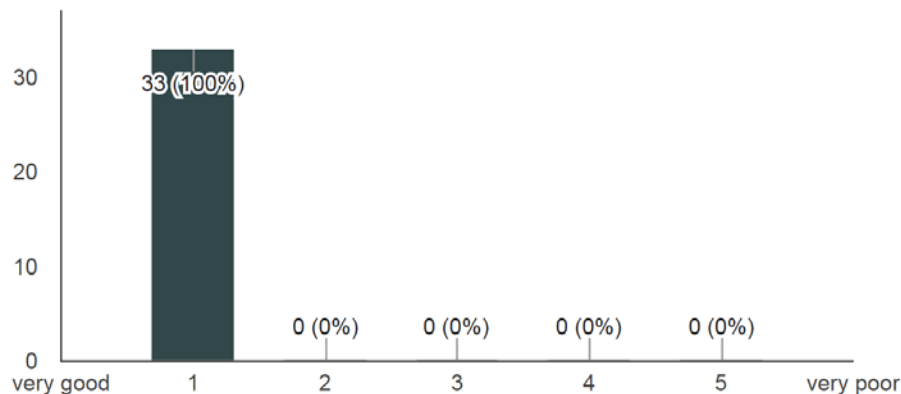


# Feedback Questionnaire Results - 4<sup>th</sup> EALTA Summer School

## Section A

### 1) Organisation (33 responses)



#### 1.1) Comments (12 responses)

Excellent content given by the experts and excellent work done by assistants

Well organised in terms of time, material, content. excellent!

brilliant food, timing well kept, one option for a fixed excursion on FRI might have been helpful

all communications in the lead up were very helpful and the team were very helpful in offering information and details on attending the course

clear, smooth, simple, everyone was helpful. Would have appreciated to know earlier after registration whether I can participate at the school.

Congratulations for the excellent organisation! I appreciated the punctuality and the well organised coffee breaks.

content was varied and time passed really quickly

Excellent organisation :-)

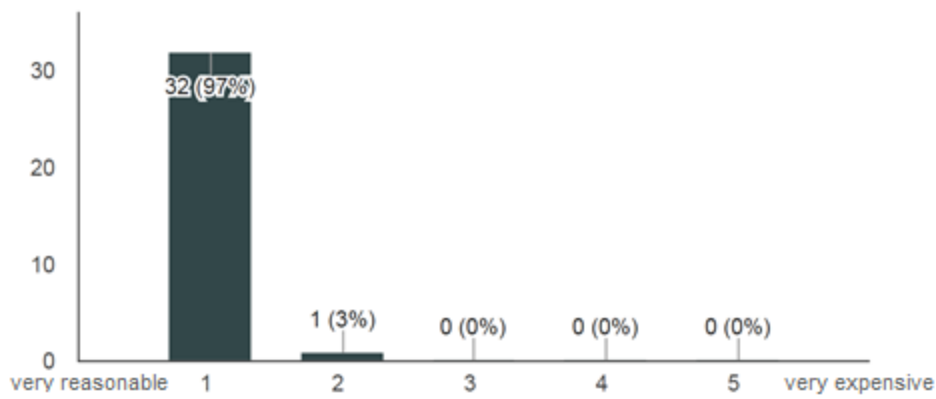
very good is not good enough. The summer school was organised extremely efficiently. I appreciate the cooperation between individual lecturers and how they were able to link one session to the other. This, I suppose, requires a lot of preparation and team work, which makes such a huge difference to how the lessons result in a meaningful unit. I do appreciate that. Thanks.

Attentive to details and ever ready to help participants who had requests for help 'outside' matters.

The organization of the event and the sessions were just excellent

Everything was perfect. The organisers were extremely helpful and forthcoming.

## 2) Cost (33 responses)



### 2.1) Comments (6 responses)

Considering the costs of similar courses, very reasonable

150 is nothing for such a workshop

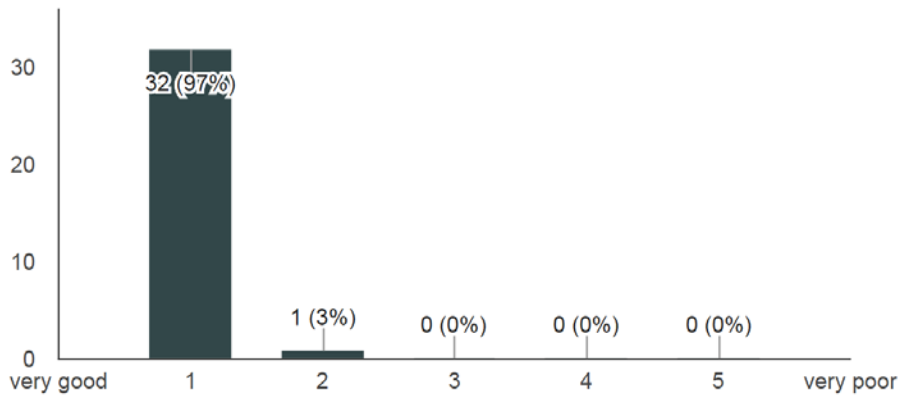
I would say the amount of input and the level of expertise of the speakers I would have expected to pay much more than €150

Thank you for maintaining this low cost!

Excellent :)

Thank you to EALTA. I wouldn't have been able to attend if they had been higher.

### 3) Locality (33 responses)



#### 3.1) Comments (9 responses)

wonderful place where everything necessary is nearby

The location is marvellous

Innsbruck is great

A beautiful city and university and an easy place to get around made the event even more enjoyable.

There was everything we needed, accessible.

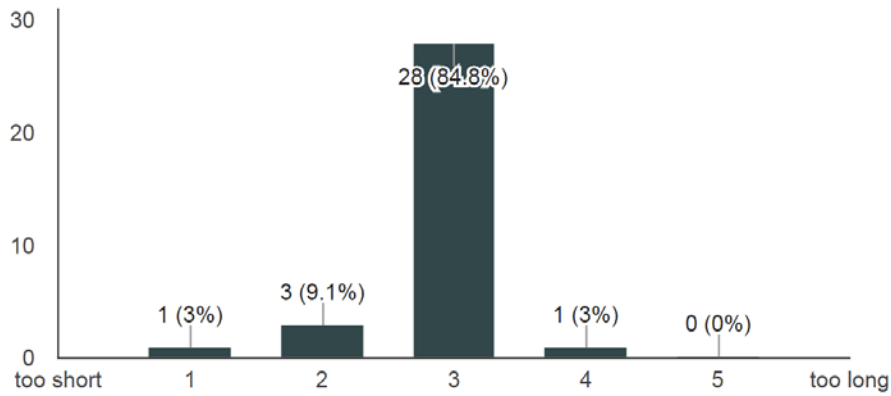
Beautiful. Perfect location.

Central, easily accessible and comfortable.

Innsbruck is a lovely town, a place full of history in the heart of a beautiful landscape.

A wonderful place, in the middle of the historical part of the city.

## 4) Length of summer school (33 responses)



### 4.1) Comments (9 responses)

two weeks with some study, reflection, research would be helpful

Worked well, especially with the nice balance of input sessions and workshop sessions

5 days is perfect

one week was sufficient to address all the areas in the course while at the same time giving participant input and ideas for future study.

The length was good, but due to the quality of the school I was tempted to write 1 or 2.

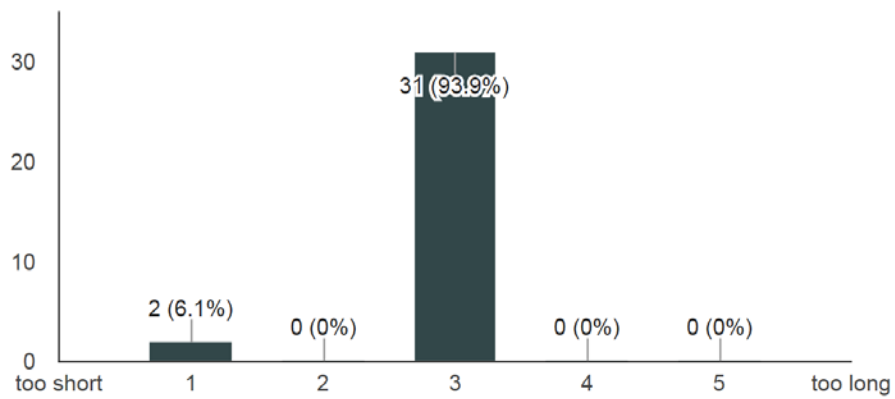
Perfect length, and good time of year.

exactly enough time

Just right: a whole week was fine for the course content offered.

Enough to learn new things and share one's experiences.

## 5) Length of sessions (33 responses)



### 5.1) Comments (7 responses)

A very effective format with enough variety to maintain us focused and engaged. Brilliant!

1.5 hours allows the session to be in-depth without overtiring

just right to get a good first insight

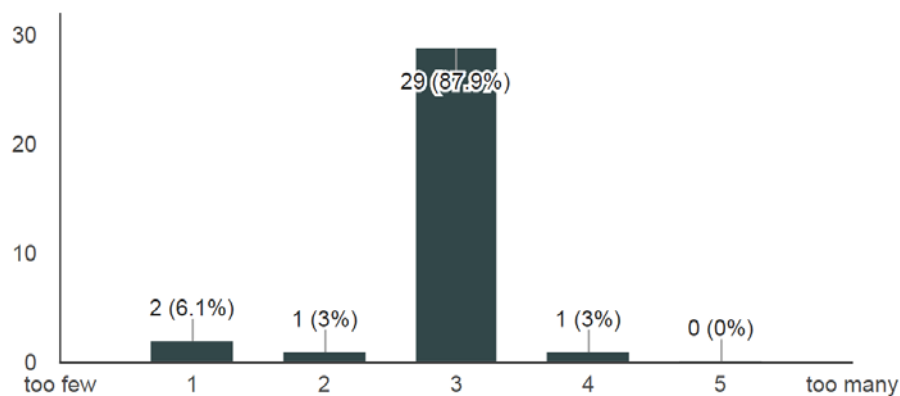
Ideal

Just right

Maybe a little more time would have been needed to give more opportunities to everyone to take active part to the sessions.

Very good.

## 6) Number of sessions (33 responses)



### 6.1) Comments (6 responses)

Just right

I loved the organisation of the sessions, I felt that the input sessions followed by maximum of 2 workshops with hands on activities were sufficient for reflection and food for thought.

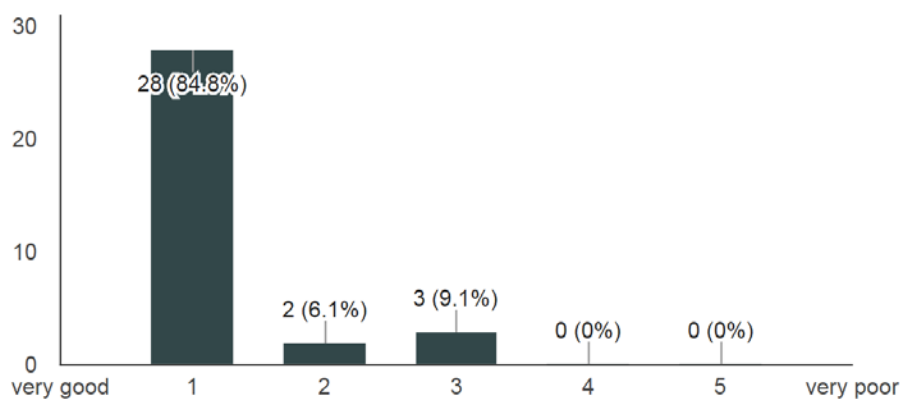
just as length of entire summer school - just right for inspiration

Ideal

Just about right

Just the right number. One had a sense of a day well spent.

## 7) Quality of sessions (33 responses)



### 7.1) Comments (12 responses)

I understand there was enough time just to give an idea of different kind of things

Fantastic content

great!

wonderful to have 4 experts sharing their knowledge on the areas presented. Loved the tandem affect.

Exceptionally good!

Excellent teachers!

Dear trainers, thank you so much for sharing your vast expertise with us and increasing ours a little.

Exceeded all my imaginable expectations

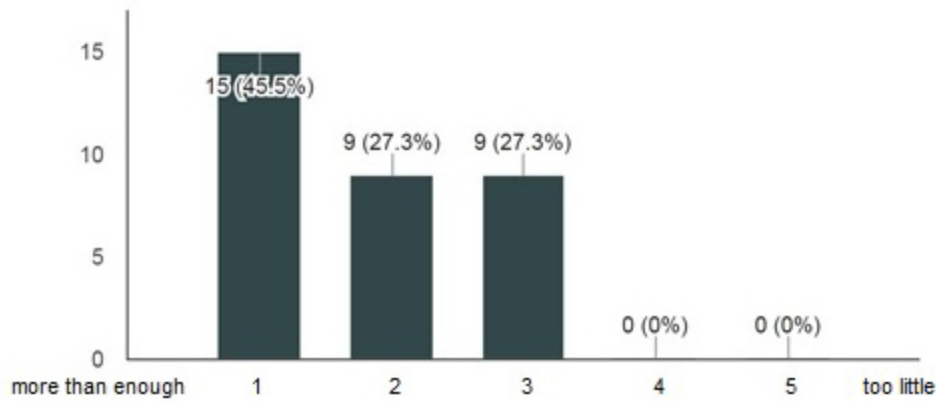
again, very good is not good enough. I cannot image being taught by people with more expertise, who are, at the same time, great and experienced teachers and also very nice people. What I found excellent was the depth with which the ladies were able to pass some of their expertise.

In my opinion there was not enough time to do the steps required in the speaking workshop where we had to decide on the criteria

Superb! Well prepared with high quality input sessions and answering all participants questions eloquently and successfully.

My initial concerns that they would be overly theoretical were immediately dispelled.

## 8) Opportunity for participation and discussion (33 responses)



### 8.1) Comments (7 responses)

#### Very good

Personally, I would have liked a little more theoretical discussion without necessarily wanting a question answered. In general though, the opportunity for questions and participation was nicely implemented.

Especially liked the opportunity for discussion in the feedback sessions

Excellent to have the question and answer sessions.

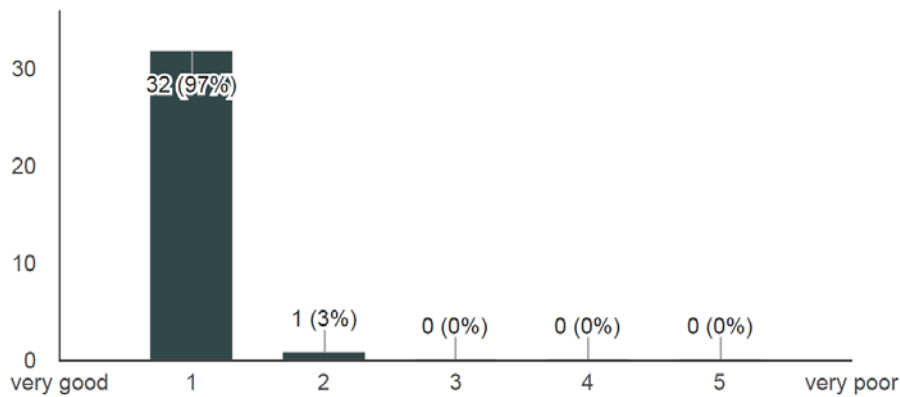
Just about right - although the pace was fast at times because there was a lot of material to cover and at times a little more time would have been useful to enable participants to reflect more thoroughly on some of the questions raised.

As I said, maybe the sessions should have been a little longer.

Sharing thoughts and experiences was very useful and educational.



## 9) Tutors/Coaches(33 responses)



### 9.1) Comments (11 responses)

very approachable and willing to share their experience - thank you!

Thank you for sharing your knowledge, expertise, passion and enthusiasm.

the best in the community of testing and assessment! I feel very honoured to have worked with such expertise and professionalism

Brilliant!

My greatest thanks and appreciation to the teachers. Excellent professionals, and they helped to create a warm and friendly class environment,

a big clap of hands!!!

I appreciate their cooperation, enthusiasm, which was contagious, and last but not least their expertise.

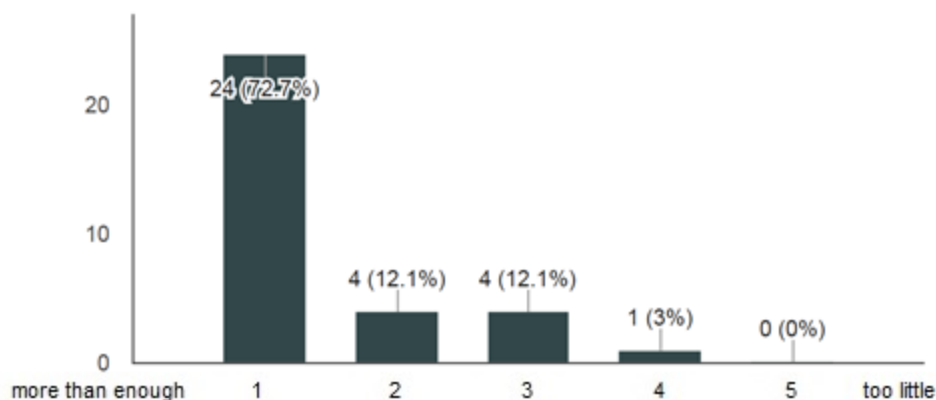
excellent!!!!!!

\*\*\*\*\* - i.e. Five Star:) All the trainers demonstrated that they were experts in their fields and each had a unique sense of delivery, pace and rhythm suited to creating a learning context for their sessions.

They made me feel very comfortable and at ease. They were highly professional and therefore helpful.

Thank you again to all the coaches. They gave us a lot of support and plenty of food for thought.

## 10) Opportunity to learn(33 responses)



### 10.1) Comments (11 responses)

Big thank you to all the members of the Summer School!!!! Carry on

For me personally, too much practical stuff, too little actual theory.

Thanks for an enriching week and making us all feel welcome!

Definitely leaving the course feeling more confident and empowered to discussion testing and I am keen to continue to increase my knowledge and expertise in this field.

I've learned a lot and gained new insight. Now it's up to me to apply it ;-)

Thank you again, we learned so much and it was a wonderful experience.

Thank you very much. I am afraid, this was a performance that will be difficult to beat in the future :-). The last remark (but this could go on and on), ladies, I love and enjoyed your sense of humour.

I have learned very much and that is exactly what I had hoped for.

Excellent :) I'm sure many will be reflecting on what they have learnt during the course. I for one certainly will.

Thank you for the opportunity you gave me to meet other colleagues and exchange experiences

It was an utterly enjoyable experience. Meeting people from different types of backgrounds makes one have a better insight into one's own.

## Section B

### 11) What in particular did you find useful for you personally? (31 resp.)

tagging assessment to larger standards like admissions and CEFR

interlocutor frame

First of all, I was not very familiar with assessing productive skills, especially assessing speaking is a neglected part in Turkey at tertiary level in-house exams. most importantly, I had opportunity to make connections between theory and practice.

The practical sessions about rating writing

Every single detail was inspiring and stimulating for thought, action or reflection.

Nivjas session about machine-based speaking assessment.

different perspectives, possibility to work and learn in groups, possibility to live processes

The interaction pattern of the seminar, the elicitation of previous knowledge and/or ideas for improvement. Also, watching videos of real performances.

inputs and the examples; input on Speaking exams

Test design and the familiarisation with rating scales and rating criteria

Exchange with people from other contexts; new approaches

The list of readings and materials made available to us was the most useful.

Lots of theory and a lot of practical exercises that gave me a lot of ideas that could be used in developing new methods to assess my students' performances (Einstufungstest for example). Thank you very much!

Understanding the importance of individual construct of exams. Looking closely at variables of raters and looking at improving rating scales.

Working with constructs, scales and descriptors

Being reminded of principles I know, but that tend to be pushed into the background by seemingly more pressing needs and constraints. Learning about recent studies.

Rater training, interlocutor's role and training, looking deeper into the construct, and how it is connected to purpose of testing.

The in-depth presentations

too much to tell, basically 95%

Practicality of the workshops.

the assessment of writing, relation between construct and task development, the possible use of C-test, binary decision tree

The workshops/input on the rating scales, rater training, interlocutor training

The most useful session for me was the one regarding rating process (how to develop and then validate the rating scales and the assessment criteria).

practical aspects related to rater / interlocutor training

All elements of the summer school. It was very well prepared and structured. There was clear development and the relevancy was always established.

Rating scales for both writing and speaking, how to use interlocutor frames, how to familiarise raters with the scales

Construct and Viability

The course gave a very good overview of what testing is all about. Unfortunately, for the last seven years I have been writing items, compiling pilot tests, administering exams and rating papers which means that there was not much new to me. On the other hand it was good to realise that what we have been doing in our country has been right and according the best practices. Thus, the course itself was wonderful and the facilitators impressive, but I was just not in the target population.

Getting input on recent developments and learning how other countries/institutions work

Carol's strong belief in what she's been doing all these years, it gave me hope that I myself might change something in my workplace.

The insight into the newest advancements in theoretical research and its correlation with the practical, 'everyday' aspects of language testing.

## 12) What in particular did you less useful for you personally? (22 responses)

Everything was useful

Everything was useful

Nothing, would have appreciated more integration time for ideas

Everything was interesting

Very delighted with every aspect.

Quite a bit was very practical information. I could have done with less of it. I do recognize though that it was probably useful for most participants.

how to do a rater training

nothing really, there was a good balance of input sessions and practice.

feedback in plenary

Nothing in particular

How to relate the training on fluency with speaking tests in general.

Measuring fluency, I didn't find it less useful but I got lost on using the platform. I am looking forward to trying this out more at leisure and with less constraints of time.

Nothing. Everything was useful!

The things that were perhaps less relevant for my current context were really interesting - it is important for me to know of what is "out there" in the texting world.

nothing

interlocutor training

eliciting the construct of a task

I would say the alternative assessment approach, just because it's difficult to apply it in my own context of work.

the session on the depth of fluency in speaking

That's a really difficult question because every session had at least one diamond to offer.

As hard as I can think of, there hasn't been a single thing that I can mention as less useful.

I can't think of anything in particular. I'd thought the statistics would be out of my scope, but it turned out to be a very interesting topic.

### 13) What changes would you like to suggest for the next summer school? (24 responses)

we have to cover reading, listening, structure, vocab and pronunciation

If I had had the chance of receiving reading pack before coming to Innsbruck, it would be very useful because here it was very tiring and had hard time trying to read the assigned article at night.

Maybe including some of the samples of the colleagues and discuss them

Nothing special.

We did know very little about the other participants after the introductory session. It would have been helpful to know more about them from the start.

-

I can't think of any changes at the moment, my expectations were met and I'm very satisfied of the experience I've gained.

I would like that there would be more references about other languages different from English

I would have liked more time with the other participants, talking about our own contexts, our challenges and solutions.

I have no suggestions because I believe the organisation this year was great

Keep going. This is effective, relevant and insightful.

No changes

as it was my first time, I am absolutely happy as it is

no changes, but keep it as in-depth as this one was. The assessment literacy has been increasing and we will benefit from getting more insight.

avoid very theoretical articles as a homework

It was such a well-organized summer school and the balance between input sessions and practice/workshops was great!

no input session in the last time slot (16-17/17:30)

Perhaps offer a complete package that includes lunch so that you don't have to organise who to go with and where to go.

Maybe more hands on? Like design a speaking prompt/interlocutor frame for an imaginary test and develop a rating scale for it., etc.

Perhaps send out the schedule earlier with what is being done each day in order to be able to coordinate pre-reading tasks more effectively and reduce pressure the night before.

Keep up the good work, it is definitely appreciated.

None, it was ideal

I'd appreciate to receive articles about what it's going to be discussed about well before the meeting days, so to have more time to read and get into the topic.

It would be good to get the reading materials two or three weeks earlier so that there would be time to study them more profoundly.

## 14) Do you have any suggestions for potential topics of the next summer school? (20 responses)

what is the process to validate tests, rater behaviour analyses (Facets maybe), all kind of statistics

IRT, or more advanced stats

Kindly organise a summer school about assessments for students with special needs or learning difficulties.

integrated assessment, formative assessment, diagnostic assessment

dynamic assessment

not for the moment

Preliminary issues regarding certifications such as profile definition and test specifications

Can't think of anything---my head is done in!

more of summer schools like this one!

Young learners assessment and testing, and ... How to go about defining criteria/descriptors /scales?! in CLIL settings

Classroom assessment, especially in regard to speaking

Assessment of receptive skills, Quality control, Statistics for language tests

more about less known methods like eye-tracking

Assessment in CLIL context or assessment for young learners

assessment for learning

Task development in detail

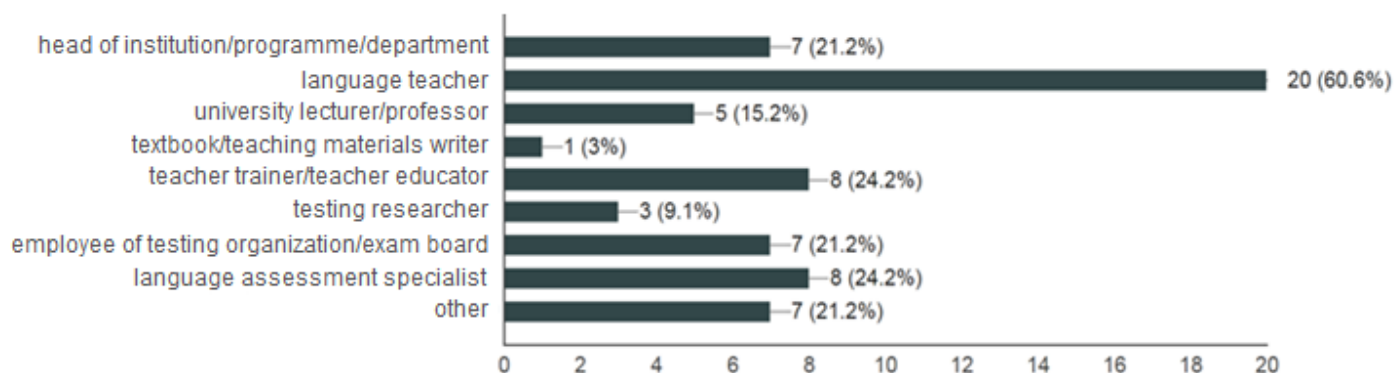
Large scale assessment, proficiency tests, test equating/correlations, stats, Rasch analysis, etc.

Although this is test specific to Trinity College London, I would be very interested in a session on Reading FOR Writing as in Task 3 of Trinity's Revised ISE examinations. It's quite a 'productive' task and a novel element in testing.

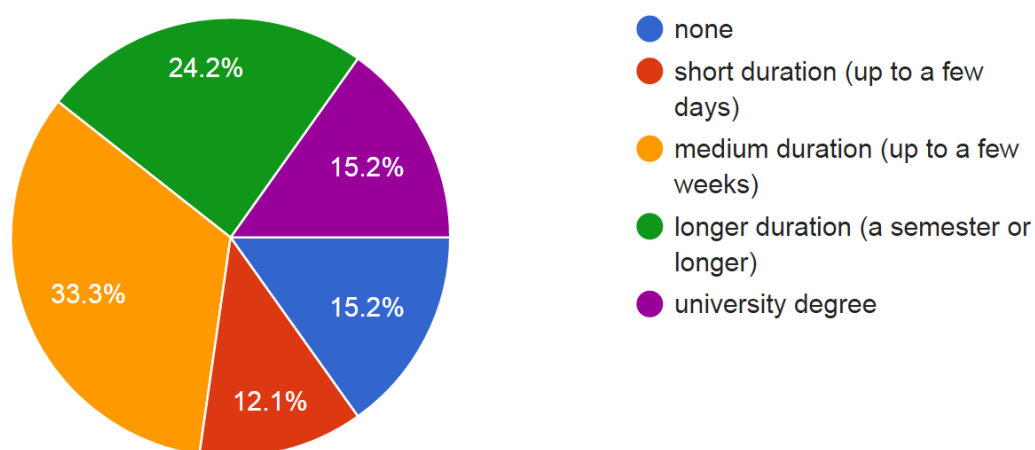
Consider the assessment of DSA students (dyslexia)

Perhaps it would be useful to have a deeper insight into scaling and calibration or assessing language for specific purposes.

### 15) What is your current professional position or role? (33 responses)



### 16) Had you received any training in the theory or practice of language testing/assessment before the summer school? (33 responses)





## 17) General comments (24 responses)

brilliant!

Perfect, wonderful, brilliant, Many thanks to you all!

Excellent Course

I deeply appreciate all the effort put for the successful delivery of this amazing educational opportunity. Thank you very much and a huge bravo.

thank you very much for sharing your knowledge and ideas with us!

Very useful course either concerning theory and practice

Thanks for a well-organized summer school week

The days were very long. But good. We all appreciated the expertise and depth of knowledge presented to us. However, one or two of the instructors seemed really stressed out and defensive at some points, but with the stress of the event delivery, that was understandable. However, that being said, being scolded in the group was unpleasant.

Thank you very much for a very productive and pleasant week in the gorgeous location. All the trainers are the bestEST (better than the best, not a grammar mistake)! =)

Thank you all, I am leaving here wanting more and even seriously considering doing further studies in elements of testing.

Keep up the fantastic work. well-done!!!

Thank you!

A BIIIIIG thank you to all of the lecturers and organizers. I really appreciated the opportunity to be here and learn.

Thank you very much!

Thank you very much, excellent work done!

I would find it useful to get a bibliography with the most recommendable books and articles concerning the topics of the summer school

I really appreciate the work of all of the people who have contributed to the summer school. Thank you very much for this well-prepared, inspiring summer school!!!

One suggestion to speed up eliciting ideas and writing them on the board: [todaysmeet.com](https://www.todaysmeet.com) offers an online method of collecting ideas that can be shared to the projector. [padlet.com](https://www.padlet.com) offers an interactive wall for collecting text, audio and video.

Loved all but some trainers were very bossy, treated us like school kids although we are all colleagues. Having said that, I would still do a school with the same trainers because of their knowledge and experience.

Regarding question 6, I have participated in several 'internal' training events of a few days each, over the last decade with the British Council, Cambridge CESOL, IELTS and Trinity College London.

Thank you.

It was a most enjoyable week, many thanks to Carol Spöttl, Jayanti Banerjee, Claudia Harsch und Nivja DeJong and the organising team

What you are doing is very useful as in our schools (I'm from Italy) not much has been done, and so far ( as far as I know) there aren't common criteria to follow to assess student's language competences, what they can really do with what they know.

The summer school was hard work but it was definitely worth it! Thank you again.