

**Lauren Kennedy**  
10713 Mist Haven Terrace  
Rockville, MD, 20852  
LKennedy@2LTI.com  
Office: 301-231-6046 / Cell phone: 240-205-5263

## Education

### **Master of Arts in Applied Language Studies (2007)**

Carleton University (*Ottawa, Ontario*)

- Focus on language testing
- MA Research Paper:  
Kennedy, L. (2007). *Expanding test specifications with rhetorical genre studies and Activity Theory analyses*. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED498923).

### **North American Mobility Program Graduate Exchange (2005)**

Portland State University (*Portland, Oregon*)

- Focus on language testing and research methods

### **Certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language (2003)**

Carleton University (*Ottawa, Ontario*)

### **Bachelor of Arts and Social Science Honours in Linguistics and Applied Language Studies (2003)**

Carleton University (*Ottawa, Ontario*)

- Minor in Business
- Minor in Japanese Language

## Additional Training

### **3-day workshop on ILR Text Typology and Passage Rating (receptive skills) (2008)**

### **2-day orientation to DLPT V Development and Review (2008)**

Defense Language Institute (*Monterey, California*)

### **Introduction to Business Statistics (2007)**

Montgomery College (*Rockville, Maryland*)

## Selected Language Testing and Teaching Experience

### **Director, Test Development (2006-Present)**

Second Language Testing, Inc. (*Rockville, Maryland*)

- Managed test development and item review projects for Pearson Language Assessments, National Geographic/Harcourt Publishing, US Department of State Foreign Service Institute, and the Society for Testing English Proficiency (STEP Japan).
- Reviewed test items for language accessibility, conformity with specifications, and good item writing practices.
- Developed and reviewed proficiency, aptitude, and achievement test items and materials.
- Researched and prepared white papers on topics relevant to assessment. For example, design considerations of implementing large-scale computer-based assessments; plausible distractors in multiple-choice testing; universal design; linguistic simplification; and standard-setting methods.
- Taught new staff and item writers basic principles test construction, validation, and test use.

- Advised test review committee members and item writers on how to incorporate principles of universal design and linguistic simplification into the NAEP assessments.
- Wrote a style guide for NAEP, in order to standardize the format of NAEP assessments for test development contractors and item writers.

**Impact of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test on Second Language Students (2006)**

Research Assistant to Dr. Janna Fox (*Language Assessment and Testing Research Unit, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario*)

- Designed focus group questions.
- Moderated focus groups.
- Transcribed focus group data.

**Second Language Evaluation – Written Expression Item Writer (2006)**

Government of Canada, Public Service Commission (*Ottawa, Ontario*)

- Wrote items for conformity with specifications and prototypes as well as good item writing practices.

**Test Item Writer, Researcher, Administrator, and Rater (2003-2006)**

Canadian Academic English Language (CAEL) Assessment (*Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario*)

- Wrote and revised the Canadian Academic English Language (CAEL) Assessment Test Score and Users' Guide.
- Designed and researched tests as part of a test development team.
- Prepared test materials.
- Administered and rated tests.

**Intensive ESL Teacher (2005)**

Portland State University (*Portland, Oregon*)

- Taught Reading and Listening-Speaking courses.

**Intensive ESL Teacher (2003-2005)**

Carleton University (*Ottawa, Ontario*)

- Taught Core (integrated skills), Writing Process, Test-taking Skills, and Business Communication courses.

**ESL Teacher (2004)**

Government of Canada, Canadian International Development Agency (*Gatineau, Quebec*)

**Test Item Writer, Researcher, and Rater (2003-2004)**

Oral Proficiency Examination for Cooperative Education Students (*Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario*)

- Developed test specifications and items.
- Revised previous test versions.
- Prepared test materials.
- Evaluated and analyzed examinee performance.

## Conferences and Publications

Kennedy, L., C. Duron, and C. Casteel. (2008). *Improving a rater training program: Lessons learned from the Pearson Test of English field tests*. Paper to be presented at the East Coast Organization of Language Testers Conference, November 7-8, 2008.

Kennedy, L. (2007). *Expanding test specifications with rhetorical genre studies and activity theory analyses*. Paper presented at The Reading Matrix Online Conference <http://www.readingmatrix.com>, March 2, 2007.

Kennedy, L. (2006). ESP: English for Scouting purposes. *The Canadian Leader Magazine June/July*, 8-9.

## Technical Reports

Kennedy, L., H. Farhady, C. Duron, C. Casteel, A. Dudley, A. Powers, M. Fruit, and C. Stansfield. (2008). *Pearson Academic English Test supervisor and marker training evaluation report: First AET field test (Fall 2007)*. Technical report to Pearson Language Assessments: Second Language Testing, Inc.

Kennedy, L., J. Miles, and C. Stansfield. (2008). *Evaluation of the Foreign Service Institute Reading Proficiency Test*. Technical report to the United States Department of State, Foreign Service Institute: Second Language Testing, Inc.

Kennedy, L., L. Hart-Gonzalez. (2007). *Partially correct distractors in multiple-choice items: What the literature says*. Technical report to the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center (DLIFLC): Second Language Testing, Inc.

Kennedy, L. (2006). *A review of literature on response choice writing guidelines for multiple-choice items*. Technical report to NAEP Education Statistics Service Institute and the National Center for Educational Statistics: Second Language Testing, Inc.

Stansfield, C., J. Kelly, L. Kennedy, D. Kenyon, and M. Louguit. (2007). *Test specifications for the Defense Language Aptitude Battery*. Technical report to the Center for the Advanced Study of Language (CASL) and the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center (DLIFLC): Second Language Testing, Inc.

Stansfield, C., L. Kennedy, and J. Kelly. (2007). *Universal design and plain language in NAEP: Theory and practice*. Technical report to NAEP Education Statistics Service Institute and the National Center for Educational Statistics: Second Language Testing, Inc.