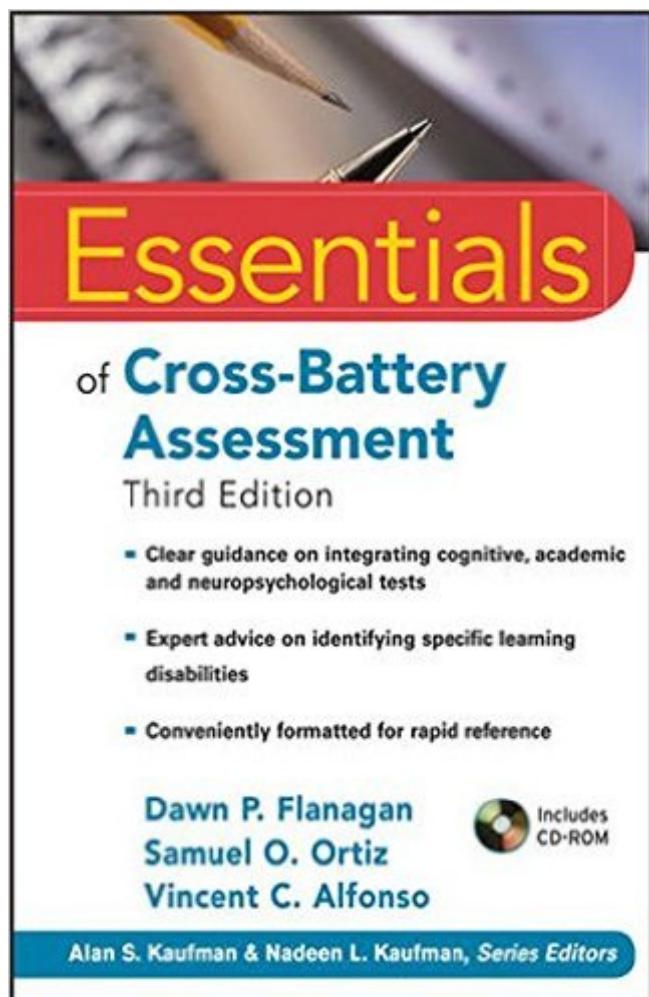


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# Essentials Of Cross-Battery Assessment



## Synopsis

The most up-to-date resource of comprehensive information for conducting cross-battery assessments The Cross-Battery assessment approachâ "also referred to as the XBA approachâ "is a time-efficient assessment method grounded solidly in contemporary theory and research. The XBA approach systematically integrates data across cognitive, achievement, and neuropsychological batteries, enabling practitioners to expand their traditional assessments to more comprehensively address referral concerns. This approach also includes guidelines for identification of specific learning disabilities and assessment of cognitive strengths and weaknesses in individuals from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Like all the volumes in the Essentials of Psychological Assessment series, Essentials of Cross-Battery Assessment, Third Edition is designed to help busy practitioners quickly acquire the knowledge and skills they need to make optimal use of psychological assessment instruments. Each concise chapter features numerous callout boxes highlighting key concepts, bulleted points, and extensive illustrative material, as well as test questions that help you to gauge and reinforce your grasp of the information covered. Essentials of Cross-Battery Assessment, Third Edition is updated to include the latest editions of cognitive ability test batteries , such as the WISC-IV, WAIS-IV, and WJ III COG, and special purpose cognitive tests including the WMS-IV and TOMAL-II. This book now also overs many neuropsychological batteries such as the NEPSY-II and D-KEFS and provides extensive coverage of achievement batteries and special purpose tests, including the WIAT-III, KM-3, WRMT-3 and TOWL-4. In all, this book includes over 100 psychological batteries and 750 subtests, all of which are classified according to CHC (and many according to neuropsychlogical theory. This useful guide includes a timesaving CD-ROM, Essential Tools for Cross-Battery Assessment (XBA) Applications and Interpretation, which allows users to enter data and review results and interpretive statements that may be included in psychological reports. Note: CD-ROM/DVD and other supplementary materials are not included as part of eBook file.

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## **Customer Reviews**

This book is designed for professionals who mainly need to use multiple testing measures in order to discern specific weaknesses that contribute to problems children have in learning. For example, if a child is having difficulty reading, the book helps you design a test to figure out what cognitive issue may be impeding their abilities in that area. It includes information on what areas of major intelligence tests reflect particular issues related to core learning capabilities (math, reading, writing, etc.) to aid in test design as well as information on how to interpret data from such testing. It also includes an overview of the theories that go into intelligence testing and what various components are designed to measure, but this overview is not for novices. The book is incredibly dense and deep and is clearly designed for those well-versed in theories of human cognitive capacity and learning. As another reviewer has noted, it is full of jargon and abbreviations that those unfamiliar with the field will have difficulty understanding and reads like an advanced textbook. This is not a short-coming of the book, but simply a statement of fact. It did not detract from my sense that it is a powerfully useful tool in creating or administering cross-battery assessment tests. The particular strengths of this book beyond the cogent explanations of the theories behind the tests as well as rational critical analysis of the weakness of XBA (cross battery assessment) is the pages and pages of tables that provide handy reference for professionals. A great deal of work has been saved for those who wish to locate particular resources in designing an XBA. The book is also structured with boxed out sections reminding one of or emphasizing certain points.

One of the main problems I used to find when others assessed my students was how to interpret their findings. Yes, I was familiar with all the tests, but exactly what were they looking for/at? I knew a child's general capabilities, but the Cross-Battery Assessment (XBA), "a method of assessing cognitive and academic abilities and neuropsychological processes," is much more specific, looking at a broad base of cognitive abilities. Not only would one who is doing the testing benefit from this expansive book, but also the teacher or counselor who needs to interpret and work with it. Yes,

much of the test data is theoretical, but can have practical applications if one knows how to work with the material. For example, when looking at an intellectual disability (ID) and a coexisting learning disability (LD), pinpointing deficits would have helped me formulate realistic goals that could be included in the IEP. There are numerous informative sidebars interspersed throughout this book in the form of tables, "Rapid References," and prompts that help and remind one to incorporate specific assessments into the formula. The ability to interpret test results can be critical. I used to assess students, but also had to spend more time with other teachers discussing what my results meant than it did to do the assessment. The XBA approach is based on the Cattell-Horn-Carroll (CHC) theory, one that is thoroughly covered in the overview. Historically there has been a wide chasm between "intellectual theory," testing and useful application. Hopefully the XBA will be able to help classroom teachers, psychologists, mental health workers, and others utilize this material. The expansive references listed at the end of each chapter, the appendices, and the CD, are excellent.

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