

EFFECT OF TEST FACETS ON THE CONSTRUCT VALIDITY OF ECONOMICS ACHIEVEMENT TESTS IN OSUN STATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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ABSTRACT

The study determines the construct validity of the tests used by Economics teachers in the secondary schools in the study area and further examined the influence of test item format on the construct validity of Economics achievement tests in Osun state Secondary schools. To achieve this, the study adopted descriptive survey research design. The sampling technique used was multi-stage sampling used to select randomly a sample size of 300 Senior Secondary School II Economics students and 36 Economics teachers. The study made use of two research instruments: Economics Achievement Test (EAT), and a score record sheet. The EAT was used to collect information used to determine the construct validity of Economics achievement test and was validated using the test blueprint to ensure content validity and the cronbach's alpha reliability which yielded coefficient value of 0.68. The data collected were analyzed using Principal component analysis, scree plot and one-way analysis of variance. The result showed that Economics tests constructed by the Economics teachers as used in their classroom assessment have construct validity ($r=0.414$, $df=298$, $p<0.05$) and that there is a significant influence of test item format on the construct validity of the Economics Achievement Test in Osun state secondary schools. Finally, there is a significant difference in the performances of test-takers across various test formats used in the Economics Achievement Test ($F=290.25$, $p<0.05$). The study concluded that test item formats as a facet have an effect on the construct validity of the Economics Achievement Test in Osun state secondary schools and recommend that test constructors and classroom teachers must understand the characteristics of each format and select the best format which most appropriately serves the purpose of a test in each context.

Keywords: Test Facets, Test Formats, Construct Validity, Achievement Test.