

***Canadian Language Benchmarks: Formative Assessment Resource  
Kit Phase II  
Final Public Report***

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***Project Purpose:***

The purpose of the project was to support classroom teachers to develop effective formative assessment strategies. The project resulted in a resource package, entitled *Integrating CLB Assessment into your ESL Classroom*. The package presents a planning framework and a series of classroom examples to help Adult ESL teachers develop assessment practices based on their everyday classroom lessons.

***Intended Audience:***

The resource package is designed for use by classroom teachers in Adult ESL programs that use the Canadian Language Benchmarks (from CLB levels 1 – 8). The resource kit may also be used by program coordinators, staff planning in-service workshops and teacher educators.

***Project Objectives:***

The objectives of this project were to:

- Develop formative assessment processes and tools related to CLB outcomes for use by classroom teachers
- Provide exemplars of learner performance using the assessment tools
- Provide materials to assist staff in using the assessment resources for professional development

***Project Rationale:***

Ongoing assessment is an essential component of the teaching and learning process, providing an opportunity:

- To give learners regular and specific feedback on their progress related to CLB outcomes based on contexts and content that is immediately relevant.
- To help learners develop effective self-assessment strategies and become better able to set their own language learning goals and determine if they have been achieved.
- To focus on the process of learning (i.e. learning strategies) as well as the products (performance standards)
- To monitor program effectiveness and make adjustments as necessary.

### ***Description of the Resource Package:***

The resource presents a planning framework and a series of classroom examples to help Adult ESL teachers integrate CLB assessment into their classrooms. The package is divided into three main sections:

Part I: Discusses some of the key assumptions and concepts that underlie current practice in classroom-based assessment.

Part II: Provides examples of how practicing ESL teachers incorporate CLB-related assessment in a variety of classroom contexts. Learner samples from a range of benchmark levels are included, together with discussion of how teachers give feedback to learners.

Part III: Takes teachers through key aspects of the assessment process and helps them plan for formative assessment using CLB-related tasks tailored to their own classroom situations.

An accompanying DVD includes learner speaking samples.

The resource package is designed for teachers to use together with colleagues. It is ideal for use in program-supported study groups or could be used over a series of professional development sessions.

### ***Production and Distribution:***

*Integrating CLB Assessment into your ESL Classroom* was revised and published during this phase of the project.. The initial proposal included the production and distribution of 100 copies of the resource package. Through support from Citizenship and Immigration, Edmonton Office, funding was provided to increase the production to a total of 410 copies. Copies were distributed to ESL providers within Alberta at no cost. The resource is now available for purchase through the Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks.