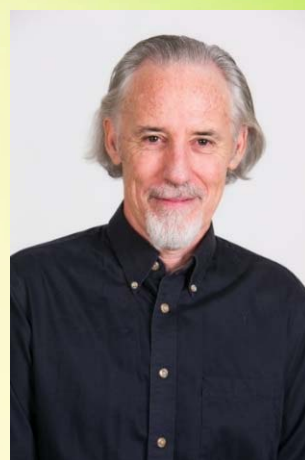


外国語教育学研究科 学術講演会

Lexical facility: Size and speed as measures of second language vocabulary

講演者： Michael Harrington 氏
(クイーンズランド大学教授)



開催日時： 平成28年6月28日(火)
18時00分～19時30分

開催場所： 岩崎記念館 4階 F401

概要：

Academic language tests are tests of *power*, in which the focus is on eliciting what the learner knows and not on *speed*, that is, how fast this knowledge can be accessed. Whether in a class quiz or a standardised test like TOEIC, language knowledge is typically broken down into discrete bits and the learner needs to demonstrate mastery of these bits in brief responses. The amount of time for the test is fixed but individual items can be answered freely. For any given learner some items are answered quickly and some require time and effort. The total score on the test thus reflects the items correctly answered but says nothing about how long they took to answer.

In psychometric theory and practice, power and speed are treated as strictly independent dimensions of little mutual relevance. But is this the case for language proficiency. Fluency requires any knowledge displayed in a test to also be accessed quickly and efficiently under the pressure of real-time language use. As access speed is so important it is reasonable to ask why it is not typically a part of language testing.

In this talk I will present an approach to the measurement of second language vocabulary that combines both vocabulary size and speed of access as a unitary construct called *lexical facility*. In the first part the historical reasons for the neglect of speed in second language testing will be reviewed. Then the lexical facility account will be described, including the theoretical and methodological issues that arise when attempting to combine knowledge and speed measures. Empirical evidence is then presented from my research program that has investigated lexical facility in several domains of English for Academic Purposes. Finally, the implications of incorporating explicit speed measures for vocabulary teaching and assessment (e.g. washback) are briefly discussed.

お問合せ：外国語教育学研究科

<http://www.kansai-u.ac.jp/fl/graduate/index.html>