

## Guidelines for Critiquing a Psychological Test

### General descriptive information

- What is the title of the test?
- Who is the author of the test?
- Who publishes the test, and when was it published? (Include dates of manuals, norms, and supplementary materials?)
- How long does it take to administer the test?
- How much does it cost to purchase the test? (Include the cost of the test, answer sheets, manual, scoring service, and so on)
- Is the test proprietary or nonproprietary?

### Purpose and nature of the test

- What does the test measure? (include scales)
- What does the test predict?
- What behavior does the test require the test taker to perform?
- What population was the test designed for (for example: age, type of person)?
- What is the nature of test (for example, maximal performance, behavior observation, self-report, standardized or non-standardized, objective or subjective?)
- What is the format of the test (for example, paper-and-pencil or computer, multiple choice or true/false)?

### Practical Evaluation

- Is the test manual comprehensive (does it include information on how the test was constructed, its reliability and validity, composition of norm groups, whether it is easy to read)?
- Is the test easy or difficult to administer?
- How clear are the administration directions?
- How clear are the scoring procedures?
- What qualifications and training does a test administrator need to have?
- Does the test have face validity?

### Technical Evaluation

- Is there a norm group?
- Who comprises the norm group?
- What types of norms are there (for example percentiles, standard score)?
- How was the norm group selected?
- Are there subgroup norms (for example, by age, gender, region, occupation, and so on)?
- What is the estimate of the test's reliability?
- How was reliability determined?
- What is the evidence for validity of the test?
- How was the evidence for the validity of the test?
- How was the evidence for validity gathered?
- What is the standard error of measurement?
- What are the confidence intervals?

### Test reviews

- What do reviewers say are the strengths and weaknesses of the test?
- What studies that use the test as a measurement instrument have been published in peer-reviewed journals?
- How did the test perform when researched or test users, other than the test developer or publisher, used it?

### Summary

- Overall, what do you see as being the strengths and weaknesses of the test?