

J. Charles Alderson

Diagnosing Foreign Language Proficiency

The Interface between Learning and Assessment

Contents

Acknowledgements	vi
Introduction	1
1 Diagnosing foreign language proficiency: a teaching/testing interface	4
2 Diagnosis in other fields	13
3 Introduction to DIALANG	26
4 The history of DIALANG	36
5 Piloting in DIALANG	44
6 Setting standards	61
7 The Vocabulary Size Placement Test	79
8 The role of self-assessment in DIALANG	97
9 Reading	119
10 Listening	138
11 Writing	154
12 Grammar	170
13 Vocabulary	191
14 The value of feedback and advice	208
15 Experimental Items	221
16 Experiments in the use of self-assessment	243
17 The future of diagnostic testing	254
References	269
Index	276