

Book Review

Assessment of Hearing Impaired People: A Guide for Selecting Psychological, Educational, and Vocational Tests. Frank R. Zieziula, (Editor), Washington, D. C.: Gallaudet College Press, 1982. 128 pp., \$7.95 (soft cover).

Assessment of Hearing Impaired People provides the practitioner involved with testing hearing impaired individuals with a comprehensive review of 62 tests used in educational institutions, rehabilitation agencies and mental health centers. According to the author, the purpose of the book is "to provide the practitioner not only with 'best judgments' of the usability of test instruments with hearing-impaired people but, just as importantly, to provide professionals-in-training, teachers, counselors, parents, and clients with facts and figures about the purposes and compositions of the tests themselves."

Before addressing this specific purpose, the author lays some very important ground work in the introduction, "Guidelines for Selecting Tests for Hearing Impaired Clients". He provides excellent information for practitioners with detailed answers to the most frequently asked questions regarding the testing of hearing impaired people. This section, although short, provides succinct information for both novices and experienced individuals involved in testing hearing impaired individuals.

The reader is then introduced to tests which are grouped into eight different areas: Academic Achievement Tests (9), Communication Tests (2), Intelligence Tests (16), Personality Tests (12), Visual Perception Tests (5), Vocational Aptitude Tests (10), Vocational Interest Tests (4), and Work Evaluation Systems (4). Each test is then described relative to 19 different factors, which include 15 items on general test information and four items relative to the hearing impaired population. The general

test information includes such things as author, publisher, price, date of edition, general purpose, description, administration, age level, reliability, validity, norms, range of scores, interpretation, summary of Buros Institute Publications, and general references.

The four items specifically related to the hearing impaired population, which are the crux of the book and which makes it unique, are: special administration procedures, normative data, appropriateness of the test, and suggested readings. It is of interest to note that only nine of the tests listed have norms established for hearing impaired people. These nine tests probably represent all available tests which have norms established for this population. However, as the author points out, it would be unrealistic to eliminate tests without normative data on hearing impaired people from consideration. Instead, he urges caution in interpreting the results. In order to provide additional insight in the testing process and hearing impairment in general, almost all of the tests have two or more references immediately after each test's description. This added source of information can be very helpful to practitioners.

On the whole, *Assessment of Hearing Impaired People* provides the practitioner with current, easily accessible, and detailed information on a wide variety of tests which may be used with hearing impaired people. It also provides valuable references after each test description as well as a supplementary reading list on general aspects of evaluating hearing impaired people. These references alone may well be considered worth the price of the book.

Edgar H. Shroyer, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Division of Communication Disorders
University of North Carolina at
Greensboro
Greensboro, N. C.