

Lauren Kennedy
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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 the New Mexico Standards Based Assessment (NM SBA) Pearson Language Tests, US Department of State Foreign Service Institute, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), National Geographic/Harcourt Publishing, 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.

Conference Presentations and Publications

Kennedy, L. and C. Stansfield. (forthcoming) . The Reading Proficiency Interview (RPI): A rapid response test development model for assessing reading proficiency on the ILR Scale. *Applied Language Learning*.

Wang, Jianling (Ed.). (2010). The official guide to the Pearson Test of English Academic. Hong Kong: Pearson Longman Asia ELT. Lead contributor to Chapters 3-6

Kennedy, L., and C. Stansfield. (2009). *The Reading Proficiency Interview (RPI): A rapid responses test development model for assessing reading proficiency on the ILR Scale*. Poster presented at the East Coast Organization of Language Testers Conference, November 6-7, 2009.

Kennedy, L., J. de Jong, C. Duron, and C. Casteel. (2008). *Improving a rater training program: Lessons learned from the Pearson Test of English Academic field tests*. Paper 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.

Invited Seminars and Workshops

Kennedy, L., and C. Casteel. (2010). *National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition Webinar: Test Development and Item Writing for Teachers of ELLs*. Online Webinar <http://www.ncela.gwu.edu/webinars/event/18/>, March 31, 2010.

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.

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.

Kennedy, L., C. Stansfield, 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.

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.