

# Testlets

## What are testlets?

The term testlets was first officially introduced in late 1980s and defined as

- *“a group of items related to a single content area that is developed as a unit and contains a fixed number of predetermined paths that an examinee may follow.”*<sup>1)</sup>

Simplified, testlets:<sup>2)</sup>

- are **small tests** of single units from which together construct a test;
- should be small enough to manipulate but big enough to **carry their own context**;
- can be used to **balance contents** of a test.

<sup>1)</sup>

Wainer, Howard, and Gerard L Kiely. Item Clusters and Computerized Adaptive Testing: A Case for Testlets. *Journal of Educational Measurement* 24, no. 3: 185-201, September 1987.

<sup>2)</sup>

Wainer, Howard, and Charles Lewis. Toward a Psychometrics for Testlets. *Journal of Educational Measurement* 27, no. 1: 1-14, Spring 1990.

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