

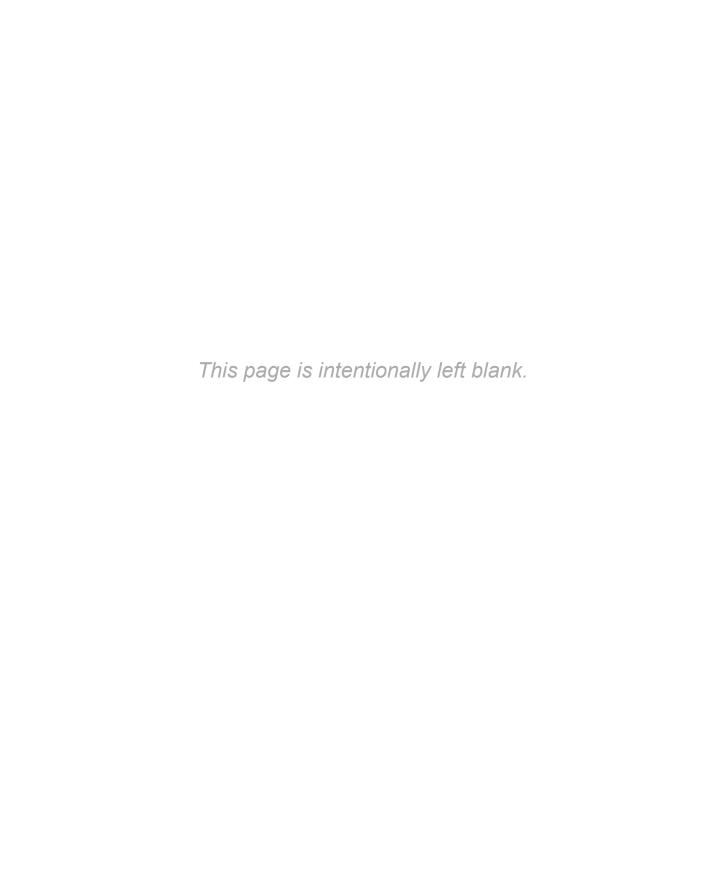
Psychological Testing

History, Principles, and Applications

Robert J. Gregory



PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING



Seventh Edition

PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING

HISTORY, PRINCIPLES, AND APPLICATIONS

Global Edition

Robert J. Gregory

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PREFACE

Psychological testing began as a timid enterprise in the scholarly laboratories of nineteenth-century European psychologists. From this inauspicious birth, the practice of testing proliferated throughout the industrialized world at an ever accelerating pace. As the reader will discover within the pages of this book, psychological testing now impacts virtually every corner of modern life, from education to vocation to remediation.

PURPOSE OF THE BOOK

The seventh edition of this book is based on the same assumptions as earlier versions. Its ambitious purpose is to provide the reader with knowledge about the characteristics, objectives, and wide-ranging effects of the consequential enterprise, psychological testing. In pursuit of this goal, I have incorporated certain well-worn traditions but proceeded into some new directions as well. For example, in the category of customary traditions, the book embraces the usual topics of norms, standardization, reliability, validity, and test construction. Furthermore, in the standard manner, I have assembled and critiqued a diverse compendium of tests and measures in such traditional areas as intellectual, achievement, industrial-organizational, vocational, and personality testing.

Special Features

In addition to the traditional topics previously listed, I have emphasized certain issues, themes, and concepts that are, in my opinion, essential for an indepth understanding of psychological testing. For example, the second chapter of the book examines Origins of Psychological Testing. The placement of this chapter underscores my view that Origins of Psychological Testing is of substantial relevance to present-day practices. Put simply, a mature comprehension of modern testing can be obtained only by delving into its heritage. Of course, students of psychology typically shun historical matters because these topics are often presented in a dull, dry, and pedantic manner, devoid of relevance to the present.

However, I hope the skeptical reader will approach my history chapter with an open mind—I have worked hard to make it interesting and relevant.

Psychological testing represents a contract between two persons. One person—the examiner—usually occupies a position of power over the other person—the examinee. For this reason, the examiner needs to approach testing with utmost sensitivity to the needs and rights of the examinee. To emphasize this crucial point, I have devoted the first topic to the subtleties of the testing process, including such issues as establishing rapport and watching for untoward environmental influences upon test results. The second topic in the book also emphasizes the contractual nature of assessment by reviewing professional issues and ethical standards in testing.

Another topic emphasized in this book is neuropsychological assessment, a burgeoning subfield of clinical psychology that is now a well-established specialty in its own right. Neuropsychological assessment is definitely a growth area and now constitutes one of the major contemporary applications of psychological testing. I have devoted an entire chapter to this important subject. So that the reader can better appreciate the scope and purpose of neuropsychological assessment, I begin the chapter with a succinct review of neurological principles before discussing specific instruments. Tangentially, this review introduces important concepts in neuropsychological assessment such as the relationship between localized brain dysfunction and specific behavioral symptoms. Nonetheless, readers who need to skip the section on neurological underpinnings of behavior may do so with minimal loss—the section on neuropsychological tests and procedures is comprehensible in its own right.

This edition continues to feature a chapter on Evaluation of Normality and Individual Strengths. This includes a lengthy topic on positive psychological assessment, such as the testing of creativity, emotional intelligence, optimism, gratitude, and humor. I hope this concentration on life-affirming concepts will provide some balance to the field of assessment which, for too long, has emphasized pathology.

New to this edition is an extended topic on assessment for career development in a global economy. This topic surveys major theories that guide career-based assessment and also provides an introduction to valuable assessment tools. I felt that increased coverage of career issues was desirable, in light of the increasing fluidity of the modern global economy. Further, even though the Great Recession of 2007–2009 is technically over, uncertainty in the world of work remains for many, especially for those newly entering the job market. An understanding of the potential role of career assessment in helping individuals traverse the new terrain of work and vocation is now more vital than ever before.

This is more than a book about tests and their reliabilities and validities. I also explore numerous value-laden issues bearing on the wisdom of testing. Psychological tests are controversial precisely because the consequences of testing can be harmful, certainly to individuals and perhaps to the entire social fabric as well. I have not ducked the controversies surrounding the use of psychological tests. Separate topics explore genetic and environmental contributions to intelligence, origins of race differences in IQ, test bias and extravalidity concerns, cheating on group achievement tests, courtroom testimony, and ethical issues in psychological testing.

Note on Case Exhibits

This edition continues the use of case histories and brief vignettes that feature testing concepts and illustrate the occasionally abusive application of psychological tests. These examples are "boxed" and referred to as Case Exhibits. Most are based on my personal experience rather than scholarly undertakings. All of these case histories are real. The episodes in question really happened—I know because I have direct knowledge of the veracity of each anecdote. These points bear emphasis because the reader will likely find some of the vignettes to be utterly fantastical and almost beyond belief. Of course, to guarantee the privacy of persons and institutions, I have altered certain unessential details while maintaining the basic thrust of the original events.

CHANGES FROM THE SIXTH EDITION

In this revision, my goals were threefold. First, I wanted to add the latest findings about established tests. For this purpose, I have made use of about 300 new scholarly references, and "retired" an almost equal number of outdated citations. Second, I wanted to incorporate worthwhile topics overlooked in previous editions. A prominent example in this category is assessment for career development, which receives extended coverage in the book. And, third, I sought to include coverage of innovations and advances in testing. One example of this is inclusion of the Rorschach Performance Assessment System, a new and promising approach to this established test. I was also aware that several tests have been revised since the last edition went to press, including the CAS-II, WMS-IV, WIAT-III, to name just a few. For these instruments, I have described the newest editions and included relevant research.

More specifically, the improvement and enhancements in the current edition include the following:

- 1. In Chapter 1 on Implementation and Attributes of Psychological Testing, new empirical research on the role of examiner errors in producing distorted test scores is included. New evidence of widespread cheating in high stakes testing (school system achievement testing, national certification exams) also is presented.
- Recent developments in evidence-based practice and outcomes assessment have been added to Chapter 2, Origins of Psychological Testing.
 New material on the history of personality testing is also included.
- 3. In Chapter 5, coverage of the PASS theory (Planning, Attention, Simultaneous, Successive) has been expanded in Topic 5A: Theories of Intelligence and Factor Analysis. In Topic 5B: Individual Tests of Intelligence and Achievement, a major test featuring PASS theory, the Cognitive Assessment System-II (Naglieri, Das, & Goldstein, 2012) is highlighted.
- **4.** A number of new and fascinating findings have been added to Topic 6B: Test bias and Other

- Controversies. The question of whether statistical tests of bias are themselves biased is first raised.
- 5. New research on the impact of Head Start, the fate of children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, and the nature of cognitive decline in advance age, has been added to Topic 6B.
- Also in Topic 6B, a new Case Exhibit demonstrating the impact of cultural background on the test results has been added.
- 7. In the Chapter 7, Assessing Special Populations, new material includes coverage of the Devereaux Early Childhood Assessment—Clinical Form (DECA-C), and a review of scales for the screening of Autism Spectrum Disorders. The complex issue of screening for school readiness also is included.
- 8. In Chapter 8, Foundations of Personality Testing, the Rorschach Performance Assessment System (R-PAS), a new scoring system for the inkblot test, is reviewed. The well-known State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI) is incorporated as well. New material on the value of ecological momentary assessment also is included.
- 9. A new topic on stability and change in personality has been added to Chapter 9, Evaluation of Normality and Individual Strengths. A new instrument featured in longitudinal research, the Big Five Inventory (BFI), is featured in this topic.
- 10. The coverage of spiritual and religious assessment also has been significantly increased in Chapter 9, including a review of the ASPIRES scale (Assessment of Spirituality and Religious Sentiments scale, Piedmont, 2010), a recent and promising measure of spiritual and religious variables. Likewise, the review of creativity assessment has been expanded in this chapter.
- 11. In Chapter 10, Neuropsychological Testing, the last research on mild Traumatic Brain Injury (mTBI) is presented, and the controversies surrounding baseline testing of neurocognitive functioning in soldiers and athletes are reviewed. The recently revised Wechsler Memory Scale-IV (WMS-IV) is presented as well.

12. Chapter 11, Industrial, Occupational, and Career Assessment, has undergone the most substantial revisions in the book, especially in the new Topic 11B: Assessment for Career Development in the Global Economy. In this section, I review theories of career development, and present assessment approaches often useful in the new global economy.

Of course, minor but essential changes have been made throughout the entire book to capture the latest developments in testing. For example, I have searched the literature to include the most recent studies bearing on the validity of well-established instruments.

OUTLINE OF THE BOOK

Topical Organization

To accommodate the widest possible audience, I have incorporated an outline that partitions the gargantuan field of psychological testing—its history, principles, and applications—into 22 small, manageable, modular topics. I worked hard to organize the 22 topics into natural pairings. Thus, the reader will notice that the book is also organized as an ordered series of 11 chapters of 2 topics each. The chapter format helps identify pairs of topics that are more or less contiguous and also reduces the need for redundant preambles to each topic.

The most fundamental and indivisible unit of the book is the topic. Each topic stands on its own. In each topic, the reader encounters a manageable number of concepts and reviews a modest number of tests. To the student, the advantage of topical organization is that the individual topics are small enough to read at a single sitting. To the instructor, the advantage of topical organization is that subjects deemed of lesser importance can be easily excised from the reading list. Naturally, I would prefer that every student read every topic, but I am a realist too. Often, a foreshortened textbook is necessary for practical reasons such as the length of the school term. In those instances, the instructor will find it easy to fashion a subset of topics to meet the curricular needs of almost any course in psychological testing.

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The 11 chapters break down into five broad areas, as follows:

Nature, History, and Consequences of Testing

Chapter 1: Implementation and Attributes of Psychological Testing

Topic 1A: The Nature and Uses of Psychological Testing

Topic 1B: Ethical and Social Implications of Testing

Chapter 2: Origins of Psychological Testing

Topic 2A: The Origins of Psychological Testing

Topic 2B: Testing from the Early 1900s to Present

Foundations of Testing

Chapter 3: Norms and Reliability

Topic 3A: Norms and Test Standardization

Topic 3B: Concepts of Reliability

Chapter 4: Validity and Test Construction

Topic 4A: Basic Concepts of Validity

Topic 4B: Test Construction

Ability Testing and Controversies

Chapter 5: Intelligence and Achievement: Theories and Tests

Topic 5A: Theories of Intelligence and Factor Analysis

Topic 5B: Individual Tests of Intelligence and Achievement

Chapter 6: Ability Testing: Group Tests and Controversies

Topic 6A: Group Tests of Ability and Related Concepts

Topic 6B: Test Bias and Other Controversies

Chapter 7: Assessing Special Populations

Topic 7A: Infant and Preschool Assessment

Topic 7B: Testing Persons with Disabilities

Assessment of Personality and Related Constructs

Chapter 8: Foundations of Personality Testing

Topic 8A: Theories of Personality and Projective Techniques

Topic 8B: Self-Report and Behavioral Assessment of Psychopathology

Chapter 9: Evaluation of Normality and Individual Strengths

Topic 9A: Assessment within the Normal Spectrum

Topic 9B: Positive Psychological Assessment

Specialized Applications

Chapter 10: Neuropsychological Testing

Topic 10A: Neurobiological Concepts and Behavioral Assessment

Topic 10B: Neuropsychological Tests, Batteries, and Screening Tools

Chapter 11: Industrial, Occupational, and Career Assessment

Topic 11A: Industrial and Organizational Assessment

Topic 11B: Assessment for Career Development in a Global Economy

The book also features an extensive glossary and a table for converting percentile ranks to standard and standardized-score equivalents. In addition, an important feature is Appendix A, Major Landmarks in the History of Psychological Testing. To meet personal needs, readers and course instructors will pick and choose from these topics as they please.

Supplements

Pearson Education is pleased to offer the following supplements to qualified adopters.

Instructor's Manual and Test Bank The instructor's manual is a wonderful tool for classroom preparation and management. Corresponding to the topics from the text, each of the manual's 22 topics contains classroom discussion questions, extramural assignments, classroom demonstrations, and essay questions. In addition, the test bank portion provides instructors with more than 1,000 readymade multiple choice questions.

PowerPoint Presentation The PowerPoint Presentation is an exciting interactive tool for use in the classroom. Each chapter pairs key concepts with images from the textbook to reinforce student learning.

This text is available in a digital format as well. To learn more about our programs, pricing options, and customization, visit www.pearsonglobaleditions.com /Gregory.

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