



ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION 28 of 2010

**TO: DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL
CHIEF DIRECTORS
DIRECTORS AND DISTRICT DIRECTORS
CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS
DEPUTY CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
SENIOR EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
PRINCIPALS OF ALL PUBLIC AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS:
GRADE 9
TEACHER UNIONS / ORGANISATIONS
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES**

DATE: 09 MAY 2010

<p style="text-align: center;">GRADE 9 DISCONTINUATION OF COMMON TASKS OF ASSESSMENT (CTAs)</p>
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A. BACKGROUND

1. The Eastern Cape Department of Education was unable to pronounce on the status of the Common Tasks of Assessment (CTAs) in 2010 without written directive from the National Department of Education.
2. The contents of this Assessment Instruction has basis in Circular S1 of 2010, dated 8 April 2010, and received from the National Department of Basic Education on Friday 23 April 2010. This circular was then withdrawn and re-issued on 29 April 2010 and received in the Province on 05 May 2010.

3. Reference is also made to Assessment Instruction 12 of 2010 issued on 23 February 2010.

B. STATUS OF CTAs FOR 2010

4. Notice is hereby given that Common Tasks of Assessment (CTAs) are discontinued.
5. On 29 December 2009, the Minister of Basic Education published, with the concurrence of the Council of Education Ministers (CEM), the recommendation of the Ministerial Task Team in *Government Notice No. 1227 in Government Gazette No. 32836*.
6. On 31 March 2010, the Minister of Basic Education repealed, with immediate effect, the continuation of CTAs as stipulated in the policy document, *National Policy on Assessment and Qualifications for Schools in the General Education and Training Band*, as published in Government Notice No. 124 in *Government Gazette No. 29626* of 12 February 2007.
7. Currently CTAs comprise 25% of the total assessment mark in Grade 9. To replace the CTAs and to provide the 25% external assessment component of the total marks allocated to Grade 9 in the end-of-year assessment, Provincial Departments were granted approval to devise an assessment component as a replacement for the CTAs ensuring that these assessments are moderated Provincially for quality.

C. EASTERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – POLICY ON THE REPLACEMENT OF CTAS.

8. Assessment Instruction 12 of 2010 refers and is quoted: “*GRADE 9 STANDARD ASSESSMENT TASKS (SAT) AND EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT TASKS (EATS)*”
These are discontinued and will not apply in 2010 as per a directive of the National Department of Basic Education.
9. The “*MASTER PLAN FOR TOTAL LEARNER PERFORMANCE AND SCHOOL MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT*” launched by the Honourable MEC of Education on 7 January 2010 planned for common tests in June and November 2010 for Grades 3, 6 and 9 and was tabled and supported by the Provincial Education Labour Relations Sub-Committee for Curriculum.

10. All Learning Areas in Grade 9 will be examined externally in November 2010 and this shall replace the CTAs that comprised 25% of the total assessment mark.
11. The common tests time table for November 2010 is given as ANNEXURE A.
12. All learners, registered in Grade 9, will be provided with a question paper, packed per school, per District, per language version.
13. Schools that have had a change to the statistics provided to Assessment and Examinations Directorate on 19 March 2010 should immediately inform the District office accordingly so that adjustments to numbers can be made timeously.
14. It is envisaged that this Assessment Instruction will assist teachers, Heads of Departments (HOD), School Management Teams (SMT), Principals and District Officials in managing the common test in Grade 9 in November 2010 in a uniform manner.
15. District Directors and School Principals are kindly requested to disseminate this information as soon as possible to all relevant stakeholders.

S. P. GOVENDER
CHIEF DIRECTOR: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT

ANNEXURE A**2010 NOVEMBER TEST TIMETABLE
COMMON TESTS GRADE 3, 6 & 9**

Date	Time	Learning Area Description
Monday 8 November 2010	09.00 – 11.00	LITERACY/HOME LANGUAGE ***
Tuesday 9 November 2010	09.00 – 11.00	FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE
Wednesday 10 November 2010	09.00 – 11.00	NATURAL SCIENCES
Thursday 11 November 2010	09.00 – 11.00	SOCIAL SCIENCES
Friday 12 November 2010	09.00 – 11.00	ECONOMIC AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES
Monday 15 November 2010	09.00 – 11.00	NUMERACY /MATHEMATICS/
Tuesday 16 November 2010	09.00 – 11.00	LIFE SKILLS /LIFE ORIENTATION
Wednesday 17 November 2010	09.00 – 11.00	TECHNOLOGY
Thursday 18 November 2010	09.00 – 11.00	ARTS AND CULTURE
Friday 19 November 2010	09.00 – 11.00	SECOND ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

***** Schools offering TWO HOME Languages are to use the isolation policy and start the 2nd session on Monday 8 November 2010 at 12h00**