



ASSESSMENT & EXAMINATIONS

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ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION 31 of 2012

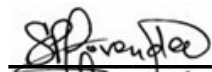
**TO: DEPUTY DIRECTORS-GENERAL
CHIEF DIRECTORS
HEAD OFFICE DIRECTORS AND DISTRICT DIRECTORS
CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS
DEPUTY CHIEF / SENIOR EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
PRINCIPALS OF ALL SCHOOLS OFFERING GRADE 12
TEACHER UNIONS / ORGANISATIONS
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES**

DATE: 18 APRIL 2012

**ADMINISTRATION OF THE GRADE 12 LIFE ORIENTATION (LO) COMMON
ASSESSMENT TASK-07 SEPTEMBER 2012**

1. The contents of this Assessment Instruction are as per the National Department of Basic Education (DBE) letter dated 06 March 2012, received in the province on 17 April 2012.
2. The Department of Basic Education (DBE) is concerned about the credibility of scores emanating from the Life Orientation assessment and has agreed to the proposal of Umalusi to introduce a standardising tool. This has led to the proposal for the administration of the Common Assessment Task for Life Orientation. The proposal for the administration of the Common Assessment Task across all schools was supported by Head of Education Committee (HEDCOM) and Council of Education Ministers (CEM) at the workshops held in March and April 2011.
3. The Common Assessment Task entails selecting one summative task with a weighting of **20%** of the total promotional marks for Life Orientation and administering the task at the national level.

4. The proposed date for the national administration of the Common Assessment Task is **07 September 2012**.
5. To prepare the system for this Common Assessment Task, the Department of Basic Education (DBE) has developed an exemplar and Assessment Guideline. The Assessment Guideline stipulates the scope and coverage of the Common Assessment Task.
6. The exemplar and Assessment Guideline were reviewed by the provincial co-ordinators to ensure that they accommodate different provincial contexts. The exemplar was subsequently approved by Umalusi moderators. The exemplar and Assessment Guideline are attached as **Annexure A**
7. This exemplar should be distributed to all Life Orientation teachers and learners to prepare for the Common Assessment Task that will be administered on 07 September 2012.
8. The significance of the exemplar, Assessment Guideline and Common Assessment Task is that it will set a national standard for Life Orientation and will promote the validity and reliability of Life Orientation scores. This will promote the credibility of the National Senior Certificate qualification.
9. The DBE is in the process of amending the Life Orientation policy to accommodate this external component. The proposal will be tabled formally at HEDCOM and CEM and the national Education Minister will be requested to approve the amendment to the policy.
10. Districts and schools are kindly requested to communicate this arrangement as a matter of urgency to all education stakeholders who are involved in matters relating to the Life Orientation curriculum and conduct of NSC assessment.



S.P. GOVENDER
CHIEF DIRECTOR: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT