

Chapter 1: Introduction to Assessment

Introduction

What Is Assessment?

- The Purposes of Assessment

- Multiple Methods and Multiple Sources

- The Assessment Process

- Competencies Required for Assessment

Historical Perspectives

Assessment and Technology

- Computer-Based Assessment

- Internet-Based Assessment

Controversial Issues in Assessment

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References

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Which of the following statements is the most accurate?
 - a. Assessment begins after the first face-to-face meeting with a client.
 - b. Assessment occurs only in the first meeting with a client.
 - c. Assessment occurs throughout the course of the helping relationship.
 - d. All of the above.
2. In addition to tests, professionals may also gather client information from:
 - a. interviews
 - b. observations
 - c. collateral sources
 - d. all of the above
3. Which statement is correct?
 - a. Assessment is only one part of the overall testing process.
 - b. Testing is only one part of the overall assessment process.
 - c. Testing integrates test information with information from other sources.
 - d. None of the above
4. _____ is a quick process, usually involving a single procedure of instrument.
 - a. Screening
 - b. Testing
 - c. Assessment
 - d. Psychological evaluation
5. Assessment involves selecting and utilizing _____ of data collection.
 - a. multiple observations
 - b. multiple tests
 - c. multiple methods
 - d. multiple techniques

6. A client is assessed to determine a course of outcome that would improve his or her concerns or problems. In this situation, the purpose for assessment is:
 - a. screening
 - b. identification and diagnosis
 - c. intervention planning
 - d. progress and outcome evaluation
7. The first and most important step in the assessment process is to:
 - a. determine if the client is suitable for services
 - b. screen the client for potential problems and concerns
 - c. identify the client's problems to be addressed and the reason for assessment
 - d. none of the above
8. Identify the correct order of the steps of the assessment process:
 - a. select and implement assessment methods; identify the problem; evaluate the assessment information; report assessment results and make recommendations
 - b. identify the problem; select and implement assessment methods; evaluate the assessment information; report assessment results and make recommendations
 - c. identify the problem; evaluate the assessment information; select and implement assessment methods; report assessment results and make recommendations
 - d. select and implement assessment methods; evaluate the assessment information; identify the problem; report assessment results and make recommendations
9. One of the first scales to differentiate between children who could or could not function in a regular classroom was developed by:
 - a. Binet
 - b. Otis
 - c. Simon
 - d. Thorndike
10. Complaints about test use include all **EXCEPT**:
 - a. Testing is an invasion of privacy.
 - b. Tests are gender-biased and use inappropriate language, examples, and illustrations.
 - c. Tests are culturally biased; they are unfair and discriminate against minority groups.
 - d. Tests do not demonstrate a master of competencies; we must always rely on grades and diplomas.
11. Testing began:
 - a. Around 2000 years ago
 - b. Around 500 years ago
 - c. Around 100 years ago
 - d. Around 50 years ago
12. The first major personality assessment was also developed for use during:
 - a. World War I
 - b. World War II
 - c. The Vietnam War
 - d. The Gulf War
13. In recent years, the prevailing political philosophy in the United States has changed from:
 - a. a liberal to a more conservative orientation
 - b. humanistic-based approaches to competency-based approaches
 - c. low accountability in education to high accountability in education
 - d. all of the above

14. Early interest in measuring intelligence dates back to the late 19th century when _____ applied Darwin's evolutionary theory to attempt to demonstrate a hereditary basis for intelligence.
- Binet
 - Galton
 - Cattell
 - Simon
15. The first group intelligence test used in the United States military service was the:
- Armed Forces Qualification Test
 - Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery
 - Army Alpha Test
 - Army Beta Test
16. Which of the following are advantages to using computer administered assessment instruments?
- Increased delivery
 - Potential time savings
 - The ability for items to be adapted or tailored based on the test taker's response to a previous item
 - All of the above
17. The primary purpose of _____ is to gather background information about the client relevant to the reason for assessment.
- tests
 - observations
 - interviews
 - collateral sources
18. _____ is an assessment method that involves watching and recording the behavior
- of an individual in a particular environment.
 - Testing
 - Observation
 - Interviewing
 - Reviewing records

Essay Questions

- Define the term "assessment," and compare and contrast the four general purposes of assessment.
- Identify and describe the three broad categories of assessment "methods." Explain the purpose of using multiple methods in assessment as opposed to a single assessment instrument.
- Compare and contrast formal assessment instruments and informal assessment instruments/strategies and provide three examples of each.
- List and describe each of the four steps of the assessment process.
- Trace the history of psychological and educational assessment from ancient time to the present.

Chapter 2: Ethical and Legal Issues in Assessment

Introduction

Professional Standards and Codes of Ethics

American Counseling Association (ACA) Code of Ethics

AERA, APA, and NCME Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing

American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Ethical Standards for School Counselors

American Psychological Association (APA) Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct

Association for Assessment in Counseling (AAC) Responsibilities of Users of Standardized Tests, Third Edition (RUST)

Joint Committee on Testing Practices Code of Fair Testing Practices in Education

National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME) Code of Professional Responsibilities in Educational Measurement

Ethical Issues in Assessment

Professional Training and Competence

Client Welfare Issues

Test-User Qualifications

Legal Issues in Assessment

Statutes and Regulations

Judicial Decisions

Summary

Questions for Discussion

Suggested Activities

References

Multiple Choice Questions

- Ethics are based on:
 - cultural values
 - societal norms
 - moral principles
 - legal guidelines
- All of the following are included in the American Counseling Association's ethical emphasis on assessment **EXCEPT**:
 - Counselors should use assessment instruments that they are most comfortable using
 - Prior to assessments, counselors should explain the purpose of testing to the client
 - Counselors should consider the validity and reliability of the assessment being used
 - Counselors should be cautious when selecting assessments for culturally diverse populations
- The *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing* is organized into three parts. The second part, *Operations*, focuses on:
 - credentialing
 - test design and development
 - fairness and bias
 - test-based accountability systems
- According to the American Psychological Association's Ethical Principles, psychologists must obtain _____ when using assessments.
 - strong instrument reliability
 - informed consent
 - legal guidelines
 - strong instrument validity
- Lack of qualifications in assessments can lead to:
 - technical knowledge
 - outdated test results

- c. incomplete informed consent
 - d. harm to client
6. All of the following organizations were involved with the preparation of the Code of Fair Testing Practices in Education **EXCEPT**:
- a. American Psychological Association
 - b. National Association for School Psychologists
 - c. National Council on Measurement in Education
 - d. American Association for Counseling and Education
7. The *Code of Professional Responsibilities in Educational Measurement* indicates that test users should communicate any:
- a. misinterpretations
 - b. rights of privacy
 - c. test biases
 - d. environmental concerns
8. Ethical guidelines in assessment administration includes test administrators' knowledge of:
- a. valid interest measurements
 - b. basic interest inventories
 - c. standard error of measurements
 - d. central measures of interest
9. The American Counseling Associations *Code of Ethics* (2005) serves to:
- a. emphasize the use of assessment instruments by all counselors
 - b. ensure instrument validity and reliability used by counselors
 - c. identify appropriate codes for assessments for counselors
 - d. clarify ethical responsibilities of all counselors
10. Although the American Psychological Association no longer uses a system for test user qualification, some publishers still do. According to the classifications, a test user who has earned a bachelor's degree in education may be classified as:
- a. A – Level
 - b. B – Level
 - c. C – Level
 - d. D – Level
11. _____ refers to the combination of knowledge, skills, abilities, training, and credentials optimal for using assessment instruments.
- a. Competence
 - b. Informed consent
 - c. Test-user qualifications
 - d. Professional training
12. A test that discriminates against a particular group based on gender, race, ethnicity, or even disability is considered a (an):
- a. discriminating test
 - b. insensitive test
 - c. biased test
 - d. problematic test
13. As a test administrator, one advantage to using internet-based assessments is:
- a. small target population
 - b. lower cost
 - c. guaranteed test security
 - d. strong validity
14. Statutes are laws created by:
- a. government agencies
 - b. judicial opinions

- c. litigation cases
 - d. legislative bodies
15. All of the following statements are examples of accommodations for individuals with disabilities developed by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 **EXCEPT**?
- a. Extending testing time
 - b. Exemption from all standardized tests
 - c. Providing interpreters
 - d. Using assistive devices
16. The landmark case of Griggs vs. Duke Power Company in 1971 represents a violation of employees' rights as indicated by Title VII of the:
- a. Civil Rights Act
 - b. Americans with Disabilities Act
 - c. Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act
 - d. Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
17. A student with a specific learning disability is defined as one who may be experiencing difficulties in:
- a. reading comprehension
 - b. social development
 - c. concentration
 - d. task completion
18. One important method mandated by IDEA in determining students with learning disabilities in qualifying them for special education is:
- a. response to intervention
 - b. child study
 - c. multidisciplinary analysis
 - d. special education screening
19. Assessment administrators should be conscious of issues of confidentiality and security of individuals' health information including assessment information as supported by:
- a. NCLB Act of 2001
 - b. HIPAA Act of 1996
 - c. FERPA Act of 1974
 - d. IDEA of 2004
20. All of the following legal cases are examples of a decision involving employment tests **EXCEPT**?
- a. Washington v. Davis (1976)
 - b. Bakke v. California (1978)
 - c. Berkman v. City of New York (1987)
 - d. Roe v. Wade (1973)

Essay Questions

- 1. Johnny has been assessed and has now qualified as a student with a learning disability. Mrs. Brown has to administer standardized tests to all students including Johnny. According to the text, what test taking modifications might Johnny require? Explain the advantages and disadvantages to test modifications.
- 2. You are a teacher and are currently working on earning a master's degree in counseling. Your school administrator has asked you to administer a battery of psychological assessments to one of your students who is struggling academically. Construct a list of ethical issues for your administrator as to why you would not be able to administer these assessments.
- 3. Denise, a newly hired counselor at a mental health agency, has been contacted by an insurance agency, inquiring about one of her clients. Denise is concerned about violating the HIPAA Act of 1996. Interpret the HIPPA Act for Denise and provide the necessary information to guarantee that her client remains protected.