

CHIEF DIRECTORATE: EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT

Steve Vukile Tshwete Complex, Zone 6, Zwelitsha, 5608, Private Bag X0032, Bhisho, 5605 REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA: Enquiries:
Mrs P. Japhta Tel: 040 608 7099. Fax: 040 608 7295. E-mail: Penelope.Japhta@ecdoe.gov.za Website: www.ecdoe.gov.za

Ref. no. 13/P Tel.: (040) 602 7031/082 083 5502
Enquire: Mrs P. Japhta Fax: 040 602 7295

ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION 32 OF 2023

TO: DEPUTY DIRECTORS-GENERAL
CHIEF DIRECTORS
HEAD OFFICE DIRECTORS AND DISTRICT DIRECTORS
CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
CIRCUIT MANAGERS
DEPUTY CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
SENIOR EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
PRINCIPALS OF PUBLIC AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS (GRADE 12)
TEACHER UNIONS/ORGANISATIONS
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

DATE: 17 JULY 2023

GRADE 12 MULTILINGUAL PREPARATORY EXAMINATIONS (ISIXHOSA AND SESOTHO VERSIONING OF SELECTED QUESTION PAPERS)

1. Around 25 different languages are spoken in South Africa, of which 11 have been granted official status in terms of section 6 of the Constitution (Act No. 108 of 1996), on the grounds that their usage includes about 98% of the total population.
2. In continuation of the pilot project that was launched in 2020 to promote the use of previously marginalised indigenous African Languages in all schools, the Eastern Cape Department of Education will again offer question papers for selected subjects in Grade 12 for the NSC Preparatory Examinations for 2023. The schools that are earmarked are mainly quintiles 1–3 schools. The NSC Grade 12 learners in these schools will be offered the Question Papers in the Preparatory Examinations in six selected subjects in English and IsiXhosa or English and Sesotho.
3. Listed below are some of the legislations that underpin and guide the implementation of multilingual education in schools:
 - South African Constitution (Clause 29)
 - *National Education Policy Act* (Act no. 27 of 1996)
 - *South African Schools Act* (Act no. 84 of 1996)
 - National Curriculum Statement
 - National Develop Plan (Chapter 15)
 - National Language Policy Framework
 - Department of Education Language Policy (1997).

4. **SELECTED SUBJECTS IN 2023**

The following are the selected six (6) subjects that will be offered for multilingual question papers for the September Preparatory Examinations:

- Accounting P1 and P2
- Agricultural Sciences P1 and P2
- Physical Sciences P1 and P2
- History P1 and P2
- Life Sciences P1 and P2
- Mathematics P1 and P2

5. The above subjects' papers will be made available for the NSC Grade 12 Preparatory Examinations in the following language format:

- isiXhosa and English
- Sesotho and English

6. **PROJECT TARGET QUINTILE SCHOOLS FOR 2023**

- The following learners and quintiles will be targeted in 2023 for the Preparatory Examinations:
 - Grade 12 learners in Quintile 1 schools
 - Grade 12 learners in Quintile 2 schools
 - Grade 12 learners in Quintile 3 schools

7. **LANGUAGE CHOICE OF WRITING PREPARATORY EXAMINATIONS**

The following conditions must be adhered to:

- If a learner selects isiXhosa/Sesotho as the preferred language to the Preparatory Examinations, a learner must complete the whole question paper in the same language.
- Learners **will not be allowed** to switch between various languages – that is write one question in one language for example isiXhosa and then answer the next one in English.
- Learners are allowed to read questions in two languages as the papers will be bilingual.
- Learners **MUST** then choose **ONE** language to use during the Examination.
- **NO LEARNER WILL BE ALLOWED TO WRITE THE NSC FINAL EXAMINATION OTHER THAN THE LOLT WHICH IS ENGLISH OR AFRIKAANS.**

8. MARKING OF ANSWER SCRIPTS

Schools in conjunction with the Curriculum Section in districts must draft a plan to mark the scripts of learners in these multilingual examinations in the six selected subjects.

- In the event that a teacher is unable to mark any of the scripts of a particular subject in a particular subject, schools within the same cluster can be approached for assistance.
- The moderation of the scripts must also be catered for.
- Any plans made must ensure that the credibility of the marking process and the examination process is not compromised.

9. MONITORING AND REPORTING

Districts and schools will be required to monitor the implementation of the goals of the project and provide feedback. The feedback is vital as it will provide the means to do a diagnostic analysis of the success of the project as well as the areas that need to be improved. The appropriate diagnostic and monitoring tools will be made available to schools before the Preparatory Examination commences.

10. The ultimate goal of the project is to initiate a fresh approach to multilingualism in South Africa and to strongly encourage the utilisation of the African indigenous languages as official languages in order to foster and promote national unity. It takes into account the broad acceptance of linguistic diversity, social justice, the principle of equal access to public services and programmes, and respect for language rights.
11. The heads of educational institutions should ensure that the content of this assessment instruction is distributed to all Grade 12 teachers, learners, subject advisors and other relevant stakeholders.



17/07/2023

MR R. TYWAKADI
DDG: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT AND DELIVERY

DATE