



Specifying Criteria for the Assessment of Speaking Skill: A Library Based Review

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ABSTRACT This study aims to specify criteria for speaking skill assessment. Mainly, it focuses on answering questions about speaking skill, speaking skill assessment, different levels and types of speaking, suitability of tasks, scoring procedure and current trends in speaking skill testing. It is a library based descriptive study. Its material has been retrieved from different web sources. It concludes that the key to assess speaking lies in understanding of the continuum of spoken language, task types and scoring rubric. Thus, the construction of a sound speaking test requires time and effort in specifying the criteria of speaking, selecting tasks to elicit particular behaviour and in developing practical scoring rubric. To have a knowledge of the in current trends speaking tests, one can consult IELTS, TOEFL or TOEIC. Moreover, modern world has started testing speaking skills through technology. In this regard, CBLTs and WBLTs are popular these days.