

Development and validation of performance test of English (PTE).

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Abstract

This paper discusses the Development and validation of Performance Test of English (PTE) for first grade students. The present study is conducted in Srinagar district of Kashmir. The investigator has taken 100 first grade students from Govt. schools of District Srinagar. The investigator finds out reliability by test-retest reliability as 0.71, split half (U/L) as 0.75, split half (O/E) 0.76 Validation of PTE has been determined by face validity.

Keywords: First grade students, Performance, English.

Introduction

The primary role of teacher is a facilitator of learning. In this teacher must organize the learning situation, guide group learning activities, help individual learners, and plan and work for improved instructions. Organising the learning situation requires organisation of facilities, material, equipments, time and students. The modern classroom should have a variety of instructional materials which must be selected and obtained by the teacher. Material must be easy available to students. A variety of learning experiences must be arranged, and the class organized for large

group, small-group, or individual instruction. Interests and abilities must be considered in directing children to certain learning experiences. Each teacher must accept certain other responsibilities in the school such as supervising student areas, sponsoring student activities, working on faculty committees, and performing administrative functions.

English meant for First Primary has been taken up in order to bring the contents of the textbook close to child's life both at home and at school and also workout the changes in the content of English textbook. While deciding the contents of textbook an attempts have been made to rely on child's

experiences, the world known to learner and then explore the possibilities of taking to new heights. Different themes have been presented in a playful way and lots of pictures have been used to stress sustain the interest of children .A humble endeavour has also been made to lessen the burden of learners so far as contents are concerned.

Performance is the performance of student in classroom. Performance refers the students score gained by the student in English. This refers to the score gained in Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing and Pronunciation.

Therefore in order to assess performance Performance tests like “Performance test for english is needed to know about performance of the First grade students in English.

Description of the Performance test of English (PTE)

The Performance test is a testing tool which has been developed for the purpose of measuring performance for student in English along the following domains:

1. Listening
2. Speaking
3. Reading
3. Writing
4. Pronunciation

Construction of Performance test (PTE)

Following steps were followed to make Performance test:

(a) Planning of the test: The construction of tests were carried out by consideration of limitation under which the tests were developed. The expert opinions were taken for the construction of the tests. The items of Performance tests were prepared in English language and covered the “basic concepts of English”. 15 questions were planned to conduct the test. Students were asked to complete this in 30 minutes.

Development of Performance test of English (PTE)

Pooling of Items

A list of **25** Questions/items was initially pooled from various sources which included the comprehensive review of literature and also some tests constructed by other authors. The list was given to experts to evaluate their content relevance.

In the light of expert rating **5** items were dropped and only **20** items were retained

Try out

The initial format comprising of **20** items on 2- point response test was

administered on a sample of 100 First Grade students of District Srinagar (Kashmir).

Item Analysis

The response sheets received from students were arranged from maximum to minimum on the basis of overall score. The criterion of 27% above and 27% below was employed on the response to determine the upper and lower group. The 't' value of each item between these groups were computed.

Item Revision

Only those items in the final format were retained whose 't' value were found significant at 0.01.

Final Format

The final format consists of 15 items.

(b) Standardization

The PTE has been standardized by finding its reliability and validity.

1. **Reliability:-** The reliability of performance test has been determined by :-

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I. **Test Retest:-** The reliability of the PTE was found by administering the test on a group of 100 First grade students. The reliability Coefficient, was computed between first and second test scores after applying Pearsons' Correlation formula came out to be as 0.71 (Significant at 0.01 level).

II. **Split half (U/L):-** The reliability of the scale was found by administering the PTE on a group of 100 First grade students. The reliability Coefficient, after applying Spearman - Brown prophecy formula came out to be as 0.75 (Significant at 0.01 level).

III. **Split half (O/E):-** The reliability of the scale was found by administering the PTE on a group of 100 First Grade students. The reliability Coefficient, after applying Spearman - Brown prophecy formula came out to be as 0.76 (Significant at 0.01 level).

Reliability (N =100)

Reliability	Split half (U/L)	Split half (O/E)
	0.75	0.76

2. **Validity:**

The validity of PTE has been determined by:-:

Face Validity:- To final out what the test measures, it was decided to determine its face validity. For this, the expert's opinion had been considered.

Administration of PTE

The Performance test can be administered to a First primary student in the school with the instruction given at top of it. The test administrator reads out the instruction before administering.

Range of score	Classification
11&above	Good
6-10	Average
1-5	Poor

Time required for administering the test

The PTE can be completed in a single sitting by student. It takes about 30 minutes to respond completely.

Scoring

Each item is scored on 2-point Performance test of English (PTE) distributed on Right, Wrong.

For each Question/ item	Right	Wrong

The possible range of scores on the scale is **1-15**.

A student scoring high on the Performance test(PTE) is high performing than the student scoring low on the PTE is low performing.

Norms

Uses

The PTE is valuable and useful instrument to the **teachers, administrators, teacher educators** and above all to **researchers**.

- To teachers it can be used to determine the performance of student in English at Primary level.
- To **administrators** it will be helpful in promotion of student to next upper class...
- For **teacher educators** it will prepare ground to develop skills teacher trainees/resource persons so that they may be able to train teachers who can perform well in first grade classroom.
- For **researchers** it will help to explore the performance of a student and Language skills in english at first primary.

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