

Contents

Introduction	viii
1: Principles of Assessment and Their Connection to Teaching and Learning	1
Formative and Summative Assessment	1
Assessment Purposes	3
The Effects of Assessment on the Classroom	5
Assessment Literacy	7
Assessment Concepts and Terminology	8
Activities and Questions	14
2: Language Acquisition and Assessment	16
The BICS/CALP Distinction	19
Activities and Questions	22
3: Understanding Context and Standards	24
Some Background	25
Understanding and Crafting Learning Standards	26
Analyzing and Understanding Existing Standards	31
Analyzing and Understanding WIDA Standards	35
Activities and Questions	38
4: Creating Effective Assessments	39
Creating Test Specifications	39
Writing Test Directions	41
Writing Multiple Choice Items	45
Writing True/False Items	49
Writing Fill-in-the-Blank Items	50

Creating Writing Prompts	51
Creating Rubrics	54
Implementing Test Accommodation	62
Bringing It All Together: Writing a Test	65
Activities and Questions	71
5: Assessing the Receptive Skills: Listening and Reading	73
Why Is Listening Important?	74
Types of Listening	75
Listening Assessment Standards	76
Types of Listening Activities	80
Listening Activities for Assessment	86
Why Is Reading Important?	92
Types of Reading	95
Reading Assessment Standards	95
Types of Reading Activities	97
Reading Activities for Assessment	100
Activities and Questions	107
6: Assessing the Productive Skills: Speaking and Writing	108
Why Is Speaking Important?	109
Teaching Pronunciation in a Speaking Class	110
Types of Speaking	114
Speaking Assessment Standards	114
Types of Speaking Activities	117
Speaking Activities for Assessment	121
Why Is Writing Important?	133
Types of Writing	134
Writing Assessment Standards	135
Types of Writing Activities	138
Writing Activities for Assessment	145
Conclusion	160
Activities and Questions	162

7: Assessment of Grammar and Vocabulary	163
Why Is Grammar Important?	163
Basic Considerations in Teaching Grammar	165
Grammar Assessment Standards	166
Types of Grammar Activities	169
Why Is Vocabulary Important?	175
Vocabulary Assessment Standards	176
Types of Vocabulary Activities	179
Activities and Questions	185
8: High-Stakes, Standardized Assessments	187
Problems	189
Question Types	192
Scoring Reports	195
Accommodations	198
State/Federal Policies and Advocacy	199
Testing Strategies	199
Final Thoughts	202
Activities and Questions	203
9: Conclusion: Developing an Assessment Philosophy	204
Importance of the Theory-Practice Link	204
Major Approaches to Assessment	205
Developing Your Assessment Philosophy	210
When All Is Said and Done	212
Discussion Questions	213
References	214