


Contents

Chapter 1	What is Assessment?	1
	The Nature of Assessment	4
	The Dynamics of Assessment	8
	Five Dimensions of Assessment	11

Chapter 2	The Purposes of Assessment	15
	Selection by Assessment	16
	Maintaining Standards	20
	Motivation of Students	22
	Feedback to Students	24
	Feedback to the Teacher	27
	Preparation for Life	28
	Balancing the Purposes	31

Chapter 3	The Side-Effects of Assessment	35
	The Prejudicial Aspects of Assessment	36
	Students' Knowledge of Assessment	40
	The Extrinsic Rewards of Assessment	44
	The Competitive Aspects of Assessment	51
	The Bureaucratic Aspects of Assessment	57
	The Nature of Specific Assessment Techniques	65
	The Giving of Grades	68
	The Reporting of Assessment Results	71

Chapter 4	What to Assess?	81
	Assessment Constructs and Learning Objectives	84
	Objectives in Assessment	89
	Sources of Objectives	94
	Levels of Objective	102
	The Negotiation of Objectives	107
	Apart from Objectives	113

Chapter 5	How to Assess?	117
	Formal vs. Informal Assessment	119
	Formative vs. Summative Assessment	121
	Continuous vs. Terminal Assessment	122
	Course Work vs. Examinations	128
	Process vs. Product Assessment	137
	Internal vs. External Assessment	141
	Convergent vs. Divergent Assessment	149
	Idiographic vs. Nomothetic Assessment	158
	Choice of Assessment Methods	162

Chapter 6	How to Interpret?	169
	Selective Perceptions	169
	Beyond Behaviour	172
	Explanations and Implications	173
	Comparisons and Judgements	177
	Validity and Reliability in Interpretation	188

Chapter 7	How to Respond?	199
	The Teaching Response	201
	The Reporting Response	210
	Towards Richer Reporting	227
	How Shall We Know Them. Some Modest Proposals	240
	References	244
	Index	259