Needs Assessment

Placement Testing

Post-Secondary World Language Learners



Purposes What do I want to know about my students' language abilities for placement purposes? How will I use the placement test results? What decisions will be made based on the results? Who are the different stakeholders involved? Who will receive the placement test results? What type of placement tests might give me the information I need?



Needs Assessment



Resources
What placement test administration formats are practical for my context?
Who is available to administer and score placement tests? What resources are available for training?
How much time can be allotted for administering and scoring the placement test?
How much funding is available for placement testing? Are there other resources I might need access to?
What type of placement tests might be appropriate given my available resources?



Needs Assessment



Approaches
Is it feasible to develop a placement test in-house? What resources are available for placement test development?
Is there an appropriate off-the-shelf test that I can use for placement testing? How do I know it is appropriate?
Are there supplementary methods of placement testing I should use to gather more information?
What alternative methods of placement testing might I need for different types of learners?
What overall approach to placement testing will best meet my practical and programmatic needs?

