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Commentary

Iowa State University's English placement test of oral communication in times of COVID-19

Gary J. Ockey, Ananda Astrini Muhammad  , Agustinus Hardi Prasetyo ,
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ABSTRACT

The COVID-19 pandemic pushed the Iowa State University administration to impose face coverings and other safety regulations across the university campus. To comply with these safety measures, several changes to the English Placement Test of Oral Communication (EPT OC) had to be made. This paper discusses how the EPT OC was adapted to comply with the safety regulations mandated by the university administration and best ensure the safety of students and raters. It also describes the different considerations that were made prior to implementing these adaptations, and our thoughts while administering and rating the test. The paper concludes with what can be learned from administering the OC test during the pandemic.

Q KEYWORDS: English placement tests oral communication test administration COVID-19

Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

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