ASL Perspective Taking Comprehension Test (ASL PTCT)
Non-linguistic Perspective Taking Comprehension Test (Non-ling PTCT)

Authors/creators of test:
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Published reference (if available):
none yet

50-word (or less) general description of the test:
These tests assess a test-taker's ability to imagine a scene from various perspectives. The stimuli are either signed phrases (ASL PTCT) or pictures (Non-ling PTCT) that depict two objects in specific arrangements. A multiple-choice format is used for response options; response time is also measured. Approximately 10 minutes per test.

Details:
What does the test measure?
Constructs being measured: perspective-taking, memory,

The test measures the test-taker's ability to imagine a scene containing two objects from different perspectives that increase in 45° increments (either to the right or to the left) from the test-taker's own perspective. Memory is a component of this test since the test-taker has to remember the stimulus arrangement of the objects for comparison purposes.

Additional details of the tests:
In the ASL PTCT the test-taker is presented with 20 video-recorded signed phrases, each of which contains two classifiers that denote objects (from a set of three objects: a car, a dog, or a woman) in specific arrangements (which object is on the left vs. right) and orientations (which direction—inward or outward—one of the objects has fallen). On each item, the task is to view each signed phrase (i.e., item) and then choose a picture, from four choices, that corresponds with the arrangements and orientations of the objects as indicated by the signer. In the Non-ling PTCT, the only difference is that the stimuli are static pictures rather than signed phrases using classifiers. Each test has two practice items before the 20 test items.

In order to test a signer’s ability to imagine a scene from various perspectives, the angle of perspective shift is increased throughout the 20 items. Five blocks of four items per block can be characterized in specific ways. The first
block of items includes correct choices that require no perspective-shift for the test-taker (i.e., the correct choice is a picture of the objects—arranged and oriented correctly—from the same perspective as the viewing). For all subsequent blocks the correct choice requires a perspective shift by the test-taker in increments of 45° leftward or rightward per block to a maximum of 180° shift within Block 5 items. Incorrect choices have similar perspective shifts, but the objects are arranged or oriented incorrectly.

One additional detail of the PTCT is that the video clips for presentation show the signer from two distinct camera angles: opposite perspective (i.e., the interlocutor facing the signer), a common vantage point for a perceiver of signed language, and a side-by-side perspective that is approximately 45° to the right of the signer (i.e., as if the interlocutor were standing immediately to the right of the signer). The side-by-side perspective was included in the ASL-PTCT in order to determine if a viewer would have less difficulty choosing a corresponding picture if she is situated beside the signer and would not have to make a substantial perspective shift to comprehend the stimuli.

Lastly, for the 10 items in which the signer is opposite the test-taker during the stimulus sentence there is also a distracter choice referred to here as an egocentric choice. The egocentric choice (i.e., picture) depicts the two objects in an incorrect arrangement, but an arrangement that matches exactly what the viewer has seen from her own perspective. There are no egocentric choices for the side-by-side perspective items.

**For what age range is the test appropriate?**
We expect that ages 10 and up can take this test.

**Describe how ASL is used in the test.**
In the ASL-PTCT, ASL is used for depicting a scene with two classifiers. No ASL is used in the Non-ling PTCT.

**With appropriate instructions (and possibly training) who would be qualified to administer this test (teachers, assessment specialists, parents)?**
Assessment specialists and language therapists would be qualified to administer this test with appropriate instructions and training. Training could be conducted online with someone from our lab (e.g., via Skype, iChat, etc.).

**What training is necessary for test administrators?**
Training on how to describe the tests to the test-takers, training on how to maneuver the online system, and training to emphasize the ways an administrator may interact with test-takers.

**How is the test scored? Who is qualified to score the test? Please describe any training that is required for scorers.**
No scoring necessary. The data are immediately sent to an online database. Our lab can retrieve the data and send it to administrators, as appropriate.
Describe the score (or scores) that are derived as a result of the testing. For both versions, the tests give us multiple pieces of information:

1) overall performance (e.g., % correct over all items)
2) performance per block (% correct based on the degree of perspective shift required)
3) response time

Are psychometric studies currently underway or planned for the near future? Pilot data are being collected to assess the general appropriateness of the task and items.

What background information is routinely collected about the test-takers when the test is administered?
Is the test currently available for use by professionals in the field who work with deaf individuals?
Yes. It’s being piloted at Illinois School for the Deaf.

If no, what plans are there for making the test available?
No plans as of yet.

What is the current test administration format (online, paper/pencil, CD-ROM/DVD)?
Online
Who should be contacted for further information? (please include email address). David Quinto-Pozos (davidqp@austin.utexas.edu)

ASL PTCT practice items:
Non-ling PTCT practice items:
Practice 2

Practice 2 Choices

A  B  C  D