

Assessment Literacy Self-Study Quiz #2

by Tim Newfields

In the last issue we introduced a new column with basic questions about testing, statistics, and assessment. This issue introduces some additional assessment-related questions, whose suggested answers are online at <http://jalt.org/test/SSA2.htm>.

Part I: Open Questions

1. Mention at least one advantage and disadvantage of using scaled scores in a classroom context.
2. In classical testing theory, what are three requirements that alternative forms of a test must demonstrate in order for those form be considered parallel?
3. Briefly describe what is the *coefficient of variation* (CV) supposedly measures and when it should be used.
4. How does Pearson's coefficient of skewness differ from Bowley's coefficient of skewness?

Part II: Multiple Choice Questions

1. In a perfect bell-shaped curve, what percentage of a sample should theoretically be over two standard deviations from the mean?
(A) .13% (B) 2.14% (C) just over 5% (D) over 10%
2. In a normal bell-shaped curve, what percentage of a sample should be within the 5th stanine?
(A) .9% (B) 11.11% (C) 12% (D) 20%
3. To calculate a chi-square statistic with one degree of freedom for two groups, which of the following is/are NOT needed?
(A) the mean score of each group (C) the size of each sample
(B) the standard deviation of each group (D) the range of scores for the group
4. In general statistics, the symbol r^2 , signifies _____.
(A) the sample correlation coefficient (C) the multiple correlation coefficient
(B) the coefficient of determination (D) the mean square error
5. Which of the following factors is most likely to account for the largest amount of variance in the performance of university freshmen as measured by the grade point average in Japan?
(A) The applicant's scores on the national university entrance exam
(B) The applicant's scores on tests on standardized tests in key content areas
(C) The applicant's high school grade record
(D) The applicant's application essay and recommendations

