

HOW TO CREATE WORLD CLASS TESTS

INCLUDING A PRACTICAL INTRODUCTION TO ITEM RESPONSE THEORY, AND WHY IT IS NOW THE BASIS FOR ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS ACROSS THE WORLD

Presenters:

Professor David Hawker and Martin Walker

Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring, Durham University, UK

Day 1 – Some Principles of Assessment

1.	Introducing the construct – what are we measuring and why? What is a good test? Introducing reliability and validity Quiz	9.30 – 10.45
Break		
2.	The language of assessment Levels of the cognitive domain – thinking about cognitive demand Frameworks for analysing cognitive demand – familiarity with Bloom’s taxonomy	10.45 – 12.30
Lunch		
3.	SOLO taxonomy and cognitive demand Putting SOLO into practice with test papers; Test analysis using SOLO Q Paper workshop 1 – exploring a test using SOLO	1.15 - 1.45
4.	Findings from SOLO test analysis Validity and Reliability Classical test theory Issues that affect reliability and validity Types of scale	1.45 – 2.30
Break		
5.	Introducing IRT Item difficulty and person ability Quiz results Constructing a basic interval scale	2.45 – 4.00
6.	Close	4.00

Day 2 – Applying IRT to tests

1.	An introduction to IRT Constructing initial estimates of difficulty and ability The Wright map as a tool for test evaluation	9:00 – 10:45
Break		
2.	Examining test questions in the light of IRT evidence	11:00 – 12:00
3.	Why use test data? Florence Nightingale	12:00 – 12:30
Lunch		
4.	Q Paper workshop 2 SOLO taxonomy and cognitive demand with IRT evidence Looking again at the test analysis from day 1 Were the difficult things actually difficult? Looking at outputs from a test Items that work and items that don't	1:15 – 2:30
Break		
5.	Construct Irrelevant Variance Construct under/over representation	2:45 – 3:15
6.	Some thoughts on SOLO and the cognitive demand of typical examinations	3:15 – 3:45
7.	Reflections Putting theory into practice Establishing and ensuring validity	3:45 – 4:00
	Close	4:00