

Prototype and Trial of CBT Japanese Speaking Test: Verification of Test Quality and Number of Items

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This paper reports on the prototype and trial of CBT-based Japanese speaking test and validates the reliability of the test. The Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa, has been studying and researching the possibility of a CBT-based Japanese speaking test since 2019. From 2020 to 2021, three sets of prototype CBT speaking tests were made, and a trial test was conducted in Thailand with 170 Japanese language learners. The results of the analysis of test quality showed that the three test sets scored 0.70 to 0.74 in difficulty and 0.56 to 0.57 in discrimination, with no significant differences in quality among the test sets. Cronbach's alpha for the test sets were 0.834 to 0.846, confirming generally high reliability for all the test sets. The appropriate number of test items was also examined using multivariate generalizability theory. The number of items in the test was found to have high reliability (0.823) when there were four items in the interview part and four items in the conversation part of the test.

Development and Operation of the “IRODORI Japanese Online Course”

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The IRODORI Japanese Online Course is an online course based on the textbook, *Irodori: Japanese for Life in Japan*, and is a self-study course for Japanese language learners who do not have the opportunity to study Japanese because of various limitations. Its development was based on three concepts: 1) to help learn the Japanese language necessary for daily life, 2) to be customizable for learning only what the learner needs, and 3) to provide stress-free learning. Videos, practice content, and other types of content were produced to achieve these concepts. The course site and pages were also designed to make them easy to use and navigate for anyone. An analysis was conducted to check if the concepts have been achieved. The user attributes showed that our expected user demographics are using the course, while results from users' behavior flow analysis and user survey responses have confirmed that each type of content is being used as intended. Moreover, the number of page views and app installations showed that the video pages and practice content app are being used.