

Goldman Fristoe Second Edition Manual

JSLHR

Research Note

Applying Item Response Theory to the Development of a Screening Adaptation of the Goldman-Fristoe Test of Articulation–Second Edition

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Purpose: Item response theory (IRT) is a psychometric approach to measurement that uses latent trait abilities (e.g., speech sound production skills) to model performance on individual items that vary by difficulty and discrimination. An IRT analysis was applied to preschoolers' productions of the words on the Goldman-Fristoe Test of Articulation–Second Edition (GFTA-2) to identify candidates for a screening measure of speech sound production skills.

Method: The phoneme accuracies from 154 preschoolers, with speech skills on the GFTA-2 ranging from the 1st to above the 90th percentile, were analyzed with a 2-parameter logistic model.

Results: A total of 108 of the 232 phonemes from stimuli in the sounds-in-words subtest fit the IRT model. These

phonemes, and subgroups of the most difficult of these phonemes, correlated significantly with the children's overall percentile scores on the GFTA-2. Regression equations calculated for the 5 and 10 most difficult phonemes predicted overall percentile score at levels commensurate with other screening measures.

Conclusions: These results suggest that speech production accuracy can be screened effectively with a small number of sounds. They motivate further research toward the development of a screening measure of children's speech sound production skills whose stimuli consist of a limited number of difficult phonemes.

Screening measures of children's speech sound production skills typically follow the protocol of more comprehensive articulation and phonological tests: Children are asked to name pictures of familiar items that elicit the range of consonant phonemes that are typically acquired during the preschool and early elementary years (e.g., Fluharty, 2001). Pass and fail criteria are based on phonetic transcriptions of children's productions. Screening tasks typically weigh each phoneme or word equally, regardless of the ages at which they are typically developed or their impacts on intelligibility. It is unclear, however, if such a broad-based method is the most effective or efficient way to meet the purposes of screening—namely, identifying the need for further evaluation or referral to another professional (American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, n.d.). It may be that a shorter word list, focused on

a subset of phonemes in specific word positions, would be better for distinguishing children with and without potential speech sound disorders (SSD). One challenge to developing an effective screening instrument for SSD is determining which phonemes in words best discriminate children with difficulty from those with typical development. The present study explored this by applying an item response theory (IRT) analysis to 154 children's productions of the sounds-in-words subtest of one commonly used standardized test of children's speech production, the Goldman-Fristoe Test of Articulation–Second Edition (GFTA-2; Goldman & Fristoe, 2000).

IRT is a collection of statistical models that estimate the probability of a person answering an item correctly on the basis of an estimate of the person's underlying latent trait, as well as item parameters that relate to features such as discrimination, difficulty, and guessing. By choosing a particular IRT model, it is possible to better understand how items function, to develop tailored assessments, and to use a wide variety of psychometric tools (see de Ayala, 2009, for basic information on IRT). Although IRT has been primarily used in educational assessment and psychological research, it has been part of research studies in communication sciences and disorders since the 1980s

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Editor: Julie Liss

Associate Editor: Tanya Eadie

Received October 7, 2016

Revision received March 13, 2017

Accepted April 11, 2017

https://doi.org/10.1044/2017_JSLHR-L16-0392

Disclosure: The authors have declared that no competing interests existed at the time of publication.

Goldman Fristoe Second Edition Manual is a vital resource for speech-language pathologists, educators, and researchers who work with individuals facing speech sound disorders. This comprehensive manual serves as a critical tool in assessing and understanding articulation and phonological processes in children. The Goldman Fristoe Test of Articulation (GFTA) has been a trusted instrument in the field for years, and its second edition offers significant improvements and updated norms that enhance its usability and effectiveness.

Understanding the Goldman Fristoe Second Edition

Manual

The Goldman Fristoe Second Edition (GFTA-2) is primarily designed to evaluate an individual's articulation skills. It provides a systematic approach to identifying speech sound disorders, making it essential for practitioners in various settings, including schools, clinics, and private practices. The manual not only offers detailed instructions for administering the test but also provides insight into interpreting the results.

Key Features of the Goldman Fristoe Second Edition Manual

The GFTA-2 possesses several key features that enhance its application and effectiveness:

- **Comprehensive Assessment:** The test assesses speech sound production in both single words and connected speech.
- **Norm-Referenced:** The GFTA-2 includes updated normative data, allowing for accurate comparisons across age groups.
- **Phonological Process Analysis:** The manual provides guidelines for analyzing phonological processes, which can help in understanding underlying issues.
- **Flexible Administration:** The test can be administered in various environments, making it adaptable to different settings and populations.
- **Clear Scoring Guidelines:** The manual outlines straightforward scoring procedures, making it easier for practitioners to assess results accurately.

Why Use the Goldman Fristoe Second Edition Manual?

Utilizing the GFTA-2 helps practitioners identify specific speech sound disorders and plan effective interventions. Here are some of the reasons why this manual is indispensable in clinical practice:

1. Evidence-Based Practice

The GFTA-2 is grounded in research and evidence, ensuring that its methods are aligned with current best practices in speech-language pathology. By using a standardized assessment tool, clinicians can make informed decisions based on reliable data.

2. Early Intervention

Early detection of speech sound disorders is crucial for effective intervention. The Goldman Fristoe Second Edition Manual enables clinicians to identify issues at an early stage, facilitating timely treatment and support for children, which can have long-term benefits on their communication skills.

3. Comprehensive Reporting

The GFTA-2 provides detailed reports that can be shared with parents, educators, and other health professionals. This comprehensive information promotes collaboration and ensures that all stakeholders are informed about the child's progress and needs.

4. Enhances Treatment Planning

By identifying specific sound errors and phonological processes, the manual assists in crafting targeted intervention strategies. This tailored approach increases the likelihood of successful outcomes in therapy.

Administration and Scoring of the GFTA-2

Administering the Goldman Fristoe Second Edition involves several steps, each designed to ensure accurate and reliable results.

Preparing for Administration

Before administering the test, practitioners should:

1. Review the manual thoroughly to understand the test structure and scoring system.
2. Gather all necessary materials, including the test booklet, scoring sheets, and any additional resources.
3. Ensure a quiet environment free from distractions to facilitate optimal performance from the child.

Test Administration Steps

The GFTA-2 consists of two main sections: the Sounds in Words subtest and the Sounds in Sentences subtest.

1. Sounds in Words: The examiner presents pictures to the child and asks them to name the objects. This section assesses sound production in single words.
2. Sounds in Sentences: The examiner reads a series of sentences that include target sounds, and the child is asked to repeat them. This section evaluates sound production in connected speech.

Scoring the GFTA-2

Scoring is straightforward and involves:

- Marking each sound produced correctly or incorrectly on the scoring sheet.
- Calculating the number of correct responses to determine the child's articulation score.
- Using normative data to interpret scores and determine if the child falls within typical ranges for their age group.

Benefits of the Second Edition Over the First Edition

The Goldman Fristoe Second Edition Manual brings several enhancements compared to its predecessor:

Updated Normative Data

One of the most significant improvements in the GFTA-2 is the inclusion of updated normative data. This ensures that clinicians are working with the most relevant and accurate benchmarks, which is crucial for effective assessment and treatment planning.

Expanded Age Range

The second edition has expanded its normative age range, allowing practitioners to assess older children and adolescents more effectively. This expansion is vital as speech sound disorders can persist into later childhood and even adulthood.

Improved User Experience

The manual has been redesigned for ease of use, with clearer instructions and an organized layout that enhances the user experience. This makes it more accessible for practitioners who may be new to using standardized assessments.

Conclusion

The Goldman Fristoe Second Edition Manual is an essential tool for anyone involved in the assessment of speech sound disorders. Its comprehensive approach, evidence-based practices, and user-friendly design make it an indispensable resource in the field of speech-language pathology. Whether you're a seasoned professional or just starting, the GFTA-2 will enhance your ability to evaluate and support individuals with speech sound challenges, ultimately fostering better communication skills and improved quality of life.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of the Goldman Fristoe Second Edition Manual?

The Goldman Fristoe Second Edition Manual is designed to assess and diagnose speech sound disorders in children and provides guidelines for administering and scoring the Goldman Fristoe Test of Articulation.

How has the Goldman Fristoe Second Edition improved upon the first edition?

The second edition includes updated norms, expanded sample sizes, and revised scoring criteria to enhance accuracy and reliability in assessing speech sound production.

Who can benefit from using the Goldman Fristoe Second Edition Manual?

Speech-language pathologists, educators, and clinicians working with children who exhibit speech sound disorders can benefit from using this manual for assessment and intervention planning.

What age range does the Goldman Fristoe Second Edition cater to?

The Goldman Fristoe Second Edition is designed for individuals aged 2 to 21 years, making it suitable for a wide range of developmental stages.

Are there any specific training requirements for administering the Goldman Fristoe Second Edition?

While there are no strict training requirements, it is recommended that users have a background in speech-language pathology or related fields to effectively administer and interpret the test.

What types of speech sounds does the Goldman Fristoe Second Edition assess?

The test assesses articulation of consonants and vowels, including both single-word responses and connected speech, allowing for a comprehensive evaluation of speech sound production.

Is there a digital version of the Goldman Fristoe Second Edition available?

Yes, there is a digital version available that allows for online administration, scoring, and reporting, making it more accessible and convenient for clinicians.

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