




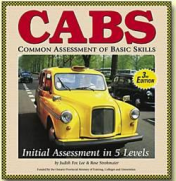
Essential Skills & Literacy Assessment Tools

Assessment Tool	Description & Assessment Domain	Audience	Method	Results	Assessor Requirements	Availability Cost	Additional Tools	
<p>TOWES</p> <p>Test of Workplace Essential Skills</p> <p>Bow Valley College http://towes.ca</p> 	<p>Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Text • Document Use • Numeracy <p>Requires test taker to complete items using authentic workplace documents</p> <p>Custom tests available for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturing • Trucking • Office Administration • Healthcare • Entrance to Apprenticeship • Aerospace <p>Bilingual</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job Seekers • Employees • Employers • Students • Educators • Career Counsellors • Francophones • Immigrants • Adult Learners • Literacy Practitioners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pencil & paper • Online • Uses constructed response • Estimate of 1.5 – 2.5 hours to complete; no time limit <p>Tests must be sent to Bow Valley College, Calgary Alberta for marking (processing takes up to 48 hours upon receipt of test)</p> <p>Results are delivered via secure internet site</p>	<p>Provides score for each domain based on the IALS 500 point scale</p> <p>TOWES has completed extensive field testing and a validation process to link to IALS</p> <p>Results are accurate to +/- 4% within the targeted range of the test</p>	<p>Completion of on-line certification program as of July 1, 2009 (Contact Bow Valley College for more information)</p>	<p>\$64.99 per test</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prep Guide • Comprehensive Website • Guide to Interpreting TOWES Results • Variety of Training Programs • Customer Support • Applied Research Library • Custom test development and reporting • Curriculum: Essential Skills Online, Building Workplace Essential Skills, On target • Oral Communication and Writing test under development 	<p>Score based on 500 point IALS Framework Formal</p>



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ECHO Canadian Council on Learning http://echo.ccl-cca.ca 	Literacy Assessment Tool using IALS frameworks measuring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Text • Document Use • Numeracy Allows users to create, store and share and customize their own assessments Bilingual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literacy practitioners • Educators • Students • Employees • Employers • Job Seekers • Workplace Trainers 	For IALLS Framework: Online item bank Multiple choice and short answer Can be printed for pencil/paper version 45 minutes to 1 hr to complete Or Tests can be completed at intervals	Provides a IALS score for each domain as well as strengths and weaknesses Scoring is automatic For paper version tests answers can be entered on line for immediate score ECHO Calculator processes IRT score for newly added items	Contact CCL for Training User manual and support documentation available on-line	Currently Under Development No cost for non-profit organizations All other organizations contact CCL for pricing	Provides a platform for maintaining and creating additional assessments	Score based on 500 point IALS Framework Formal
Canadian Learning Evaluation (CLE) HRSDC, Learning Policy Directorate (LPD)	Measures literacy in three domains: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prose • Document • Quantitative Two versions; 'locator' test and longer version test that contains a variety of problem sets for each domain Bilingual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students • Employees • Employers • Practitioners • Francophones • Immigrants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet Based • Uses real world literacy tasks • Tests can be completed at intervals (spanning a maximum of 30 days) 	Scoring is automatic upon completion of test Locator version provides scores on 1-5 level scale related to HRSDC's Essential Skills Longer version CLE provides score based on 500 point IALS framework.	No formal requirements On line instruction guide	150,000 licenses of the CLE are available from HRSDC free of charge for assessment projects	Not Applicable	Score based on 500 Point IALS Framework Formal


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<p>CAMERA Communications & Math Employment Readiness Assessment</p> <p>PTP – Adult Learning & Employment Programs Toronto</p> <p>http://www.ptp.ca/publications/camera/</p> 	<p>Uses authentic workplace documents to give a 'snapshot' of learners skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Text • Document use • Numeracy • Writing Skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Learners • Job Seekers • Literacy Practitioners • Assessors • Program Administrators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper and pencil assessments (test booklet is reusable) • Some components administered one to one with learners in very early stages of literacy acquisition 	<p>Indication of learners ability to complete tasks that follow between ES complexity levels 1 and 3 for the 4 skill domains</p>	<p>2 day training requirement</p> <p>(For information on training contact Aleksandra Popovic at aleks@ptp.ca.)</p>	<p>Initial cost per Test book is \$10 (they can be reused)</p>	<p>Variety of Workforce and Essential Skills</p> <p>Curriculum is available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum guidelines (Signposts) • Instructional Workbooks (Workwrite Series 7 books) 	Informal
<p>CAES Common Assessment of Essential Skills</p> <p>Literacy Link Eastern Ontario (LLEO)</p> <p>https://www.lleo.ca/col/cabs_online.html</p>	<p>Practical assessment tool for basic literacy skills.</p> <p>Ontario Literacy and Basic Skills Framework & HRSDC's Essential Skills framework measuring levels for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Text • Document Use • Numeracy 	<p>Adult Learners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online multiple choice response • Written response • Audio questions 	<p>Scores are two tiered; a computerized score based on the Essential Skills 1-5 levels is generated for Reading Text, Document use and Numeracy , and further input from the assessor is required to analyze student responses and assign recommended levels of competency</p>	<p>No formal training required</p> <p>Assessor Guidelines are available on website</p> <p>Assessors must register on-line</p>	<p>Free to public</p>	<p>CABS Common Assessment of Basic Skills</p> <p>Provides additional resources to help with assessing student's work</p> 	Informal

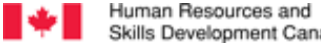
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<p>Measure Up Website http://measureup.towes.com</p> <p>BC Construction Industry Skills Improvement Council http://skillplan.ca/</p> 	<p>Online resource that links ES to workplace</p> <p>“Test Your Skills” allows test takers to measure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Text • Document Use • Numeracy <p>Provides numerous activity sets based on real workplace tasks</p>	<p>Teachers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literacy Practitioners • Adult Learners Counsellors • Employment Trainers • Workers • Employers 	<p>Download authentic workplace materials from 80 occupations</p> <p>Complete on paper</p> <p>Answer Key provided</p>	<p>Each task has been placed on the scale used by HRSDC’s Essential Skills framework in reference to the 1-5 point levels</p> <p>Scoring sheet and directions are accessed through website. The Measure Up tool estimates levels. (Note ** differs from TOWES which provides validated IRT scores)</p>	Public Use	Free, easily accessible activities	<p>Measure Up Website provides an opportunity to practice three Essential Skills needed in all types of occupations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Text • Document Use • Numeracy <p>Provides support materials for learners through answer keys</p>	Informal
<p>ITSESENTIAL Canadian Language Benchmarks / Essential Skills in the Workplace</p> <p>http://itsessential.ca/itsessential/display_page.asp</p> 	<p>Provides a comparative framework that relates Canadian Language Benchmark Levels to HRSDC’s Essential Skills 5 level scale for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Text • Writing • Document use • Oral Communication <p>Bilingual</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESL Practitioners • Immigrants • Newcomers • Teachers • Literacy Practitioners • Workplace Trainers 	Comparative Framework is available on line for downloading	Cross referencing CLB levels to HRSDC’s Essential Skills Levels 1 - 5	N/A	Free, available to download on website	Variety of supporting curriculum available on website	Informal


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<p>Ontario Skills Passport</p> <p>Essential Skills Check Up Tool</p> <p>http://skills.edu.gov.on.ca</p> 	<p>Self Assessment of Essential Skills and Work Habits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Document Use • Numeracy • Writing • Oral Communication • Thinking • Computer Use • Work Habits <p>Bilingual</p>	<p>Features occupation specific for everyday tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary School Students • Job Seekers • Employees • Employers • Teachers • Literacy Practitioners • Trainers • Guidance, career and employment counsellors 	<p>Two online options available: ‘Test a few Essential Skills and Work Habits’ OR complete a ‘Full assessment of Essential Skills and Work Habits’</p> <p>Leads to workplace activity sets that help users practice and build their Essential Skills. Answer keys and steps are provided. Users have option to work online or pen and paper.</p>	<p>1-5 level scale consistent with the Complexity rating levels on the HRSDC Essential Skills profiles 1-4 level scale consistent with the complexity rating levels in the HRSDC Essential Skills profiles and real workplace activity sets 1-3 level. Automatically produces a score card and allows comparison of results to occupation interests.</p>	<p>Public use</p> <p>Includes facilitator guide and tips</p>	<p>Free, easily accessible</p> <p>Assessment questions with an audio option</p>	<p>Offers a number of informal assessment tools, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employer based assessment (OSP work plan tool) • Practitioner based assessment (OSP check-In Tool) • Offers a number of awareness, learning and training resources and tools 	Self Assessment Tools


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Essential Skills Assessment Tools HRSDC Essential Skills Website http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/workplaceskills/essential_skills/general/home.shtml 	Essential Skills Self Assessments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Document Use • Numeracy • Writing • Oral Communication • Working with Others • Computer Use • Continuous Learning Workplace Essential Skills assessments for employers including an organizational needs assessment, workplace survey, workplace check-up and hiring checklist.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employees • Employers • Learners • Practitioners • Community Groups 	Paper based Two online tools – Document Use and Numeracy Indicators Contact HRSDC to order paper version or download from website	N/A	Public use	Free, easily accessible on website	Essential Skills Profiles Authentic Workplace Materials Essential Skills Toolkit Publications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness • Assessment • Learning • Training 	Self Assessment Tools

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ESPORT™ Essential Skills Portfolio Eskilon Learning Solutions Inc. http://www.esportfolio.com 	Self Assessment tool for specific occupation or generically to identify Essential Skills in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Text • Document Use • Numeracy • Oral Communication • Working with Others • Thinking Skills • Continuous Learning • Computer Use Indicator Assessment provides Information measure of ES on HRSDC's 1-5 level scale for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Text • Numeracy • Document Use Bilingual under development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job Clubs • Employers • Correctional services • Workplace re-tasking • Community and Aboriginal programs • Newcomer services • Co-op programs • School board adult programs 	Internet or Intranet delivery Online Testing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document Use • Reading Text • Numeracy (Facilitation recommended)	For Indicator Assessment scores are automatic and reported on HRSDC's 1-5 level Locator Raw scores recorded on Self-Assessment page, gap-analysis for 300+ occupations <i>Custom reporting available: e.g. Correctional Services</i>	Must register to use and negotiate cost Training Required 1-2 days	Fee based Contact ESPORT for specific cost	Contains a variety of additional tools such as interest inventory, values inventory, resume & portfolio builder Provides Skills Gap-Analysis for 300+ occupations	Self-Assessment Tools

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Canadian Language Benchmarks CCLB http://www.language.ca/ 	Competency Based Assessment Provides measures of communicative ability in English and French as a Second Language in the areas of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Writing • Listening • Speaking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESL Learners • FSL Learners • New Immigrants • ESL Practitioners • Newcomers • Employees • Employers 	Paper based and Oral/ Verbal Component	Results are provided according to three stages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic • Intermediate • Advanced As well as on 12 benchmarked levels	CLB assessment is conducted through the local CCLB Assessment Centre The Centre for CLB establishes and maintains standards to govern a comprehensive national CLB assessment system	Fee Based Contact Assessment Centre for Cost	Variety of Resources, Research and Publications available through website	Additional Literacy Assessments
Canadian Adult Achievement Test (CAAT) The Psychological Corporation, Harcourt Brace and Company, Toronto	Standardized competency based test measuring functional level in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathematics • Reading • Language The test is available in four levels in English (A, B, C, D) and three in French (A, B, C).	Adult Learners	If the entire battery is administered, Level A takes approximately 2 hrs, 10 min., Level B and D, approximately 3 hrs, 30 min. and Level C approximately 4 hrs and 30 min. Individual subtests of the CAAT can also be administered to shorten the total testing time.	CAAT provides grade equivalents: Level A - 1 to 3 years of formal education, Level B - 4 to 6 years of formal education, Level C – 7 to 10 years of formal education, Level D - 11 - 12+ years of formal education	The tests are hand scored using overlay stencil keys or by using the "List of Correct Responses" stencils. Some training is required	Fee Based pending organization delivering service	N/A	

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<p>Canadian Adult Reading Assessment</p> <p>Pat Campbell, Centre for Research, University of Alberta</p> <p>Grass Roots Press, Literacy Services of Canada, Ltd. P.O. Box 52192, Edmonton AB T6G 2T5, Tel. (780) 413-6491, Toll-free: 1-888-303-3213, Fax (780) 413-6582, E-mail: grassrt@telusplanet.net</p>	<p>Diagnostic reading assessment</p> <p>Graded word list and 9 levels of passages ranging in readability from grades 1 - 12</p>	<p>All Adult Learners</p> <p>Employees in Workplace Literacy</p> <p>Literacy Tutors</p> <p>Newcomers</p> <p>Immigrants</p>	<p>Paper Based</p> <p>CD Rom Version</p> <p>20 – 60 minutes to complete</p>	<p>Informal Reading inventory that can determine a student's instructional reading level and specific strengths and weaknesses in word recognition and comprehension</p>	<p>Refer to Instructor's Manual</p> <p>Takes time to interpret test results</p>	<p>\$84.95 (Instructor's Manual & CD-ROM)</p>	<p>N/A</p>	