

## ***What do vocabulary test scores mean?***

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Vocabulary tests are a popular tool for foreign language teachers, learners, and even researchers of second language acquisition to aid or investigate foreign language learning. Most of us will have taken numerous vocabulary tests by the end of our instructed foreign language learning. They come in all shapes and sizes, such as the Vocabulary Size Test (Nation & Beglar, 2007), the Vocabulary Levels Test (Schmitt, Schmitt & Clapham, 2001), or the Yes/No Tests (Meara & Buxton, 1987), or the Word Associates Format (Read, 1998). But we hardly ever question what their scores actually tell us about our mental lexicon. What does a particular score, number, or percentage actually mean in terms of how many words we know, and how well we know them?

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**Ort: Raum 4U102b, Untergeschoß, Innrain 52d (Geiwi-Turm)**

Benjamin Kremmel researches and teaches language learning, teaching, and assessment at the University of Innsbruck, Austria, where he is the head of the Language Testing Research Group Innsbruck (LTRGI). He holds a Mag. phil. degree in Teaching English and Psychology/Philosophy from the University of Innsbruck, and an MA in Language Testing from Lancaster University, UK, as well as a PhD in Applied Linguistics from the University of Nottingham, UK. His research interests are in assessment of L2 lexical knowledge and L2 reading skills, as well as in language assessment literacy.