Table of Specifications

Michael Franzen

Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

Definition

A table of specifications is a 2×2 matrix relating constructs of interest to behaviors to be observed or test items to be administered. It can be used to help determine adequate content validity for the test by examining the relative representation of constructs to be evaluated. For example, if the constructs to be evaluated include visual attention and visual memory, then a table of specifications would help determine that the number of items used to evaluate each construct reflects the relative importance of

the two constructs and that an adequate number of items is used to evaluate those constructs.

Cross-References

- ▶ [Classical Test Theory](#)
- ▶ [Content Validity](#)
- ▶ [Item Analysis](#)

References

- Gulliksen, H. (1950). *Theory of mental tests*. Oxford: Wiley.
- Kline, P. (2013). *A handbook of test construction* (2nd ed.). New York: Metheun.