



ASSESSMENT & EXAMINATIONS

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ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION 39 OF 2017

**TO: DEPUTY DIRECTORS-GENERAL
CHIEF DIRECTORS
HEAD OFFICE DIRECTORS AND DISTRICT DIRECTORS
CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS
DEPUTY CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
SENIOR EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
PRINCIPALS OF SCHOOLS WITH FET PHASE
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES
TEACHER UNIONS / ORGANISATIONS**

DATE: 22 MAY 2017

FET LANGUAGES: ERRATUM TO THE USE OF ORAL MARKS FOR BOTH THE SCHOOL-BASED ASSESSMENT AND THE EXAMINATIONS FOR GRADES 10-12

1. The Department of Education received Circular S4 OF 2017 from the Department of Basic Education (DBE), which deals with the erratum to the use of oral marks for both the school-based assessment and the examinations for Grades 10-12.
2. The assessment dispensation for the languages curriculum including South African Sign Language as stipulated in the Curriculum Assessment Policy Statements (CAPS), provides for the School Based Assessment (SBA), the examinations and the orals as three components that constitute the learner's final mark at the end of the academic year.
3. Similar to subjects with a practical component, the SBA for the languages (all levels) amounts to 25% of the promotion mark, while the examinations and the oral marks make up the 75%. The examinations component is worth 62.5% while the oral component makes up the 12.5% of the 75%.
4. The DBE and Umalusi recently noticed the erroneous use of the oral mark as part of the SBA component (25%), as well as part of the examinations component (12.5%), thus leading to use of the same mark twice in different components, in all the language levels, including South African Sign Language (SASL).

5. To correct this, the Department of Basic Education, in consultation with all provincial language co-ordinators, agreed to the following erratum for immediate implementation:
 - 4.1 the annual assessment tasks, as stipulated in the CAPS, will be left as is,
 - 4.2 the marks attained for all the oral tasks will not form part of the final SBA mark, but will be used for the oral examination component (paper 3 for Second Additional Language and Paper 4 for Home Language and First Additional Language),
 - 4.3 the oral mark will still be used for term reporting, but only accrue to the oral examinations component as cited in 4.2 above; and
 - 4.4 South African School Administration Management System (SA-SAMS) will be amended to reflect this change.
6. The correction in 4 above, should be implemented with immediate effect, in the FET phase, Grades 10 – 12.
7. All Heads of Education Institutions are kindly requested to bring the contents of this Assessment Instruction to the attention of all district officials, principals, teachers and stakeholders involved in the teaching of languages, including South African Sign Language (SASL) teachers.



P. A. VINJEVOLD
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