Language testing

Deskripsi Lengkap:

Abstrak

It has been suggested that reading ability can be devided into various subskills, and this notion is common in ESL teaching and testing. It has, however, also been argued (Alderson and Lukmani, 1898) that teachers are unable to reach agreement about the reading subskills which may be tested by particular attention to the enduring influence of the work of Munby (1978). The issue of teachers' perceptions of subskills tested by reading comprehension test items. Using this framework, very substantial agreement between a group of five experienced teachers of EAP is shown to be achieved in matching subskills to individual test items in the reading section of a test of EAP, as well as in judging the difficulty of these subskills. After brief discussion of the use of Rasch IRT in analysis of reading comprehension test items, the teachers' consensus regarding subskill difficulty level is compared to the Rasch analysis of item difficulty, and the significant correlation found gives some empirical validation to the teachers' perception. Implications of the findings for analysis of test content, and for teaching, are considered.