

Assessment

Types of tests

1. Achievement test
2. Diagnostic test
3. Objective test
4. Placement test
5. Oral test
6. Proficiency test
7. Progress test
8. Subjective test
9. Summative test

Achievement test

Measures what learners have learnt on a language course – usually at the end of the course.

Diagnostic test

Identifies learners' strengths and weaknesses. Helps teachers to make decisions on what needs to be taught

Objective test

Scored according to 'right' or 'wrong' answers, ie, non-judgemental on part of examiners.

Placement test

Used before the beginning of courses, to determine learners' language levels and place them in the most appropriate groups.

Oral test

Measures learners' speaking abilities

Proficiency test

Measures language ability and based on what is needed for a particular purpose, e.g. English for secretaries, English for car mechanics.

Progress test

Measures learners' progress during a language course

Subjective test

Compared to objective tests, the examiner judges learners' answers

Summative test

End of year/end of course test measuring learners' overall achievement of course objectives.