

PARALLEL SESSIONS -SHORT DESCRIPTIONS

Title: The Text Mapping Procedure - Exploiting Sound Files

Facilitator: Ancuta Soloman

This mini-workshop is intended to be an interactive meeting where the participants can practice text mapping on several sound files proposed by the facilitator. There is no need for the people involved in the activity to have laptops or any specific materials.

Title: Sharing AI Tools in Language Testing

Facilitators: Dr Mary Jo Di Biase- Lubrano and Inga Farte-Zalite

Artificial Intelligence is rapidly changing the landscape of language education and assessment, but how is it actually being used in language testing? This interactive workshop provides an opportunity for participants to explore the potential, limitations, and ethical considerations of AI through discussion and peer exchange.

After a brief introduction to key issues such as bias, hallucinations, privacy, and responsible use, participants will share their own experiences, concerns, and ideas for using AI in language testing. Whether you are an experienced user, have only experimented with AI, or have never used it before, your perspective is welcome.

The workshop is designed as a collaborative exchange rather than a technical training session, allowing participants to learn from one another and reflect on how AI may support—or challenge—language testing practice.

What to bring: If possible, please bring a laptop or tablet with internet access. While no prior experience with AI is required, participants who have used AI tools are encouraged to bring examples of prompts, workflows, or applications they would be willing to share. Those without a device or AI experience are equally welcome and will be able to participate fully in the discussions.

Title: Selecting and Rating Authentic Listening Passages with a STANAG 6001

Alignment Table.

Facilitators: Dr Ray Clifford and Dr Matthew Wilcox

Valid listening assessment depends on principled text selection, yet that process is often tacit, inconsistent, or only loosely anchored to the STANAG 6001 construct. This mini-workshop introduces a Listening Alignment Table that combines Clifford's trisection of speaker purpose, text type, and listener purpose with the Task, Condition, and Accuracy (TCA) framework, giving item writers a systematic basis for judging whether a passage targets a given proficiency level. Through a brief theoretical grounding and facilitator-led rating exercises on authentic audio texts, participants will learn to rate and justify text difficulty, spot the linguistic and discourse features that signal proficiency, and recognize misaligned, mixed-level, or untestable passages.

Participants should bring a laptop (headphones optional); no advance preparation, tools, or item submission is required, as all materials will be provided.

Title: Listening Moderation Workshop

Facilitators: Hege Skilleås

The aim of the listening item moderation session is that we help each other moderate items and get a few improved versions we can take home (note that for reasons of test security your discretion is expected - do not compromise your colleagues' items).

To make the session worth attending, we need your contribution. We kindly ask that session participants in advance send us:

1. ONE prospective level 3 listening text (mp3-file is preferred). If the sound file is long, indicate which part of the file the item is based on (time from – to).
2. The corresponding item text in a Word document. All types of items (MCQ, open-ended, gap fill, etc.) are welcomed, and drafts will do nicely.

Title: Collaborative Development of Listening Test Items: The Shared Item Bank

Experience

Facilitators: Suzana Horvat and Tadeja Hafner

The main goal of this workshop is to demonstrate, through concrete examples, how the SIB Working Group developed listening items, from item design to national and collaborative online moderation. Participants will also have the opportunity to moderate a SIB listening item in small groups. Their decisions and discussions will then be compared with the statistical results from the pre-testing, illustrating how the item performed and highlighting the relationship between moderation decisions and empirical evidence.

Title: Assessment Engineering in Practice: Leveraging AI and Task Models to

Generate STANAG-Aligned Listening Items

Facilitator: Dr Petia Alexieva

This 2-hour interactive workshop shows STANAG item writers and test developers how to move from traditional question writing to a structured "Assessment Engineering" (AE)

approach based on Luecht's (2025) framework. Attendees will learn how combining clear task templates with AI workflows helps create high-quality, targeted multiple-choice listening questions. The session also demonstrates how this practical AE approach easily fits criterion-based testing and the listening scale validation guidelines proposed by Cox and Clifford (2014).

Focusing on listening comprehension Levels 1 and 2, participants will take apart real test questions to create reusable templates using simple checklists. Using practical AI prompting techniques, attendees will use Gemini to "clone" similar test questions that measure the same skills and remain psychometrically stable, while saving time and lowering pre-trialing costs.

Additionally, a hands-on activity will highlight the differences between spoken and written language. Participants will learn how to feed these unique spoken-language rules directly into their AI instructions, ensuring generated audio scripts sound like natural speech rather than just "reading a text aloud." Technical Requirements: A laptop with internet access and a registered email address to use the free web version of Gemini

(gemini.google.com). Participants should be comfortable with AI technology and able to troubleshoot basic login or connection issues on their own. Participant emails must be submitted beforehand to receive workshop materials.