

The JLTA (Japan Language Testing Association) Language Testing Bibliography

The JLTA (Japan Language Testing Association) Language Testing Bibliography is a list of publications related to language testing in general in Japan. The construction of the list started fall 2007 when the request was transmitted to colleagues to send us references on language testing that were in a broad sense related to Japanese context. It was initially made to be sent to ILTA (International Language Testing Association), which collected references of published papers “on language testing from 1999 to the present, including works that are currently in press, for the revised ILTA Language Testing Bibliography” (Brown, 2007; see also ILTA, 1999 for the list from 1990 to 1999). Since we also included (both refereed and non-refereed) publications before 1999, the JLTA list consists of articles up to 2007 (see also JLTA, n.d.). The references gathered were collated by four members and reviewed by external panels.

The list consists of 14 categories (see below), and each category indexes studies in alphabetical order. Some categories are basic (four skills), but others reflect current trends in language testing (washback and impact; ethics and standards). Although the list is by no means comprehensive, it is useful for those who like to take a cursory look at previous studies or plan to conduct a comprehensive literature review in language testing in Japan. Publications, especially those unpublished or of limited circulation, are listed here and would deserve special attention, as they are quite often hard to identify and not usually included in commercial databases. As is often the case with reference lists in general, our list would prove much more useful when it has a direct link to the full text. Although this was difficult due to copyright issues this time, we believe the list very well provides a bird’s-eye view of the current status in language testing in Japan.

Bibliography

Brown, A. (2007, June 6). Reminder – ILTA bibliography. Message posted to LTEST-L electronic mailing list, archived at <http://lists.psu.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A0=ltest-l>
International Language Testing Association (ILTA). (1999). ILTA Language Testing Bibliography. Retrieved August 12, 2008 from http://www.iltaonline.com/ILTA_pubs.htm
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Language Testing Bibliography Project (at the collection time)

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