



ALTE SIG on Technology in Language Assessment

Speaking assessment and digital technologies: Opportunities and challenges

Webinar

Tuesday 12th November 2019

3pm (UK time) - 4pm (Europe/Paris time)

Abstract

In this talk, we will consider some key aspects of testing speaking such as test tasks, delivery modes, assessment criteria, and scoring procedures while contextualising our discussions with reference to the ever-changing digital landscape of language education and assessment.

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Biography

Dr Fumiyo Nakatsuhara is a Reader in Language Assessment at the Centre for Research in English Language Learning and Assessment (CRELLA), University of Bedfordshire. Her research interests include the nature of co-constructed interaction in speaking tests, task design and rating scale development. Fumiyo has recently published the book, 'The Discourse of the IELTS Speaking Test' (with P. Seedhouse, 2018, CUP) and articles in *Language Testing* (2011; 2014) and *Language Assessment Quarterly* (2017). She has carried out a number of international testing projects, working with ministries, universities and examination boards. They include the use of video-conferencing technologies to deliver the IELTS Speaking Test, the development of a learning-oriented test for mobile delivery, and the exploration of academic speaking construct in distance learning courses. She was an instructor for the ALTE workshop in 2014, *New approaches in assessing speaking*. In September 2019, Nahal and Fumiyo gave a one-week ALTE course on *Assessing speaking in the digital age*.

Dr Nahal Khabbazzashi is a Senior Lecturer in Language Assessment at the Centre for Research in English Language Learning and Assessment (CRELLA), University of Bedfordshire. She holds a DPhil in Education and an MSc in Applied Linguistics and Second Language Acquisition from the University of Oxford. Her work appears in journals such as *Language Testing* (2017) and *Language Learning Journal* (2014), as well as in the *Studies in Language Testing* series (Moeller, Creswell, and Saville, eds. 2016). Before joining CRELLA, Nahal held the position of Senior Research Manager at Cambridge Assessment English where she led the research strands of a number of high-profile international projects. Nahal has also delivered a number of workshops, seminars, and courses on a range of topics from foundation courses in language testing to specialised training in statistical analyses and Many-Facet Rasch Measurement on behalf of the Association for Language Testers in Europe (ALTE).