Essentials of WAIS-IV Assessment
Second Edition

- Complete coverage of administration, scoring, interpretation, and reporting
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Elizabeth O. Lichtenberger
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Second Edition

Elizabeth O. Lichtenberger
Alan S. Kaufman

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
For Nadeen, who knew me as a boy, and has been my love for 50 years.
La Bohème, Act IV

MIMI: Have they left us? I was pretending to sleep
perché volli con te sola restare. to be alone with you.
Ho tante cose che ti voglio dire, So many things to tell you,
o una sola, but really just one,
ma grande come il mare, that is as huge as the ocean,
come il mare profonda ed infinita. and as deep and infinite.
Sei il mio amor e tutta la mia vita. You are my love and my whole life.

RODOLFO: My beautiful Mimi!
O mia bella Mimi!

MIMI: Am I still beautiful?
Son bella ancora?

RODOLFO: Beautiful as the dawn in springtime.
Bella come un’aurora.

For Hannah

Thirteen years ago, you were just a couple of weeks away from being born when I delivered the manuscript for the first edition of this book to the publisher.

In the years since then, you have grown into such a lovely young lady whom I am so proud of.

Each day you make me smile, you make me laugh, and you inspire me to be the best I can be.

Thank you for the love and joy you have brought me every day of your 13 years.

I love you.

Mom
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*George McCloskey, Emily S. Hartz, and Katherine Scipioni*

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I
n the *Essentials of Psychological Assessment* series, we have attempted to provide the reader with books that will deliver key practical information in the most efficient and accessible style. The series features instruments in a variety of domains, such as cognition, personality, education, and neuropsychology. For the experienced clinician, books in the series offer a concise yet thorough way to master utilization of the continuously evolving supply of new and revised instruments, as well as a convenient method for keeping up to date on the tried-and-true measures. The novice will find here a prioritized assembly of all the information and techniques that must be at one’s fingertips to begin the complicated process of individual psychological diagnosis.

Wherever feasible, visual shortcuts to highlight key points are utilized alongside systematic, step-by-step guidelines. Chapters are focused and succinct. Topics are targeted for an easy understanding of the essentials of administration, scoring, interpretation, and clinical application. Theory and research are continually woven into the fabric of each book, but always to enhance clinical inference, never to sidetrack or overwhelm. We have long been advocates of “intelligent” testing—the notion that a profile of test scores is meaningless unless it is brought to life by the clinical observations and astute detective work of knowledgeable examiners. Test profiles must be used to make a difference in the child’s or adult’s life, or why bother to test? We want this series to help our readers become the best intelligent testers they can be.

In the second edition of *Essentials of WAIS-IV Assessment*, the authors present a state-of-the-art treatment of the WAIS-IV, an exceptional instrument that reflects a thorough, theory-based, intelligent revision of its predecessor, the WAIS-III. This book includes content and approaches from the two previous books that Lichtenberger and Kaufman published on the WAIS-III—*Essentials of WAIS-III Assessment* and *Assessing Adolescent and Adult Intelligence* (3rd ed.)—while offering
dynamic new interpretive systems and research that are theory-based, clinically rich, and innovative. The second edition, in particular, takes the interpretive system to a new level by providing in-depth Cattell-Horn-Carroll (CHC) profiles for ages 70 to 90; previously, the CHC model was primarily targeted for ages 16 to 69. Furthermore, the second edition incorporates the array of WAIS-IV research investigations and test reviews that have appeared in the four years since the first edition was published. Two invited chapters that appeared in the first edition (George McCloskey’s neuropsychological processing approach to WAIS-IV interpretation and Ron Dumont and John Willis’s perspective on pros and cons of the WAIS-IV) have been thoroughly revised, and a new chapter has been added on the innovative digital version of the WAIS-IV (Q-interactive™) that permits computerized administration of the test. Essentials of WAIS-IV Assessment, 2nd Edition also presents the latest research that examines changes across the life span on the four WAIS-IV Indexes—both the longitudinal research results detailed in the first edition of the book and the new cross-sectional data from two recent WAIS-IV studies. This second edition, fully equipped with a thoroughly revised CD-ROM to automate Lichtenberger and Kaufman’s comprehensive interpretive method and to present a variety of additional tables and interpretive aids, offers clinicians who routinely assess adolescents and adults of all ages a cutting-edge resource that will promote intelligent testing in today’s rapidly changing society.

Alan S. Kaufman, PhD, and Nadeen L. Kaufman, EdD, Series Editors
Child Study Center, Yale University School of Medicine
PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

We published the first edition of *Essentials of WAIS-IV Assessment* in 2009, on the heels of the WAIS-IV’s availability in 2008. In an excellent review of the first edition of our book, Krach (2010) noted that we did not include research findings from the literature, but relied on studies in the WAIS-IV manual because such independent research findings had not yet appeared. Krach (2010) defended our decision to publish the book in such a timely fashion, stating: “It is preferable to have the [Essentials book] available as soon as possible following the test’s publication rather than wait the years it might take for new, independent research to be available” (p. 278). But she added: “Perhaps a second edition of the book will be published that incorporates new research findings on the psychometric quality and clinical utility of the WAIS-IV, once such research findings become available.”

And that is precisely what we have done by developing the second edition of *Essentials of WAIS-IV Assessment*. A wealth of new research has become available in the few years since the publication of the first edition, and we have fully incorporated that research into the second edition. This new body of research allowed us to expand the coverage of timely topics, such as gender and ethnic differences and the role of the Flynn effect in capital punishment court cases, and to enhance our interpretive system for elderly individuals. Previously, we offered a solid interpretive system with a strong Cattell-Horn-Carroll (CHC) theoretical foundation for ages 16 to 69, but we had a less robust method of profile interpretation for ages 70 to 90. That has all changed thanks to an innovative factor-analytic investigation of the WAIS-IV (Niileksela, Reynolds, & Kaufman, 2012) that provides a five-factor CHC-based solution not only for ages 16 to 69 but for ages 70 to 90 as well. We have overhauled our system of profile interpretation to be equally powerful across the *entire* WAIS-IV age range and to emphasize that both the traditional four-factor and CHC-derived five-factor