

Reviews of *Language Testing and Assessment*

"Bernard Spolsky calls Lado's 1961 volume 'a pioneering book' (Spolsky, 1995, p. 353)... No later publication comes near the breadth of its scope, until perhaps Fulcher and Davidson (2007)." Alan Davies writing in *Language Testing* 2008 25(3), 329 - 330.

"The great strength of the Fulcher and Davidson volume is that it not only presents existing research and reflects on the state of the art in language testing and assessment but also presents a new approach that brings together testing practice, theory, ethics and philosophy." Christine Coombe writing in *Language Teaching* 2009 42(1), 135 - 142.

"...this resource book has three major strengths. First, with an overarching theme of effect-driven testing, the book provides a good review of key concepts and issues in language testing. It deals with a wide range of issues from very practical item writing techniques to philosophical or ethical issues. In addition, rather than highlighting the distinctiveness of concepts and issues, the book emphasizes their equal value and the interconnection among them from a pragmatic perspective. Despite the gravity and wide significance of the subject matter, discussions in the book are not daunting. Reflective thinking activities and research ideas implicated in the first two sections and explicated in the third allow readers easy access to the topics, even to rather heavy topics such as validity and ethics, and help readers create their own insights and research agenda. Finally, the organizational structure that links the three sections thematically ensures that readers have enough opportunity to explore each topic depending on their needs and previous knowledge." Ji Young Kim writing in *System* 2009 37(3), 547 - 549.

"The book has a unique structural pattern. Moreover, Fulcher and Davidson address issues regarding testing and assessment through a new effect driven approach. It is essentially driven by the impact it might have on people and institutions involved. As the focus is on the outcome and on the view that 'test design and development is about *doing, creating and researching* (p.xx), it adopts a pragmatic view of testing...an invaluable resource." Javanshir Shibliyev and Ilkay Gilanioglu writing in *English Language Teaching Journal* 63(2), 181 - 183.

Also read a complete review by Tim Newfields in Shiken: http://jalt.org/test/new_8.htm