assessment.



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# Practical Language Testing

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## Practical Language Testing by Glenn Fulcher

This book provides both a practical and theoretical introduction to key issues in language assessment. Its aim is to provide teachers with the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to design and use tests effectively. Fulcher provides readers with a practical guide for both designing classroom assessments, and evaluating and improving existing assessments.

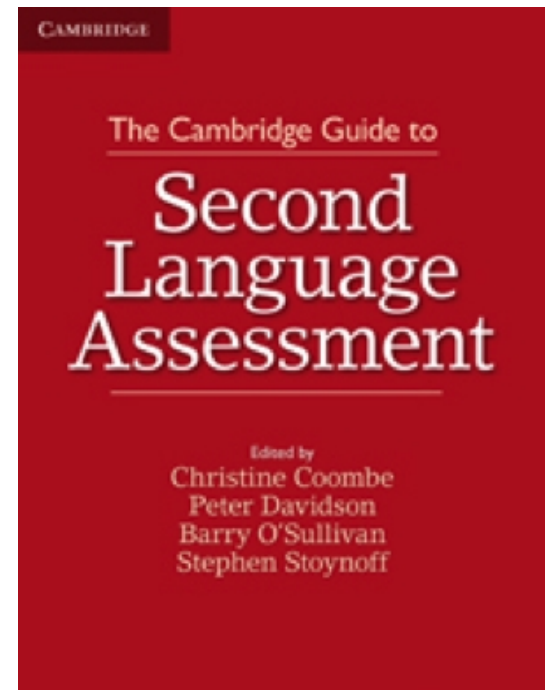
It is likely to be of interest to teachers seeking to develop their practice, as well as those studying for academic qualifications.

# The Cambridge Guide to Second Language Assessment

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The Cambridge Guide to Second Language Assessment  
Edited by Coombe, C., Davidson, P., O'Sullivan, B., and Stoyhoff, S.

This book focuses on 'current approaches and practices in the assessment of foreign/second language performance'. It covers a wide range of topics and helpfully includes a list of suggested reading/resources at the end of each chapter, making it ideal for those who want to research a specific topic in more detail.



# Assessing Young Learners

## Assessing Young Learners By Sophie Ioannou-Georgiou

If you teach young learners, this book is essential reading as it focuses on helping teachers to engage with assessment in a way which is age-appropriate for learners.

This book has a practical focus and comes complete with photocopiable resources which can be used to support your assessment practices.



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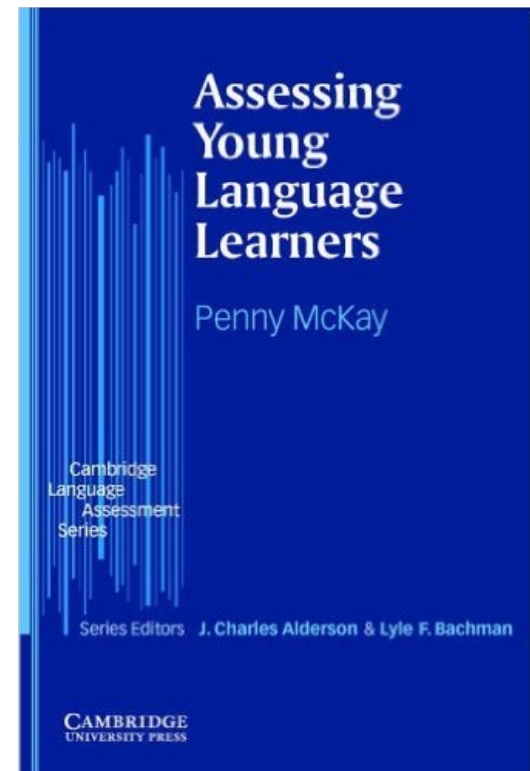
# Assessing Young Language Learners

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Assessing Young Language Learners  
by Penny McKay

This book deals with the assessment of young learners in both second and foreign language contexts. As well as practical guidelines, this book also discusses relevant theoretical perspectives in some detail.

This is part of the [Cambridge Language Assessment series of books](#) which contains multiple titles related to assessment.



## Journals

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- Journals are an excellent source of up-to-date information and research. In the next section, we list key journals in the field of language teaching and assessment.

## Language Testing

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Language Testing is an international, peer-reviewed journal which is published four times a year.

The journal includes research on assessment in both first and second language contexts. It features research related not just to classroom practice, but also to wider issues such as testing theory, policy and ethical issues in testing.

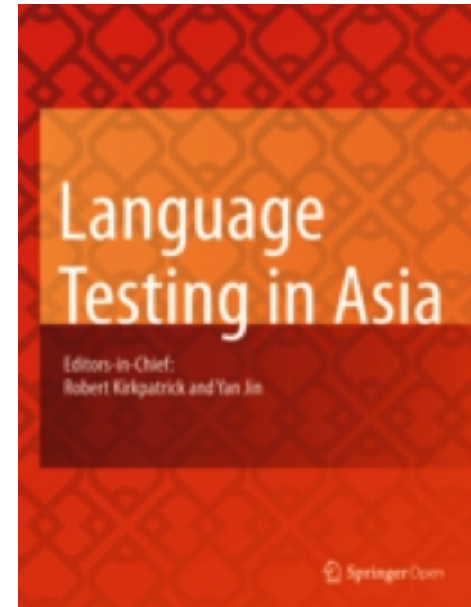


## Language Testing in Asia

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Language Testing in Asia is an online, peer-reviewed journal which focuses specifically on language testing and assessment in Asia.



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# English Language Teaching Journal

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The ELT Journal is a peer-reviewed journal which is published quarterly. Unlike the other journals listed here, the ELT Journal does not focus solely on assessment, but on all aspects of English language teaching. However, it is a popular publication which regularly features articles related to assessment and testing and therefore warrants inclusion.



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## Organisations and networks

The following pages provide details of organisations and networks.



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## ILTA

- The [International Language Testing Association](#) (ILTA) is an international group of language testing and assessment scholars and practitioners.
- The organisation aims to stimulate professional growth through workshops and conferences and to promote dissemination of information about language testing and related fields. The annual conference draws practitioners and researchers from across the globe.

# The European Association for Language Testing and Assessment (EALTA)

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- The purpose of [EALTA](#) is to promote the understanding of theoretical principles of language testing and assessment, and the improvement and sharing of testing and assessment practices throughout Europe.
- EALTA holds an annual conference and organises training in language testing through regional workshops; the creation of reading lists and the development of web-based distance courses.



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## The International Association for Teachers of English as a Foreign Language (IATEFL)

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- [IATEFL](#) is one of the largest English language teaching (ELT) organisations in the world. Its work does not focus specifically on assessment but encompasses all aspects of ELT.
- IATEFL has 15 special interest groups, including 'Testing, Evaluation and Assessment' which allows its members to connect with others who share an interest in this field.
- Visit the [TEASIG](#) website.

## EAQUALS

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- [EAQUALS](#) is an international, independent, non-profit membership association which serves the interests of language learners and the language education profession.
- The [EAQUALS website](#) has a useful section on the CEFR which includes the Core Inventory, background resources, and training and standardisation materials.

## The Council of Europe



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- The Council of Europe promotes linguistic diversity and language learning in the field of education.
- Its [Language Policy Unit](#) website has a range of resources which are likely to be of interest to teachers of all languages. The section on the CEFR includes a range of resources including a toolkit and a list of related publications.
- Visit the [web pages](#).



## ALTE

- [The Association of Language Testers in Europe](#) works to promote multilingualism across Europe, and the globe. It supports organisations which produce examinations and certification for language learners and sets quality standards for language assessment.
- The website includes details of its annual conference and a wide range of testing and assessment related resources.

## Examination boards

The following organisations offer English language exams. Their websites contain information about the exams, as well as resources for learners and teachers.

- [Cambridge Assessment](#)
- [IELTS](#)
- [Pearson English Assessment](#)
- [TOEIC ETS](#)
- [Trinity College London](#)



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## What next?

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You have now finished these materials on language assessment resources. We hope you have found them useful and enjoyable. If you are interested in learning more about assessment, please look at our other materials on:

- Assessing young learners
- Language assessment for teachers
- Assessment for Learning
- Assessing level and CEFR



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