At a Glance

Grade 3 Assessment of Reading, Writing and Mathematics

What Is Assessed?

Student learning of the knowledge and skills defined in the expectations found in *The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 1–8: Language (2023)* and *The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 1–8: Mathematics (2020)*

01

Language component:

Six language skills assessed:

- **Three reading skills:** understanding explicitly stated information and ideas, understanding implicitly stated information and ideas, and responding to reading selections by making connections
- **Three writing skills:** developing ideas, organizing content in a coherent manner and using conventions, i.e., spelling, grammar, punctuation

Three language strands assessed: Foundations of Language, Comprehension (Understanding and Responding to Texts), and Composition (Expressing Ideas and Creating Texts)

Mathematics component:

Three categories of knowledge and skills assessed: Knowledge and Understanding, Application, and Thinking

Five mathematics strands assessed: Number, Algebra, Data, Spatial Sense and Financial Literacy

No additional preparation required, as *Ontario Curriculum* content is covered in regular classroom instruction

What Are the Design and Format of the Assessment?

02

Online assessment using two different testing models:[1]

- Linear test design model for the language component[2]
- Multi-stage computer adaptive testing model for the mathematics component[3]

Language component has four sessions totalling 29 operational questions (26 selected-response questions and three written open-response questions)[4]

Mathematics component consists of four stages, comprising a total of 40 operational selected-response questions[5]

Introductory session to familiarize students with tools, resources and types of questions

Breathing and visualization activities to help students stay calm and focused

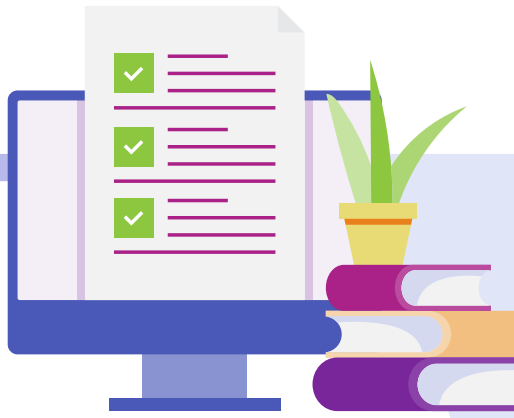
Voluntary Student Questionnaire to collect information about students' attitudes and perceptions with respect to literacy, mathematics, transferable skills and their learning environment

[1] For those who cannot complete an assessment online, an alternative version in various formats is available.

[2] The linear test design uses several equivalent test forms that are assembled ahead of the administration of the assessment according to the same content and statistics specifications.

[3] A multi-stage computer adaptive testing model adapts to the individual student's performance as the student progresses through the stages of the assessment.

[4, 5] Additionally, each component (language and mathematics) of the assessment includes field-test questions that are not used in determining the student results.



How Is the Assessment Scored and Reported?

03

Qualified Ontario educators scoring for open-response (written) questions, and automated scoring (computer scored) for selected-response questions

Students' results determined by a statistical method called "Item Response Theory"[6]

Levels of achievement (Levels 1 to 4) provided in reading, writing and mathematics, in relation to the provincial standard[7]

Individual Student Report provided to school administrators to distribute to parents and guardians in the fall of the school year following the assessment

[6] Item Response Theory takes into account the student's responses to the questions and the difficulty of each of these questions. It locates the student's outcome along a continuum of reading and writing ability or of ability in mathematics knowledge and skills (as reflected by achievement Levels 1 to 4).

[7] The characteristics given for Level 3 in the achievement chart in *The Ontario Curriculum* correspond to the provincial standard for achievement. Read more.

Learn More

Read the Grade 3 *Framework*

Watch "What to Expect on the Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics, Primary Division and Junior Division"

EQAO
Education Quality and Accountability Office
Information Centre: 1-888-327-7377 (Ontario) or
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