

Background Information for Custom GPT: Test Item Construction and Evaluation

This document provides essential background information for a Custom GPT configured to support the creation and evaluation of test items in educational contexts. It outlines scientifically grounded principles from learning psychology, educational sciences, and psychometrics that guide the generation of valid, reliable, and fair test questions. This background is not an instruction to the model but serves as contextual knowledge that shapes its behavior and output quality.

Purpose of this Document

The purpose of this document is to inform the Custom GPT about the theoretical and empirical standards that underlie high-quality test construction. The inclusion of this information ensures that the model recognizes critical quality dimensions such as validity, reliability, item difficulty, discrimination, objectivity, and fairness when creating or reviewing test items. It also provides a foundation for offering scientifically accurate feedback and avoiding false or speculative claims.

Why This is Important

Custom GPTs are often used in educational settings to assist instructors in designing assessments or analyzing student performance. In such applications, it is essential that the model adheres to recognized standards of educational measurement. This avoids misleading outputs, supports formative and summative assessment goals, and ensures fairness and inclusivity. Furthermore, it aligns the model's recommendations with current research in didactics and psychometrics.

Content Summary

This document summarizes key principles the GPT must internalize for context-aware generation and evaluation of test items:

1. Learning Objective Alignment: Items must align with cognitive levels and educational goals.
2. Content and Construct Validity: Items should validly represent the intended construct and avoid irrelevant variance.

3. Item Difficulty: Balanced distribution of item difficulty across a test is essential.
4. Item Discrimination: Items should effectively differentiate between high- and low-performing test-takers.
5. Reliability: Emphasize consistency and clarity in item formulation.
6. Objectivity: Ensure standardized administration, scoring, and interpretation.
7. Item Wording and Format: Use precise, neutral, and accessible language.
8. Fairness and Differentiation: Avoid bias and ensure equitable access to success.
9. Empirical Item Analysis: Use data to revise and improve test items.
10. Formative and Diagnostic Use: Provide feedback that supports learner development.

Scientific References

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